

# SANDRINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

## What We Heard Fact Sheet

The Victorian Government has committed to rebuilding Sandringham Primary School. Every Victorian student deserves facilities that are accessible, safe and modern.

In February 2020, fire caused significant damage to Sandringham Primary School, in particular to the west wing, south wing, and library.

Students were relocated to facilities at Sandringham College and Sandringham East Primary School immediately following the fire, so their classes could continue. We have now built a temporary 'village' at Sandringham College Junior Campus for the affected students until their rebuilt school opens in 2022.

We are planning the rebuild of Sandringham Primary School at its existing Bamfield Street site, and asked the school community for their views to help shape the designs.

You can contact us:

**Victorian School Building Authority**



1800 896 950



vsba@edumail.vic.gov.au



/victorianschoolbuild



www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au



For information in your language, please call the Victorian School Building Authority's translation service on 03 9280 0712.

## ABOUT THE ENGAGEMENT

We engaged with students, parents and community members from Sandringham Primary School from 3 to 23 March 2020, via an online survey, a student workshop and a community drop-in session. A workshop with staff was also planned but had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, so staff provided their input via the online survey.

The engagement process was designed to help acknowledge the community's trauma and grief, as well as provide them an opportunity to move forward. In particular, we wanted to know what the school community's favourite spaces are at the school and what they would like to see in the rebuilt school.

This report summarises what we heard from your community during this engagement.

## ENGAGEMENT SNAPSHOT

We heard from:



**20%** online survey respondents are current teachers



**66%** online survey respondents are parents/carers of a current student



**50+** attended community drop-in session



**127** online survey responses



**500** students involved in workshops

# WHAT WE HEARD

We heard very strong and consistent feedback focused around three key themes:

- A design that includes lots of outdoor spaces
- Making the most of available space
- Appropriately reflecting the school's heritage

## Appropriately reflecting the school's heritage

It is clear that the community want the rebuild design to reflect the heritage of the original school, and expect a design that integrates these heritage elements sensitively and respectfully. Participants specifically mentioned how much they love the old building, heritage windows and the red bricks.

*"Of course paying homage to the heritage of the school is super important."*

– online survey respondent

*"The front office and prep rooms right in front of the new playground as they have a solid heritage feel with big windows and lets in a lot of light."*

– online survey respondent

*"The school sits within the heritage Gypsy Village precinct and fits with the character of the neighbourhood. The rebuild should have contemporary facilities inside but its street facing elements should remain in line with the heritage character of the area."*

– online survey respondent

*"Buildings bricks to match to keep character of the school"*

– community drop-in session participant

*"Please keep as much as original blueprint and red brick as possible"*

– community drop-in session participant

## Next steps

We wish to thank the Sandringham Primary School community for their thoughtful feedback and suggestions during this difficult time. We have provided your community's ideas and feedback to the architects to consider while designing the rebuilt school.

To stay up to date with the progress of schools in your area, visit [schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au](http://schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au)

## A design that includes lots of outdoor spaces

The community highlighted how much they value having a good amount of **outdoor space** that provides multiple **playgrounds** and play spaces for children to run around. They also value the **oval** and multiple **sports courts**, with appropriate sporting equipment for the students to have a variety of active opportunities. The community also feel it is important that these spaces can be **shared** with the local community.

We also heard about the importance of **green shaded garden areas** and having a variety of spaces that can be used for a range of purposes, including **quiet relaxed spaces** as well as areas that can also be used as **outdoor learning spaces**. The **courtyard** and **kitchen garden** at the school were highlighted many times throughout the engagement and clearly are much loved by the community.

*"The outdoor spaces, the garden areas, the space for children to move around."*

– online survey respondent

*"Outdoor spaces, playgrounds for individual play and wider area for class sports and outdoor school events."*

– online survey respondent

*"Wonderful existing play spaces, particularly junior playground away from the bigger kids"*

– community drop-in session participant

*"Playground age-appropriate spaces"*

– community drop-in session participant

## Making the most of available space

Related to how much they value outdoor spaces, the community was very keen that we design indoor learning spaces to maximise capacity as much as possible. The community has a strong preference to increase outdoor space so there are more play and sports spaces available. To help facilitate this, some community members wished to see the portable buildings removed. Other suggestions were to use double-storey buildings to ensure there is sufficient capacity for students now and in the future without encroaching on outdoor spaces.

*"Consider use of double-storey buildings to maximise floor plan/space within playground/school yard!"*

– online survey respondent

*"Get rid of the portable classrooms. Ensure the new building has the capacity to house the students currently situated in the portables that take up valuable land that historically was open space for the school and the community."*

– online survey respondent

*"Two-storey on west side to protect from sun & weather"*

– community drop-in session participant

*"Retain/Improve open layout"*

– community drop-in session participant