North Melbourne Primary School (new campus)

Outdoor learning and play environment



Integral part of campus

The outdoor environment is designed to host a diverse range of school programs including outdoor learning, sports, recreation, structured play, unstructured play, social interaction, participation, events and performances.



(†) Universal design

A continuous accessible circulation path on the outdoor ground level will connect a series of accessible and interconnected zones.



Outdoor experiences

Extensive opportunities will be offered for students to engage with nature, sensory materials and the outdoor environment.

(7) Diverse and inclusive

Outdoor spaces, facilities and experiences are designed to cater for students of varying ages, abilities, personality types and interests.

∠ Versatile

Cleverly designed, flexible and adaptable spaces will facilitate multiple uses and programs.



Clear sight lines, circulation and way finding

Fosters safe, welcoming and inviting outdoor amenities



(Shade and screening

More than 80 evergreen and deciduous trees, featuring approximately 17 species will provide canopy and privacy.



High biodiversity

Over 3000 plants ranging from water sensitive shrubs, aroundcovers, arasses and climbers to herbaceous and flowering plants will bring a rich variety of species incorporating local endemic species.



Kitchen garden

Edible local species such as bush tucker plants, an outdoor workbench and sink will enable cooking activities.



Connecting community

Spaces for school performances, assembly and events will help to build sense of community.

Sustainable design

The landscape's abundant plant coverage and tree canopy featuring water sensitive urban design, biodiversity and habitat, permeable surfaces and durable, sustainable materials will help reduce urban heat island effect and double for nature play.



Six different entrances

A choice of ways to enter and exit the campus, bicycle parking in two locations and a covered public meeting space aim to support sustainable transport – through convenient access close to homes and public transport routes, with multiple drop-off or pick-up options.

Tree shade canopy – key species









Eucalyptus 'silver shadow'

Brachychiton acerifolius

Ulmus parvifolia

Acacia melanoxylon

Habitat trees and plants – key species







Eucalyptus species





Xerochrysum viscosum

Gymea excelsa

Bush tucker and kitchen garden – key species



Brachyscome multifida

Atriplex cinerea



Billardiera scandens

Eucalyptus species



Rosmarinus officinalis



Banksia marginata



Thymus vulgaris



Ficus platypoda



Olea 'Bambalina'