



22 November 2022
Mayor's Statement

Council welcomes plans for a new public school

“It is reassuring to see the commitment from South Australian Education Minister Blair Boyer to fast-track planning for a new public school in Mount Barker.

“Minister Boyer this week told ABC Radio the State Government had identified Mount Barker as a growth area that required a new school. He said the Education Department was ‘deep in the work’ of detailed planning.

“The Minister told listeners that, ‘Mount Barker is one of the areas we have identified that needs to have more school enrolment capacity built so I’m very keen to get on with doing that as fast as we can’.

“Council welcomes this commitment and is working diligently and in good faith with the Government to progress planning for a new school, including key aspects identified by the Minister, such as available land and enrolment size.

“It is commendable to hear the Education Minister state publicly that he is keen to be ‘getting on with the process of building (a new school) for the community into the future’. This sentiment is strongly shared by Council.

“Mount Barker District Council has been advocating for expanded public education to meet forecast enrolment demand for many years. The rapid population increase of the district is placing enormous pressure on existing schools and infrastructure.

“The significant growth arising from the 2010 Ministerial rezoning of 1,300 hectares of land requires the timely provision of a new school. Council has already held constructive talks with Minister Boyer this month as it seeks support for the Education Department to prioritise infrastructure planning for all schools within Mount Barker. Based on current demographics modelling, one new classroom will need to be built each month through to 2036 to keep up with the growth in student numbers.”

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