

Question on Notice

No. 79

Asked on 24 February 2021

MR J MADDEN ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to queries by residents of Karalee and surrounding areas as to whether the Education Department has plans to build a High School at Karalee, and to my Question on Notice No. 1030 asked on 13 June 2019—

Will the Minister advise if there is an update on the Education Department's planning for a new High School at Karalee?

ANSWER:

As advised in my response to Question on Notice No. 1030, the Department of Education conducts ongoing analysis to plan for enrolment growth and new schools across Queensland. This work assesses population trends, proposed residential developments and school capacity to help guide future planning, and is underpinned by student population projections developed by the Queensland Government Statistician's Office.

In 2020–21, the Queensland Government will invest \$1.954 billion in education infrastructure across Queensland, building new schools and upgrading, maintaining and expanding existing state schools.

As previously advised, there are currently no plans for a new school within the Karalee and surrounding areas in the medium to long term. As the Member is aware, these areas are currently serviced by Ipswich State High School. The department acknowledges some population growth is expected within the Ipswich State High School catchment; however, this growth can be met by the existing school.

The department has allocated \$12.2 million to schools within the Ipswich West electorate for capital works, maintenance and minor works for the 2020–21 financial year.

Ipswich State High School was allocated a budget of \$7.17 million for the construction of a new classroom building with 12 additional classrooms to cater for enrolment growth, which was completed on 4 January 2021 for the start of the 2021 school year.