



Minister for Education  
Minister for Industrial Relations and  
Minister for Racing

7 APR 2021

1 William Street Brisbane 4000  
PO Box 15033 City East  
Queensland 4002 Australia  
Telephone +61 7 3719 7110  
Email: [education@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:education@ministerial.qld.gov.au)  
Email: [industrialrelations@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:industrialrelations@ministerial.qld.gov.au)  
Email: [racing@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:racing@ministerial.qld.gov.au)

Mr Neil Laurie  
Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
Email: [tableoffice@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:tableoffice@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to Petition 3466-21 tabled on 9 March 2021 in the Legislative Assembly, requesting extended community consultation in relation to the Department of Education's proposal for a new primary school in Brisbane's inner west.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to ensuring all students, no matter where they live, have access to high-quality learning opportunities within their local communities.

The department is committed to building fit-for-purpose learning environments that support educational outcomes for Queensland state school students. I would like to assure the local community that when building the new primary school at a location to be confirmed, the department will consider measures to ensure the safety of students and the local community. All new facilities delivered throughout Queensland are designed to ensure the safety of students and school staff members.

As part of the consultation process, the department hosted an online survey and four face-to-face community consultation sessions during January and February 2021. The department promoted the surveys and community consultation meetings via its corporate website, school newsletters, social media, stakeholder briefings and postcards that were delivered to residents within the Indooroopilly State School, Indooroopilly State High School and Ironside State School catchment areas.

The consultation process provided the public with an opportunity to provide feedback on the possible location of the new primary school on part of the Indooroopilly State High School site, as well as the opportunity to nominate alternative sites for consideration. The feedback identified multiple alternative sites for further consideration by the department, including:

- the Queensland Academy of Science, Mathematics and Technology at Toowong;
- the Perrin Park precinct at Toowong;
- the former Toowong Bowls Club; and
- the TriCare site at Taringa.

This feedback will be considered by the department and will inform the site selection process.

I can advise that the department is now investigating the feasibility of the alternative sites, as well as other sites suggested throughout the consultation period. Research will include a review of the government land register to determine if suitable properties are available prior to purchasing property on the open market in accordance with the *Queensland Government Land Transaction Policy* (August 2017).

As planning considerations progress, there will be further community consultation opportunities to provide input about the school's catchment area, design and name. This consultation process will consider views from the school community and local residents and the interface of the school with surrounding communities.

The department appreciates that like many inner-city schools, traffic is of concern to local residents, particularly at drop-off and pick-up times. The department will work with the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) and Brisbane City Council (BCC) (statutory authorities to deliver public road and transport infrastructure) to mitigate the impacts of a new school on the local road network. The department will also work with DTMR, BCC and other appropriate governing bodies and other schools located within the area to determine potential traffic solutions to Brisbane's inner west.

The department is committed to sharing a summary of the site selection work that informs the ultimate selection of a site. This will be released on the department's website in the coming months at [www.qed.qld.gov.au/programs-initiatives/department/building-education/new-primary-school-brisbanes-inner-west](http://www.qed.qld.gov.au/programs-initiatives/department/building-education/new-primary-school-brisbanes-inner-west).

Once the location for the new primary school has been determined, a master plan will be developed and the project will proceed to detailed design. At that time, details on the school's infrastructure including size, height and features will be shared with the public via the department's website, including the provision of greenspace and potential community use after school hours.

I would like to thank your petitioners for raising this matter with me and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



**GRACE GRACE MP**  
**Minister for Education**  
**Minister for Industrial Relations and**  
**Minister for Racing**

Ref: 21/139719