



Minister for Education  
Minister for Industrial Relations and  
Minister for Racing

20 DEC 2021

Mr Neil Laurie  
Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3656-21 tabled on 2 December 2021 in the Legislative Assembly requesting that the Queensland Government reconsiders the site selection for a new state school to service Brisbane's growing inner west.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to ensuring all students, no matter where they live, have access to a range of high-quality learning opportunities within their local communities.

On 16 December 2021, the Premier and I announced the site of the former Toowong Bowls Club near Perrin Park as the preferred location for the new state school for Brisbane's growing inner west suburbs to service the increasing enrolment demand at the existing local state schools in Indooroopilly, St Lucia and Toowong.

I would like to assure the local community that when building the new primary school, the Department of Education will employ measures to ensure the safety of students and the local community.

Preliminary investigations into impacts on flora and fauna were to inform the site selection process. Through these investigations, the department has received advice regarding the grey-headed flying fox and acknowledges the important ecological value and status of the flying fox colony that roost in Perrin Park.

The department will work with the Australian Government to ensure the delivery of the new school does not impact the health of the colony. Innovative construction methods and management actions will be employed to safeguard the colony.

While delivery of the school for 2024 remains a priority for the department, so is the preservation of wildlife in the surrounding area and the staging of construction may need to be remodelled to accommodate all interests. The community can visit the project website at <https://qld.gov.au/newschoolinnerwest> for more information as it becomes available.

I would like to thank petitioners for raising this matter and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**GRACE GRACE MP**  
**Minister for Education**  
**Minister for Industrial Relations and**  
**Minister for Racing**

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