

Tumbulgum Public School

Project update | February 2025

Image caption: Artist's impression Tumbulgum Public School



Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is committed to rebuilding flood affected schools in the Northern Rivers region, ensuring we build back better with flood resilient schools for local students and local communities.

Funding for the school projects has also been provided by the Infrastructure Betterment Fund, which is jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Governments through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Project overview

As part of this commitment, a project is underway to rebuild Tumbulgum Public School after it was extensively damaged during floods in early 2022. The project will deliver a raised and more flood resilient school for students and staff, with modern classrooms, a new library, canteen, administration spaces, and landscaping.



New library



Permanent classrooms and multipurpose learning spaces



New canteen



New administration area

Progress summary

- We have received planning approval to rebuild Tumbulgum Public School. The planning application was on public exhibition from 15 October - 5 November 2024. You can find the Review of Environmental Factors on the Tumbulgum Public School [flood recovery project page](#).



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- The temporary school buildings were relocated on the school site during the summer holidays ready for students on their first day back in 2025.
- Offsite manufacturing of the school building modules has commenced.

Next steps

Now that planning approvals are in place we are working to rebuild Tumbulgam Public School as quickly as possible. Our builder will begin fencing and site preparations for rebuilding from the week commencing Monday 17 February 2025.

At this stage we expect demolition and construction to begin in early March, however we will update the community again before demolition and construction begins. Based on the rebuilding of other flood affected schools, we expect construction to take 7-8 months, weather permitting.

This includes:

- demolition
- completion of stormwater, ground works and inground piling
- delivery and installation of the steel gantry and school buildings
- school fit out
- Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and services connection
- landscaping.

We are expecting to complete the new flood resilient Tumbulgam Public School in late 2025, weather and site conditions permitting.

Heritage Interpretation Strategy

Heritage consultants have documented the fabric of the building and identified items of importance that should be salvaged as part of the demolition.

They will then put together a report based on this information, as well as the historical context, as a starting point for focus groups to discuss the best way to celebrate the heritage of Tumbulgam Public School through a mix of storytelling and physical features.

Important school items, including the school bell will be safely returned to the school. Some salvaged materials may also be re-used onsite. We will work with the school and community on the best way to ensure the history of Tumbulgam Public School continues to be celebrated in its next chapter.

More information



You can find more information about the project at <https://edu.nsw.link/TumbulgamPS> or by scanning the QR code to the left.

If you have any questions about this project, you can contact School Infrastructure during business hours on the contact details below.