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

Organisation:	Ulladulla High School Parent and Citizen (P&C) Executive Committee
Date Received:	21 February 2022

Partially Confidential

The Milton Ulladulla Community has been lobbying for an educational facility for local students at the old Shoalhaven Anglican School site on Croobyar Road at Milton for many years. After much consultation and meetings with key stakeholders it was clear that the site would play a key role in supporting the local school's growing needs.

It is evident that the average school growth will continue to increase well above current levels with local schools over capacity by more than 400 students. In addition the three public schools which include Ulladulla Public, Milton Public and Ulladulla High School have close to 30 demountables along with over 20 support classes. Students sit on the concrete to eat their lunch while down the road there is a perfectly good school sitting idle. The catchment includes students between Vincentia and Batemans Bay, picking up students 45km to the north and 40km to the south of Ulladulla.

Family population numbers are strengthening due to cheaper housing options, COVID, major roads improvements, improved internet, improved mobile coverage, numerous local house developments, lifestyle for families, increased job opportunities and increased trends towards working remotely.

All of these factors make it more important than ever to gain the required funding to move ahead with the Milton Campus. The Department of Education is stalling and without a united call for action to secure the site, we may see it lost forever. The old Shoalhaven Anglican School site is a fit for purpose, ready to be used school which will alleviate current and future growth issues in the schools. The site can cater for 500 students.

There are a number of business cases that would benefit students in the region including a possible middle school or specialised support hub for students with learning and behavioural needs. This is not to say it can not be used for other educational needs. The community is determined to secure the necessary funding to complete the Milton Campus as originally promised. Since a change in the Minister for Education post the last state election, over capacity issues have been disregarded despite growing community concerns.