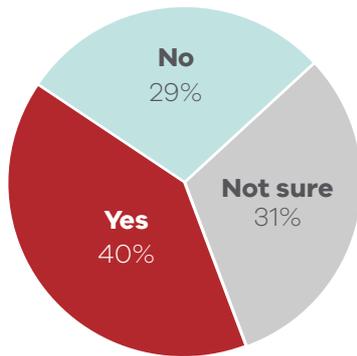


Romsey Regeneration Community Engagement Summary Report

What we heard

Would you choose Romsey P-9, knowing you need to change for Years 10 – 12?

Overall, the consultation findings did not establish clear support for expanding Romsey Primary School to P-9. While some were in favour of expanding Romsey Primary School to P-9, significant numbers responded 'no' or 'not sure'.



Benefits P-9

There is a perceived need to accommodate population growth.

Students will be more resilient, independent and mature for secondary school transition after Year 9.

It will help create a community hub for young people in the area.

Less travel time would give teens more opportunities for social connections and participating in local sport.

It will encourage families to stay in Romsey, creating a tighter knit community.

It will encourage students to complete more study locally.

Students face a 30-minute commute to a secondary school.

Concerns P-9

Students would need to move secondary schools twice.

Going to a new school after Year 6 is a 'rite of passage' and this would be lost.

Students will have a better idea of what they want to do in the future in Year 10 and can pick the best fit school for their needs.

Surrounding secondary school capacity for Year 10 intake is a consideration.

Kyneton Secondary School and Gisborne Secondary School may experience some impact in enrolment numbers.

Students would be disrupted academically and socially by moving in their senior years.

A P-9 could potentially impact on the current P-6 program.

The Department of Education has reviewed secondary education needs for students in the Romsey area to determine whether Romsey Primary School should expand from P-6 to P-9.

In October 2018, the VSBA consulted with the community from Romsey and the surrounding Macedon Ranges - through student and teacher workshops, community drop-ins and an online survey - to gain feedback on a variety of educational questions. We explored the benefits and concerns raised by the P-9 option, and the factors that influence secondary school choice.

Over 219 people, including students, parent/carers, teachers, principals and other community members provided input.

Top six factors influencing choice of secondary school in the Romsey area



School reputation



Closest school to home



Specialist subjects



Available transport



School values and culture



Social factors – tradition, family or child's friends attending school

Current bus access constraints:

- A lack of services catering for after school extra-curricular activities
- Limited frequency
- Poor connections
- Long wait lists
- Need to review bus policy



Romsey Regeneration

Community Engagement Summary Report

77%

of participants preferred public over private secondary schools

Top three secondary school preferences:

- Gisborne Secondary School
- Kyneton Secondary School
- Private school

Next steps

This consultation informed the Victorian Government's educational review in the Romsey area.

The review found that junior secondary school provision is not required to support projected growth.

Romsey Primary School will now proceed with its \$3.2 million upgrade to ensure local students have access to first-rate classrooms and facilities.

The Victorian Government will work with Gisborne Secondary College and Kyneton Secondary College to help children successfully transition to secondary school, as well as improving transport access for local students.

The Victorian Government will continue to monitor demographics and education provision in the Romsey region.

Students said:

Would you choose Romsey P-9?

No 49%

- Prefer to move on to a new secondary school after completing Year 6
- Don't want to change schools twice
- Want to explore a bigger high school and prefer a non-stop Year 7-12 experience

Yes 33%

- Close to home
- Easy to get to school
- Familiar school environment
- Friends and family at the school

Not sure 18%



The top things we wonder about secondary school

-  How many students a school has
-  School culture/friendships
-  Program: subjects/extra-curricular
-  Canteen/food
-  Workload/homework
-  Layout of the school and if primary/secondary students would have separate areas
-  Facilities
-  Distance from Romsey
-  School uniform

The top 5 things we look for in a secondary school

-  Friends
-  Subject choice
-  Family member at school
-  Transport availability
-  Closest school to home

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