

Question on Notice

No. 669

Asked on 26 May 2021

MR S O'CONNOR ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to Coombabah State High School, Southport State High School, Musgrave Hill State School, Labrador State School, Arundel State School, Biggera Waters State School and Southport Special School—

Will the Minister provide for each school (a) an infrastructure briefing including such metrics as the current built capacity, the number of classrooms, and the years these key pieces of infrastructure were built and (b) any plans, and details of such plans, to upgrade their facilities?

ANSWER:

The Department of Education is committed to providing fit-for-purpose infrastructure in Queensland's state schools to support learning outcomes, as well as maximising the utilisation of its educational infrastructure.

During the 2020 State Election, the Palaszczuk Government committed to upgrading facilities across Queensland, including:

- \$300,000 to upgrade the amenities at Arundel State School;
- \$150,000 to build a shade cover over the playground and install industrial-sized fans in the school hall at Labrador State School;
- \$700,000 for a security fence at Coombabah State High School; and
- \$1 million to improve the entrance and bus and taxi set-down at Southport Special School.

In 2021–22, additional funding has been allocated to schools, including:

- \$14.1 million for additional classrooms at Coombabah State High School;
- \$500,000 to upgrade the hall at Labrador State School; and
- \$500,000 for a new canteen at Southport State High School.

The following table provides the requested data for the seven schools, as at June 2021.

School	Built Capacity (February 2021 Built Capacity)	No. of Classrooms	Enrolments (February 2021 Census Enrolments)	Year opened
Arundel State School	1394	59	1134	1994
Biggera Waters State School	1044	42	798	1970
Coombabah State High School	1619	70	1274	1986
Labrador State School	1079	42	768	1921
Musgrave Hill State School	725	31	635	1963
Southport Special School	350	50	299	1970
Southport State High School	2439	96	1976	1955

Should the Member require further detail about infrastructure at state schools in his electorate, he is welcome to request a meeting with the department's Regional Director, South East Region, for a full briefing.

When considering new infrastructure projects for school facilities, the department works with principals to develop a list of priorities through a School Strategic Infrastructure Plan (SSIP). The SSIP is the department's primary method for identifying important facility needs for each Queensland state school.

SSIP proposals are submitted for consideration and assessed through a prioritisation process to ensure the highest needs across the State are met. This process is used to develop the department's short, medium and long-term investment outlooks, subject to the department's allocated budget.