FOOTSCRAY LEARNING PRECINCT - SECONDARY COLLEGE (INTERIM NAME)

The Footscray Learning Precinct plan includes the creation of a three-campus secondary school. The school will have two junior campuses (Years 7-9) and one senior campus (Years 10-12).

- **Barkly Street junior secondary campus:** Gilmore College for Girls will open to co-ed junior students in 2020
- **Seddon junior secondary campus:** open to co-ed junior students from 2021
- **Footscray City senior secondary campus:** open solely to co-ed senior students from 2022

The Footscray Learning Precinct is a regional education precinct that will link, expand and upgrade schools across Melbourne’s inner west, integrating learning from early childhood to adult education.

**The vision includes:**

- a greater choice of education for families in the inner west
- a seamless education from early learning to adult education
- encouraging more students to continue to post-secondary education by expanding links with local and other tertiary providers, including Victoria University
- helping young people prepare for work by aligning skills, knowledge and competencies with the future needs of industry
- expanding community use of facilities and services delivered at school through partnerships
- a shared learning framework – with an agreed set of learning principles - across the precinct to maximise opportunities for every learner to achieve their potential
- a greater range and breadth of subjects across the campuses
- harnessing the rich and diverse resources of the local community.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where will the three campuses be located?

- Barkly Street junior secondary campus – 298 Barkly Street, Footscray 3011 (currently Gilmore College for Girls)
- Seddon junior secondary campus – Pilgrim Street, Footscray 3011
- Footscray City senior secondary campus - Kinnear Street, Footscray 3011 (currently Footscray City College)

What facilities will each campus have? Where will our students play?

- Barkly St junior secondary campus (currently known as Gilmore College for Girls) – the Barkly St. campus has a grass field within its grounds. The school will feature a new Design, Arts, Technology and Science (DATS) building. The school also has a performing arts/drama theatre, music rooms, gymnasium, outdoor areas, computer technology facilities and tennis courts.
- Seddon junior secondary campus - this campus will have a combination of hard play areas (e.g. multi-sport courts) and grassed play areas. The school will also feature a two-storey building with the administration, library and general learning spaces. Yarraville Gardens has an oval, a cricket pitch and tennis courts and is a 10 minute walk from the Pilgrim Street campus for students to use.
- Footscray City senior secondary campus - has dedicated sports, arts, and technology and music facilities at the school.

Students will also have more opportunities to use community recreation facilities, as a result of the partnership with Maribyrnong City Council and Victoria University. Victoria University will provide access to some of the best sport and recreation facilities in the country, including a recently upgraded swimming pool.

How is the Department of Education and Training (DET) updating the community on the Footscray Learning Precinct regeneration project?

DET are working to include you in this transformational journey for inner west education, and to ensure that you have the information you need to plan your children’s schooling. We will continue to communicate with you online through the Victorian School Building Authority website and Facebook page. We will also hold more information sessions that give you the opportunity to ask questions and meet the executive principal and the school’s leadership team.

How will the transition to the new three-campus secondary school work?

From 2020, a new secondary school will be established as part of the Footscray Learning Precinct. It will have two junior campuses (Years 7-9) and one senior campus (Years 10-12).

DET wants to make sure every young person has a smooth transition to the new model, and has appointed a transition coordinator for each school. They will work closely with the school and parents to provide support and information around secondary education options.

2019
Gilmore College for Girls has not had a Year 7 intake. Instead, Year 7 students enrolled at Footscray City College.
Year 11 students from Gilmore started their VCE at Footscray City College.

2020
Gilmore College for Girls will reopen as the Barkly Street campus of the new secondary school with a co-ed enrolment of Year 7s.

2021
The Barkly Street campus will accept co-ed enrolments from Years 7 and 8.
The new Seddon campus opens to a cohort of Years 7 and 8.

2022
The transition to the new secondary model will be fully operational from the beginning of the year.
Both the Barkly Street and Seddon junior campuses are open to Years 7-9.

Below is an illustration of the transition process.

How will the governance of the new precinct work?

The plan for the Footscray Learning Precinct governance structure is as follows:

- One secondary school with three campuses.
- One executive principal overseeing all three secondary campuses.
- A single school council overseeing all three secondary campuses.
- Two primary schools, each with their own principal and school council.
- Precinct partnerships with organisations including Victoria University and Maribyrnong City Council.
- A new precinct advisory board that complements existing individual school arrangements (i.e., school council). The board will be made up of members elected or nominated due to their experience or expertise in fields such as curriculum, teacher development, and student and school evaluation.

