

Education spaces that meet wide-ranging curriculum needs

Schools of Tomorrow – spacious, flexible classrooms, modern communications technology and practical learning areas for Brisbane's revitalised schools



Architect's impression

Breakfast clubs, lessons in kitchen and laundry skills, work skills classes and adult learning opportunities out of school hours will be possible once a \$69.5 million transformation of six schools in Brisbane's Inala-Durack area is complete.

The biggest boost to education in the region ever, the revitalisation project will see six schools renewed with work expected to begin this year under the Queensland State Schools of Tomorrow project.

Glenala State High and four primary schools – Durack, Inala, Richlands East and Serviceton South state schools have been included in the project.

Western Suburbs Special School is also in line for a makeover which will include a work skills facility containing a production line, metal and woodwork area, nursery, design centre and areas for paper making and craft, car washing and detailing.

Under the Schools of Tomorrow project, the new facilities are designed not only as state of the art learning facilities but also as a valuable resource as venues for after-hours adult learning and community programs and events.

By 2010 and 2011, it is expected that the four primary schools will be ready to accommodate students from nearby Inala West and Richlands state schools which will

close at the end of 2009 and 2010.

A spokesperson for Education Queensland said the renewal would provide higher-quality facilities to better meet 21st Century learning needs, including more spacious and flexible classrooms, modern communications technology and practical learning areas.

“The new high school at Wynnum West is on track to open for all year levels for the start of the 2010 school year, subject to acquisition

and planning approvals,” the spokesman said.

“Land acquisition is continuing and public comment on the proposed development was invited on 7th January 2009 through a notice in the Wynnum Herald.

“Consultants have been working closely with the school to convert their educational vision, the outcomes of the consultation process and the aims of the program into the development of a plan for the school.”

Glenala State High School's hall will be transformed into a multi-purpose performance centre, about double the current size, available to all cluster schools as well as the community.

It is anticipated works will start at the school in March 2009.

Other plans for the revitalisation include a literacy centre for primary school students for use by all students in the area, based at Durack State School.

The spokesperson said the Schools of Tomorrow project was created to ensure Queensland students had access to education that provided the skills and knowledge to reach their greatest potential.

Announced in the 2006–07 Budget, the \$1 billion package focuses on modernising schools so that teachers have the right style of space and technology for their students with a vast amount of parent and local community involvement which was never previously undertaken.

Modular classroom becomes open plan library



In an unusual conversion that emphasises the flexibility of modular school buildings, St Andrews Anglican School has converted an original 10 modular Vertex classroom into an open plan library. To achieve this, the building had to be split down the middle and one half repositioned parallel to the other half. This required the modules to be moved, while new footings were prepared, and repositioned. All internal fittings, the ceiling and carpets were replaced and the newly created library was repainted. The building design and external finishes blend effectively with the existing single and double buildings on the site.

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