



ORBOST REGENERATION

We are supporting two local primary schools and one secondary school to come together to form a new P-12 college in Orbost. The new school will be located on the existing Orbost Secondary College site. In the 2021–22 State Budget, the school received \$7.271 million.

The merger, which includes Orbost Primary School, Orbost North Primary School and Orbost Secondary College, aims to provide all students with greater opportunities in first-rate facilities.

The Orbost Regeneration will transform student outcomes by empowering all students to learn and achieve, experience high quality teaching practices and the best conditions for learning.

Frequently asked questions

WHAT TO EXPECT

The best parts of all three existing schools will be merged to create the new school.

We will look to the community to support the decision on a new school name, however teaching and learning practices, year level groupings and culture will remain the decision of the new leadership.

There will be consistency in the continued focus on supporting the needs of Orbost and the surrounding communities.

SCHOOL DESIGN

What is a master plan?

A master plan is a long-term planning document. Spatial and conceptual analysis helps to determine both the existing conditions of the site and to inform its possible development based on existing entitlement, need and functionality.

This process is most often guided by the principal design consultant (architect), in conjunction with relevant stakeholders. Master planning for the project will take between eight to 10 weeks.

What can we expect after master planning has been completed?

After the master plan has been finalised and approved by the Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA) and the Department of Education and Training (the Department), the project will enter the 'Schematic Design' and 'Design Development' stage. This stage is based on the funded component of the master plan, which will provide new facilities to students and staff at Orbost Secondary College.

The architect has been developing plans alongside the schools working party, each schools' leadership team and VSBA project managers. The design will be produced in accordance with the scope of works agreed.

The architectural team have worked hard to support the necessary inclusions of each schools' leadership team and will shortly begin further consultations with students to develop the best outcomes.



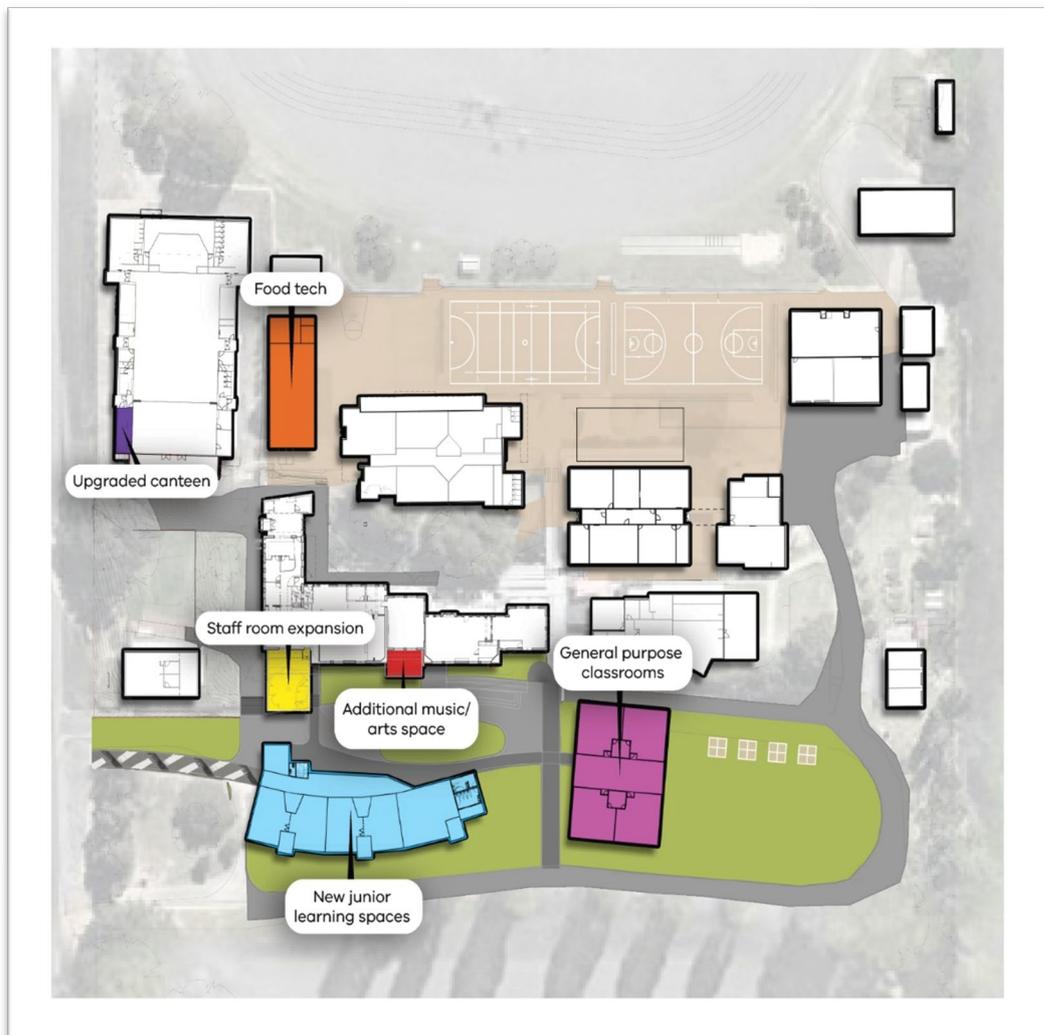
Future for Orbost Primary School and Orbost North Primary School sites