Please note that these arrangements are not final and are subject to change.

Who is the executive principal of the new secondary school?
Frank Vetere is the executive principal of the new Footscray Learning Precinct Secondary College. Frank comes from a principal role at Point Cook P-9 College where he created a vision of ‘creating tomorrow today’. Frank will shortly appoint two campus principals to oversee the Barkly St 7-9 campus and Footscray City 8-12 campus.

Can I enrol my child at the Footscray Learning Precinct Secondary College for 2020?

To find out if your child will be eligible to attend the college in 2020, please check the Victorian school zone website [www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au]. You can enter your home address and find out which public primary, secondary and specialist schools you are zoned to. If you are eligible, you can put ‘Footscray Learning Precinct’ as your first preference.

For 2020, the two Footscray Learning Precinct Secondary College options are: Footscray City campus (for Years 8 – 12) or the Barkly Street junior secondary campus (Year 7 only).

Enrolments are now open. For all enquiries around enrolment you can contact our dedicated email flp.enrolment@edumail.vic.gov.au

What are the current enrolment boundaries and will these change?

The enrolment boundary for 2020 enrolments is based off the Footscray City College zone. When the Seddon junior secondary campus opens in 2021, both junior campuses are likely to be re-zoned.

The findmyshool.vic.gov website is your best source for keeping up-to-date with these changes.

What will be the enrolment process?

Across Victoria, eligible children have the right to be placed in their designated neighbourhood school. The designated neighbourhood school is the school that is nearest the student’s permanent residence. Please be aware that each campus of a multi-campus school has its own designated neighbourhood.

Where there are insufficient places at a school for all students who seek entry, students are enrolled in the following priority order:

- Students for whom the school is the designated neighbourhood school.
- Students with a sibling at the same permanent address who are attending the school at the same time.
- Where the regional director has restricted the enrolment, students who reside nearest the school.
- Students seeking enrolment on specific curriculum grounds.
- All other students in order of closeness of their home to the school.
- In exceptional circumstances, compassionate grounds.

What will the school uniform look like?

Frank Vetere, the executive principal, will oversee the design and implementation of the uniform, which will include community consultation. The design will be finalised by the beginning of Term 3. The new uniform will be compulsory for all Year 7 students commencing in 2020.

As a transition, all students from Year 7-12 currently attending either Footscray City College or Gilmore College for Girls will have the opportunity to wear the new school uniform, however this will not be compulsory in 2020 as the new uniform will be phased in over time for these students. The current uniforms will not be available for sale in 2020.
What languages will be offered?

Beginning 2020, the Barkly Street junior secondary campus will offer Italian and Japanese as language options. The campus may also offer a third language option for Year 7s in 2020. The school will consult the community and share their decision about this in Term 3, 2019. Students will be able to continue studying these languages in later years, as long as sufficient numbers wish to do so.

What are the plans for student well-being during this transition?

Working closely with students, their primary schools and their parents and guardians is an essential part of making this transition successful. The new school wants to know students not only as learners, but as people. They want to ensure that all transitions are positive, and understand that individuals have different needs. Dedicated transition coordinators will oversee this process and will be available for contact. For further details on this please email flp.enrolment@edumail.vic.gov.au

Concerns have been raised about the state of buildings at Footscray City College. Are they worth upgrading?

The Victorian School Building Authority explored structural building issues and other matters connected with the school site. Their review concluded that there are no immediate concerns, and upgrading existing facilities is an appropriate investment.

What steps will be taken to manage traffic around the precinct?

DET is committed to ensuring the safety of students, parents and residents. We are working closely with the Maribyrnong City Council on local traffic management issues and developing traffic management plans for the precinct.

What is happening with the early learning centre?

We are working with Maribyrnong City Council on the design of the new early learning centre that will be built next to Footscray City Primary School.

Can I have a tour of the new campuses to help make my decision for next year?

Yes. Get in touch with Gilmore College for Girls assistant principal, Paul Nucci, to organise a tour of the Barkly Street junior secondary campus (currently Gilmore College for Girls) or the Footscray City senior secondary campus (currently Footscray City College).
E: nucci.paul.p@edumail.vic.gov.au

How do I find out more information?

Dedicated social media, including a website and Facebook page, will be available in the near future. In the meantime, please ‘like’ the Victorian School Building Authority’s Facebook page to get the latest updates about this project. Our website also has the latest information.

Facebook: /VictorianSchoolBuild