

**Submission
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**INQUIRY INTO ENROLMENT CAPACITY IN INNER CITY
PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

Name: NSW Department of Education

Date received: 27 September 2016



RML16/3301

THE LORD MAYOR OF SYDNEY
CLOVER MOORE



25 JUL 2016

The Hon. Adrian Piccoli MP
Minister for Education and Communities
Level 34, Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
Sydney NSW 2001

By email:

Dear Minister

Ultimo Primary School and Wentworth Park

Following recent revelations about the contamination of Wentworth Park and the need for remediation before the temporary 'Pop-Up' school can be developed, I call on you and the Premier to urgently reconsider the government's decision not to build a new primary school for children living in Ultimo and Pyrmont at the City's Fig and Wattle site.

The Department of Education and Communities claimed that the reasons for not going ahead with the purchase of the Fig & Wattle site was because the land was contaminated and the costs of remediation were too great. This resulted in the decision to knock down and rebuild a new school on the existing site – a decision strongly condemned by local parents in the area.

We now know that the Wentworth Park site is also contaminated, so if the State Government can afford to remediate that site, they can afford to do the school properly and put it on the site where there is strong community support. I have also written to the Premier, Mike Baird MP.

Pyrmont/ Ultimo currently is the highest density community in the country and school enrolments in the City area have skyrocketed by more than 13 per cent since 2012 – nearly 3.5 times the state average. The City believes the Government will be able to build a bigger school on the Fig and Wattle site and they won't need to disrupt students by moving them to another site while construction is underway.

It just makes sense to build a new school that will work now and into the future.

The inner city urgently requires new schools and the City stands ready to negotiate on the Fig & Wattle site, which is ideal for the needs of a new school and this community. I urge you to reconsider the decision not to build a new primary school on the Fig and Wattle site.

Yours sincerely

Clover Moore
Lord Mayor of Sydney