

Orbost Regeneration Project (interim name)

Community Information Session FAQs

What is the Orbost Regeneration Project?

The Orbost regeneration is the result of years of work between the 3 local school communities. The Orbost schools are being brought together to form a new P-12 college on the Orbost Secondary College site.

Education has a long and rich history in Orbost, with Orbost Primary School opening its doors in 1896 and many milestones having been achieved since then. We have exciting plans to continue to build on this history into the future.

We understand our learners and we are committed to creating a place they can call their own. Our learners' experiences and outcomes are at the centre of our project. We will work together to provide specialised, individual and flexible learning pathways – whether it be music or arts, sport, farming, automotive, or getting young people ready for the workforce.

By bringing together the three schools, we are creating an education hub for our learners, their families and the broader community. It is an opportunity for our teaching staff to see our student community all the way through their learning journey., in new first-rate facilities.

The key areas of focus will be:

- developing an educational facility that provides for all students and families in our community
- improving the quality and consistency of teaching and wellbeing practices, boosting our ability to attract and retain the best staff
- improving our ability to provide a guaranteed and viable curriculum across a range of subject areas.

What is the timeline for the Orbost Regeneration Project?

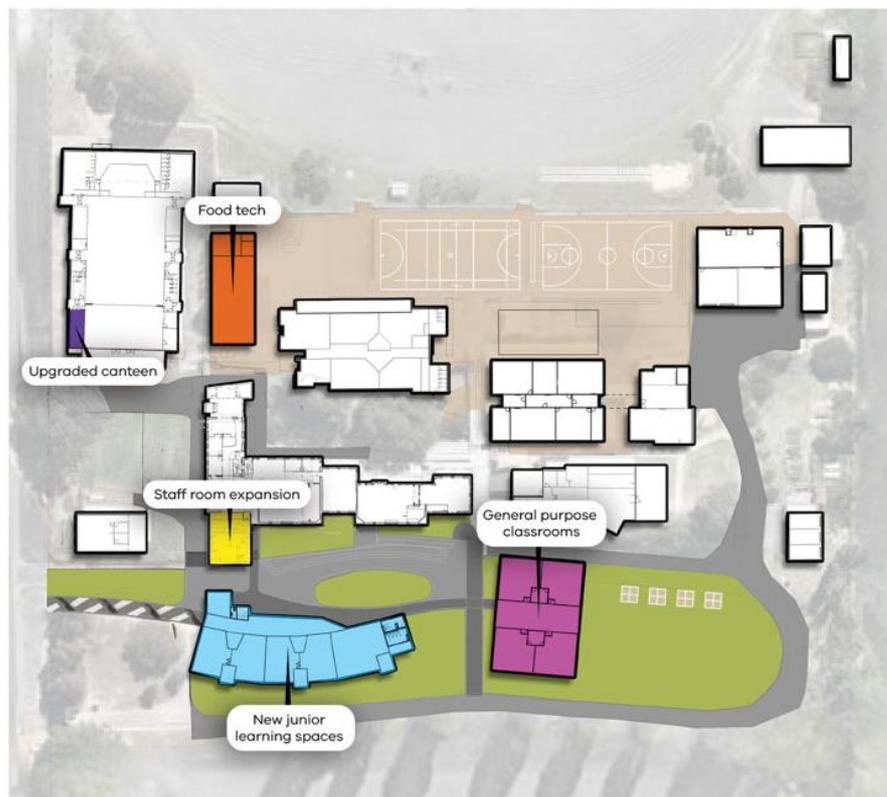
2019	Orbost Regeneration working group formed
Mid 2021	The school received \$7.27 million in the 2021-22 State Budget
Late 2021	Project planning commenced
Early 2022	Design of the new school masterplan commenced with architects
March 2022	Renaming process commenced
Mid 2022	Construction on Stage 1 commences
Late 2022	Tender for Stage 2 construction released
Mid 2023	Construction on Stage 2 commences
2024	Construction due to be completed.

School layout, boundary and fencing

What will the new Orbost P-12 college look like?

We are currently in the process of finalising the designs for the new P-12 college. The plans include an upgraded canteen, food tech building, new junior learning spaces, additional music and arts spaces, and an expanded staff room.

A site plan showing the proposed school layout and artistic impressions is available on the project page on the Victorian School Building Authority's (VSBA) website at: www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/orbost-regeneration. In the coming weeks, images will be featured around each school for our community to see.



Orbost Regeneration – site plan
Upgrade and modernisation works



How will the upgrades for the new P-12 college be delivered?

The upgrades and modernisations for the new P-12 college are being delivered in two stages. Construction of Stage 1 (canteen and food technology building) has now commenced on the site of Orbost Secondary College.

Once a builder is appointed for Stage 2 (junior learning spaces, additional music and arts spaces and expanded staffroom), the community will be notified, and designs will be shared with the community.

