INQUIRY INTO PLANNING AND DELIVERY OF SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mrs Sarah Bird

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I have many concerns in regard to the infrastructure provided at Gillieston Public School.

The school is not connected to town sewerage, meaning a septic system is used. The septic tanks are susceptible to flood during rains. With more demountable toilet blocks added over the summer break adding more pressure to a system already not appropriate.

A lack of any sporting facilities at all. There are especially no flat areas for children to play outdoor sport, and any remaining flat areas are utilised for the ever expanding demountable classrooms.

There is no secure fencing around the perimeter of the school. The school is in a developing area, and soon to have a large housing development commence. There are two obvious issues with this current poor chicken wire fence. Keeping unwelcome people out of the school, but more importantly keeping children within the school. This is going to become a very busy traffic area with the impending developments and child safety should be paramount.

Road access to the school is chaos at best. The main entrance, and the only appropriate road to access the school is a dead end. With cars parked either side of the road for drop off/pick up it causes the road to become single lane. With all cars driving up the road having no option but to turn and drive back out creating a traffic hazard.

The school has 2 permanent classrooms and 10 demountable classrooms. And in an area expected to continue to expand surely a permanent school is appropriate. The demountables in themselves creat a lot of hazards. The underneath of them is not safe for children and a haven for snakes, which are frequently found on school grounds and cause lockdown of all students. The school hall is a demountable which is dramatically undersized for the size of the school.