

INALA - State Schools of Tomorrow

PLANNING THE FUTURE OF INALA'S SCHOOLS

Newsletter No 2

November 2007

Transforming Inala's schools of the future

Bigger, brighter classrooms, more attractive school grounds, life skills centres and multi-use covered areas have been proposed as the future for Inala's state schools.

In addition, the group of schools could share the use of a student engagement centre, centres for literacy and Indigenous culture, and new performing arts and sports facilities.

These are the key proposals emerging at the midpoint of the public consultation process for the Tomorrow's Schools package for eight state schools in the Inala area.

The proposals have been identified by the

project's Community Reference Group with the benefit of feedback by the State Schools of Tomorrow team. The proposals are now being sent to the wider community, through this newsletter and other means, for comment.

The reference group must now work out which are the best options for Inala within the available \$49 million budget.

Proposals that could be shared by the group of schools include centres for literacy and Indigenous culture and a student engagement centre for suspended and long-term disengaged students. Performing arts proposals include the

upgrade of the Glenala hall as a 300-seat theatre, suitable seating for the Glenala sports hall for larger gatherings and enclosing the Inala State School covered area to create a 450-seat hall.

Upgrades to the Glenala sports hall and the schools' industrial arts and catering facilities will provide opportunities for school and community sports and skills development.

The proposals are outlined in more detail in the middle pages of this newsletter.

State Schools of Tomorrow

The Tomorrow's School package is a record \$1 billion investment over five years to modernise and build new school facilities across the state. It includes \$850 million for school renewals, targeting older schools in need of upgrades. Inala is one of the first areas to benefit from this initiative.

The other important feature about State Schools of Tomorrow is that it is looking at how groups of nearby schools can work together to meet the needs of their local communities.

The Inala project

State Schools of Tomorrow for Inala involves eight local schools and could see up to \$49 million in new funds spent on local schools over the next few years.

The schools involved are:

Primary schools:

Inala, Inala West, Richlands, Richlands East, Serviceton South and Durack.

Secondary School:

Glenala State High School.

Special School:

The Western Suburbs Special School (formerly Inala Special).

What's happened so far?

A feature of Tomorrow's Schools projects is that they involve extensive community consultation.

The Inala project was launched on 31 July. Widespread community consultation has been undertaken since then to identify the best options for Inala's state schools.

A Community Reference Group, comprising the Principals and P&C representatives from the eight schools, was set up to guide the process and identify recommendations to the Queensland Government.

Options and ideas identified by the community in the consultation have now been investigated and initial costings obtained.

What happens from here?

The reference group's job now is to work out which options presented in this newsletter will be best for Inala's state schools, and can be achieved within the \$49 million budget.

This is likely to include looking at the benefits (or otherwise) of combining some schools.

If you fill in and return the feedback sheet attached to this newsletter, your views will be presented to the reference group during its discussions.

The reference group will finalise its recommendations at its final two meetings in November.

These will be presented to the Queensland Government for consideration.



Proposals in detail

For each individual renewed school

At a classroom level:

- Larger and more flexible classrooms with areas for individual and small group work;
- New information and communication technologies incorporated in classrooms;
- Teachers' preparation and storage areas;
- Indoor/outdoor linkages and suitable areas for arts, science and other activities;
- Up-to-date furniture and equipment.

At a school facility level:

- Modern administration and staff facilities;
- Inviting school entries and street appeal;
- Improved parking and traffic safety;
- Improved and better located toilets;
- Environmentally sustainable initiatives such as water tanks;
- Landscaping and shade areas;
- A room for parent meetings.

At a school infrastructure level:

- Improved drainage, electricity, water, telecommunications, and security.

Highlight innovations for individual renewed schools

A Learning for Life centre incorporating:

- A parent room to encourage parents to visit and become involved in the school;
- A life skills centre incorporating a kitchen, laundry etc. to teach students some basic living skills;
- Facilities for a school-run breakfast club.

A multi-use covered area:

- Possibly co-located with the Learning for Life centre;
- Incorporating a stage and performance space;

- Capable of being enclosed and turned into a school hall at a later date (if desired).

Shared resources across the group of Inala schools

Literacy centre

This supports a school and family based literacy project aimed at teaching students how to learn and listen, and seeks to especially involve students in the early years and their parents. Resources may include a central well-resourced classroom and office space, as well as use of the Learning for Life centre at individual schools.

Working through the options

- The goal of the proposed individual renewed school upgrades is to bring existing schools as close as possible to the condition of new state schools in Queensland.
- The other proposals identify ideas raised during the consultation. The task now is to further investigate and cost these proposals, and then consider which options represent the best use of the available funds.

Indigenous culture centre

This could be developed in partnership with the Indigenous community and involve Elders and other Indigenous community members in its use. Facilities may include a meeting area, yarning circle, keeping place, art area, kitchen, computers and playground areas.

Student engagement centre

This supports a consistent approach to behaviour management across the group of schools. It could have separate areas to support students on suspension (6-20 days) and a facility for long-term disengaged students (similar to the present Annexe). It could include a life skills area similar to individual schools and a covered recreation area for sport and recreational use.

Performing arts facilities

This could include the major renovation of the Glenala hall as a 300-seat auditorium and the purchase of suitable seating to be able to use the Glenala sports hall for bigger events. The Inala State School covered area may also be enclosed to create a 450-seat hall.

It is proposed the Glenala auditorium could include dressing rooms and rehearsal areas as well as recording and editing facilities.

These could be supported by the performance areas at individual schools in the multi-use covered areas which could be extended or closed later.

It is intended these facilities could also be available for community use.