Will there be a fence between the primary and secondary areas of the new P-12 college?

Safety is always a key consideration in schools, and there will be some fencing added around new play areas and the boundary fences. The design of the new P-12 college also creates a natural boundary dividing the primary and secondary learning spaces on the north and south of the new school.

One of the intentions of the project is to make it as easy as possible for staff and students to move through and across our site so there is an equality of access to learning opportunities, physical resources and wellbeing supports. The design of the site provides clear delineation of areas, while also allowing staff and students access to all that our new school has to offer.

What happens to the primary school sites?

Once the new P-12 College is in operation, the sites of Orbost Primary School and Orbost North Primary School will no longer be required for education.

These sites will be added to the [VSBA Land Regeneration Program](#) to be sold or reused for another purpose. Other government agencies and the local council have a first right of refusal to purchase such land. Local councils can purchase surplus education land for a reduced price if they use it for a public or community purpose.

Operations: Principal, staffing and school council appointment

When will the principal of the new Orbest P-12 college be appointed?

The Department of Education and Training (the Department) will commence the recruitment process to appoint a principal in the coming months. It is expected the principal will be appointed by Term 2 of 2023.

What does this mean for school staff?

Bringing together the three schools in Orbest will offer staff opportunities for greater professional learning and development. Having staff come together in one school will create a shared approach to teaching and learning and will help staff learn and grow from one another.

When will the new school council be formed?

An interim school council will be established with representatives from the three current schools. We will provide more information on the recruitment and appointment process for this school council in the coming months.

How will we bring staff together?

Some activities have already been undertaken to bring staff together. Staff from the three schools will meet in Term 4 this year for a collaborative planning session. Following this session, we will establish a teaching and learning sub-committee with representatives from across the three schools. We will provide more information about the session closer to the date. It is our intention to engage with external supports to support the development of an agreed approach to Literacy and Numeracy teaching from P-12.

Operations: School uniforms

When will a new uniform be decided? How can I get involved in the design of the new uniform?

We will establish a uniform sub-committee in Term 4 this year. This sub-committee will lead the design and coordination of the new uniform.

We will advertise recruitment for the uniform sub-committee via schools' newsletters.

Will I be able to use my old school uniform?

We will collaborate with the uniform sub-committee, students and families to transition into the new uniform as the P-12 college opens its doors. There will be flexibility in the early period to give students enough time to transition.

More information will be provided on the timeline and suppliers for the new uniform in the coming months.

School naming

How will the new P-12 college in Orbost be named?

The School and Campus Naming Policy sets out the process and requirements for naming Victorian government schools, school campuses, buildings and spaces.

School and campus names must reflect the key principles under the Naming rules for places in Victoria. The naming process requires careful consideration, consultation, and approval by the naming authority. The Minister for Education is the naming authority under the Education Training and Reform Act 2006.

The Orbost District Education Committee, which includes current principals, school council presidents and school council representatives from the three schools, was tasked with consulting with community groups and individuals to seek suggestions into the name of the new college.

The group consulted with staff, students, parents, families and carers from Orbost North Primary School, Orbost Primary School and Orbost Secondary College, the Rotary Club of Orbost, Orbost Regional Health, Orbost Chamber of Commerce, Moogji Aboriginal Council, Orbost Historical Society, Orbost Community Bushfire Recovery Committee and Orbost Early Learning Centre.

The Committee has now provided a summary of the consultation and the proposed names to the Minister for Education and the Department for review in accordance with the Departments naming process and requirements. Once approved, the name will be announced by the Victorian Government.

Community and stakeholder engagement

How will students, parents and carers be engaged throughout the development of the new college?

The new Prep to Year 12 school in Orbost is taking shape. Leaders and school councils from Orbost North Primary School, Orbost Primary School and Orbost Secondary College have been working together on the project, which will give local students access to new learning opportunities and facilities.

We held a community forum on the 27 July 2022 at Orbost Secondary College to share our vision for the new P-12 college and provide an update on the plans and naming process.

As the project moves through to delivery the Department and the school leadership team, will continue to provide opportunities for the community to be involved, as well as share updates about the project.

Any upcoming forums or opportunities will be included in school newsletters and, where appropriate, the local newspaper.

How do I keep updated on what is happening?

Our formal communication with parents and carers will be via Compass. Compass is an online portal and learning management system that can be downloaded at no charge to mobile devices or tablets. It is a 2-way communication system between parents and teachers; students and teachers; and school and parents.

Principals can also be contacted with any queries from our school community.

Who can I speak to if I have a query about the build and construction works?

If you have any questions, please contact the VSBA enquiries hotline on 1800 896 950.

You can also email the VSBA at vsba@education.vic.gov.au or visit the website at:
www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au.