

# Murwillumbah school upgrades

Project update | May 2024

## Project overview

In response to feedback from parents, students, staff and the community, the NSW Government is committed to retaining four public schools in Murwillumbah.

Funding was provided as part of the 2023-24 NSW Budget to begin upgrading Murwillumbah's schools to provide improved facilities for students and teachers and support the schools to thrive.

Work is well underway on the immediate priorities which include:

- Restoring facilities at Murwillumbah High School so that the two high schools can resume separate operations at the start of the 2025 school year, and
- Investigating ways to improve flood resilience at Murwillumbah East Public School.

While these works are continuing, we are also meeting regularly with local education leaders and principals of each school to understand infrastructure priorities, progress essential maintenance and plan for future works.

## Progress summary

### Murwillumbah High School

During late 2023 and early 2024, we cleared, cleaned and prepared the Murwillumbah High School site for the upgrade works.

The phase of work currently taking place at the site includes installing new roofs on three of the main school buildings and a number of covered walkways connecting the buildings.

- Work on the new roof for Block D began in February and is progressing well.
- Work on the new roof for Block E began in April.
- Once the Roof on Block E is complete, the contractors will move to Block B.
- Roofing panels have been removed from the covered walkways so that structures can be inspected, repairs undertaken and new roof panels installed.
- Tender responses are being evaluated for supply and installation of a new on-roof solar energy system.

Work has also started to strip out and replace flooring in Block G.

During Term 3 work will start on refurbishing internal spaces including classrooms, specialist learning spaces and staff areas.

School staff have been taking part in consultation sessions to provide advice on the best internal layout for refurbished areas. Spaces that are in scope for refurbishment will have new:

- Paint
- Floor coverings
- Energy-efficient LED lighting
- Air conditioning for learning spaces that don't currently have it
- Furniture, fittings and equipment.



## Murwillumbah East Public School

Improved flood resilience is a key priority for Murwillumbah East Public School.

We are continuing to work with technical experts and stakeholders to investigate an extension of the flood levee around the school. This work includes a site survey, flood engineering analysis and design. An important part of the process will be discussing the broader impacts of a flood levee with the relevant government authorities to confirm viability of the solution, ensure there is no risk to surrounding residential areas, and determine next steps – including development consent requirements.

Early in Term 2, consultation will begin with the school principal to plan for the refurbishment of two classrooms in Block B. Refurbishment of these spaces will include new:

- Paint
- Floor coverings
- Furniture, fittings and equipment.

Once consultation is complete, a request for tenders will be issued for a builder who will undertake the works in Block B. We are also procuring new, energy efficient LED lighting and air conditioning for installation at the school. This new equipment will start being installed later this year.

## Murwillumbah Public School

In early 2024, we carried out some planned maintenance to the student toilets in Block A and installed a new roof on Block D, which is the large, heritage-listed building at the school.

We thank the school community for their patience as we worked with the roofing contractor to rectify defects with the new Block D roof. These issues are now resolved and a contract has been awarded for extension of a section of covered walkway that the school has identified as a priority.

We are also procuring new, energy efficient LED lighting and air conditioning for learning spaces which don't currently have it. This new equipment will start being installed from mid-2024.

## Wollumbin High School

While the Wollumbin High School site is in use by the Murwillumbah Learning Community High School and at capacity, work will be limited to minimise disruption to learning.

During Term 2, we will be progressing some important maintenance tasks, including:

- Reinstating a retaining wall outside the hall that was damaged by water during heavy rain
- Improving drainage of the oval.

We are consulting with head teachers to identify what new wood and metal work equipment needs to be purchased to replace old equipment in the school workshops. We have also issued a request for tenders for a new security camera system for the school.

Once the two high schools resume operations at the beginning of the 2025 school year, we will undertake a program of work at the school including:

- Removal of temporary buildings
- New paint and floor coverings for some spaces
- Installation of new energy efficient LED lighting
- Installation of new air conditioning in learning spaces that don't currently have it
- Exterior painting.



## Further information

We will continue to provide updates on progress of the Murwillumbah school upgrades on our website [www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au](http://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au).

If you have questions, concerns or require further information about the upgrade works please contact [schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au) or call 1300 482 651.