Once Orbost P-12 College (interim name) commences operation the sites of Orbost Primary School and Orbost North Primary School will no longer be required for educational purposes.

To support future use of the vacant sites, they will be added to the VSBA Land Regeneration Program. The VSBA will work through this program in accordance with relevant Government policy, including the Victorian Government Land Use Policy and the Victorian Government Land Monitor Policy and Guidelines.

Upgrades and modernisation works at Orbost Secondary College

Site plan:





CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

How will parents and carers be engaged throughout the process?

Parents and carers are encouraged to approach their child's Principal to ask questions and provide feedback at any time during the process. Parents and carers are also welcome to contact the VSBA directly to ask about the project.

Engagement with traditional owner groups

Each school works closely with their Koorie Engagement Support Officers (KESOs) and is guided by their expertise to provide the best culturally sensitive practices. That expertise will be harnessed to provide further guidance in the engagement of traditional owner groups during the merger process.

In addition to the KESOs, Orbost's local Aboriginal Controlled Health Organisation is Moogji will be engaged during the renaming process to ensure appropriate decision making.

Decision making

The leadership teams of the three existing schools are part of a working party who represent the schools and their needs. The Education Department is working with the architect and principals to make sure the school communities are informed and updated on the project.

Who is in the working party and what do they do?

The working party consists of principals and school council members representing their three school communities. While the formal working party was formed in 2019, the schools have been working together for many years and meet regularly to discuss the current and future needs of their students and schools. Together, the working party developed the proposal for the schools to merge.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Why was this decision made to bring the schools together?

By coming together on one site, and building on the already strong, collaborative relationships of the schools, students will have access to more subject choices and teachers, and educators will receive more opportunities for professional learning and development. We can build on the work already achieved to create a new P-12 college and support the local community to see greater educational outcomes for students.

The merger was driven by the schools and school councils and proposed after significant consideration. This included multiple site visits to other P-12 schools throughout 2019. The three school councils passed a motion for the merger at the end of 2019.

Why was the Orbost Secondary College site chosen?

The site was chosen by the working party in partnership with the Department for its size, location, and centrality for the school community. The site is the largest of the three schools in the regeneration project and will provide all students with access to more subjects, a wider range of facilities and will support the transition between primary and secondary learning by building earlier, closer relationships between students, staff and educators.

What does this mean for students?



Students will receive greater access to subjects that weren't available due to lower student numbers or lack of resources, facilities, and staff. It means being part of a wider network and school community, improved transitions and wellbeing support as students move from primary to secondary learning and closer connections between students and staff.

HOW CAN I STAY UP TO DATE ON THE PROJECT?

The VSBA will update the Orbost Regeneration project page <https://schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/schools/Pages/OrbostRegeneration.aspx> with new information as it happens.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all staff who attended the staff information session. We have identified further questions and we will endeavour to answer these in the coming weeks.