Sports centre and gymnasium

This could incorporate enhancements to the Glenala sports hall including a gymnasium, information and communication technologies for fitness development programs and the development of focus sports across schools such as touch football.

It is proposed to refurbish the changing rooms at the Inala State School swimming pool.

Skills development centre

It is proposed to significantly upgrade the Glenala industrial arts, visual and performing arts and catering areas for use by Glenala students and also other schools and the community. This may involve a stronger working partnership with TAFE. This could support a program across all schools to encourage students to be more aware of employment and career opportunities.

Transport

Ideas to improve transport linkages to and between schools, and between schools and partner organizations like TAFE and workplaces, are still being considered.

Information and communication technologies (ICT)

A proposal to develop integrated ICT servers for school and community use is still being considered.

Proposals in detail

From this?

To this?



An architect's vision of how existing older school buildings may be transformed as part of the State Schools of Tomorrow project in Inala.

These are only concepts for discussion at this stage, and what is done at individual renewed schools will involve further extensive local consultation with school communities.

Community consultation update

A Community Reference Group has been established to represent Inala schools. Each school is represented by its principal and a P&C representative. Others, such as Department of Education, Training and the Arts' (DETA) representatives and community representatives attend meetings as observers, and join discussions as required.

The consultation team has had more than 40 meetings with individuals, groups, and organizations with an interest in

State education in Inala, had a public display at the Inala shopping centre, held drop-in days at local schools, and assessed responses from the feedback sheet attached to the first newsletter. All these views have been consolidated in a consultation report that has been presented to the reference group.

The reference group has now identified its broad priorities for Inala schools and these have been summarised in this newsletter to encourage community

feedback. Please take the time to fill out a feedback sheet and return it to one of the eight schools or the address provided.

It is expected the reference group will have two more meetings before agreeing on a series of recommendations that will be presented to the Queensland Government for consideration. This process should be completed by mid November.

Further information

Information, including the project newsletters, is included on the State Schools of Tomorrow website www.education.qld.gov.au/tomorrows-schools

Also check with your local school office or P&C.

The Tomorrow's School team can be contacted on 3237 0008, fax 3237 0839 or email

Email: tomorrows-schools@deta.qld.gov.au

Durack State School Principal Jill Hole has been seconded to the Inala project and works from an office at the Glenala State High School.



An example of a multi-use covered area which could be built at renewed schools.

Where students live, and where they go to school

School Suburb	Durack State School	Inala State School	Inala West State School	Richlands East State School	Richlands State School	Serviceton South State School	Glenala State High School
Inala	54.8%	51.4%	74.5%	86.6%	61.0%	65.5%	65.9%
Durack	28.4%	32.4%	4.3%	2.7%	3.1%	1.2%	12.4%
Doolandella	7.2%	1.8%	0.0%	1.3%	1.3%	25.5%	3.2%
Richlands	1.0%	0.9%	11.3%	1.0%	10.1%	0.3%	3.0%
Forest Lake	3.9%	1.8%	0.9%	1.3%	7.5%	3.6%	2.9%
Carole Park	0.5%	3.5%	1.7%	3.7%	5.0%	0.0%	3.8%
Oxley	0.5%	2.0%	0.4%	1.3%	0.0%	0.3%	1.1%
Darra	0.5%	1.1%	0.9%	0.0%	1.3%	0.3%	1.3%
Wacol	0.0%	0.2%	1.7%	0.0%	3.1%	0.6%	1.0%
Gailes	0.5%	0.9%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	1.0%
Goodna	0.0%	0.2%	0.9%	0.7%	1.9%	0.6%	0.8%

This table shows the Inala group of state schools draw enrolments from a large number of suburbs, and that students do not necessarily attend their nearest school.

The table shows those suburbs which contribute the most enrolments to the group of schools. An even larger number of suburbs contribute smaller numbers of students to the schools.

Feedback Sheet

This feedback sheet is designed to make it easier for you to provide thoughts and ideas to help guide the renewal of schools in Inala as part of the State Schools of Tomorrow program. All feedback will be logged on a database and assessed, and reported to the project's Community Reference Group.

All feedback will be regarded as confidential unless otherwise specified. The name and contact information is optional – it may allow us to contact you with further information if required.

Please feel free to add additional pages as required.

It would be appreciated if your response could reach us by Friday 9 November.

1. What are your overall thoughts about the package of proposals outlined in this newsletter?

2. What are your views on the proposals for individual schools (ie for teaching areas, facilities, Learning for Life centres and multi-use covered areas)?

3. What are your views on the proposals to be shared by the group of schools (ie performing arts, student engagement centre, literacy centre, Indigenous cultural centre, skills development and sports centres etc)?

Feedback Sheet (continued)

4. In prioritising these proposals (both individual and across schools) what would be, from your point of view,

a. the most important?

b. the least important?

5. Any other comments?

Please indicate the group/s you identify with:

Parent of school child? yes no

If **yes**, which school/s attended by your child/ren? If **no**, which school do you identify with?

Inala SS Inala West SS Richlands East SS Richlands SS Serviceton South SS

Durack SS Glenala SHS The Western Suburbs Special School

Another school not on the list

Indigenous community Vietnamese community Pan Pacific community

English speaking background

Business community Teacher at a school above Teacher in a different area

Inala/Durack/Richlands community member

The following is optional:

Name:

Address:

Contact telephone numbers:

(Day)

(AH)

Fax:

Email:

Please respond by Friday 9 November 2007 and return to your school office or post to Education Queensland, SSOT Inala c/ Glenala State High School, PO Box 2013 INALA HEIGHTS 4077 or Fax 3237 0839