

## Ms Andrea Cook

## **CASTLE HILL NSW 2154**

Dear Ms Cook,

I write in response to your email of Tuesday 31 July 2018 to the Hon Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Education about school infrastructure in the Showground Precinct at Castle Hill. The Minster has asked me to respond on his behalf.

The NSW Government is investing \$6 billion over the next four years to deliver over 170 new and upgraded schools, which will provide over 2000 new permanent classrooms. This is the largest investment in public school infrastructure in NSW history.

The Department of Education monitors population and development trends so that it can plan to meet enrolment needs in schools around the Castle Hill Showground Precinct. To do so the department regularly consults with relevant departments and agencies such as the Department of Planning and Environment, the local council and local developers.

Currently the department is increasing the capacity at schools neighbouring in the precinct to enable the department to distribute growth in enrolment numbers evenly across the local schools in the area.

The department is currently planning an upgrade for Samuel Gilbert Public School that will provide of classrooms to address future enrolment growth as well as upgrade some core facilities. This project is in the design stage with project commencement forecast for early 2019 and completion forecast for early 2021.

The department also has an upgrade underway at Excelsior Public School. This project is in the design phase with commencement forecast for mid-2018 and will include a new three storey building, fourteen new teaching paces, new library, additional administrative area.

This project is forecast for completion in late-2020 and will allow the school to accommodate 650 students.

If you would like more information on these and other school infrastructure projects please see the School Infrastructure NSW website at <a href="https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au">https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au</a>.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**Anthony Manning** 

Chief Executive, School Infrastructure NSW

**13** August 2018