

Empire Vale Public School

Flood Recovery Update

1 April 2022

Supporting flood impacted schools

The NSW Department of Education is coordinating an emergency response effort that is unprecedented in terms of scale and impact. A large number of schools in the Northern Rivers region have damage to either the entire site or some buildings and facilities.

What is happening at Empire Vale Public School

The whole of Empire Vale Public School was impacted by flooding and the site is currently closed for cleaning and remediation.

Current status

- Students are learning at the Southern Cross Public School site in Ballina, which has enough learning spaces for the extra children.
- Planning and due diligence is underway to understand the scope of work required at the Empire Vale Public School site to meet local needs for permanent education infrastructure.

Next steps

- Our current priority is to make sure all students and teachers in the region that have been displaced by flooding have suitable temporary accommodation, which are buildings used as teaching and learning spaces as well as other core facilities.
- Teams are working as quickly as possible, while prioritising the safety of our students, staff and contractors.

We thank you for your patience as we work through this huge program of work. We will continue to share information with you as work progresses.

What else is happening in the region

The local School Infrastructure NSW office has inspected all schools in flood impacted areas. We continue to work with emergency response organisations to remove rubbish, clean and secure affected sites.

Many school sites have been able to resume operating, while some students have been relocated to alternative sites so that their learning can continue. Our current priority is to source, deliver, install and handover temporary buildings to accommodate displaced students. The timing of all work and handover of temporary spaces is subject to local weather conditions.

For more information contact:

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