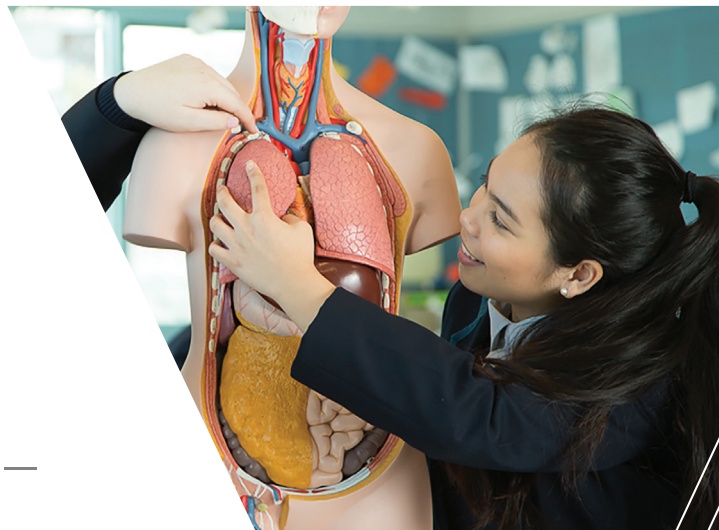


FOOTSCRAY'S FUTURE –  
THE FOOTSCRAY  
LEARNING PRECINCT









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# 1. EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES AND ALL STAGES

Over the past decade, Melbourne’s thriving inner west has experienced a baby boom. The number of young families has grown dramatically and the data shows this trend will continue. The number of school-aged children in the area is forecast to significantly increase within the next 20 years.

In response to this growing demand, the Victorian Government has committed \$15 million for the first stage of the Footscray Learning Precinct — a national first in integrating learning at all levels. This ambitious project provides a long-term vision for world-class education in the inner west.

The Precinct will create and link state-of-the-art facilities across Footscray, providing innovative and world-leading education from early childhood through to university, including adult education. This will provide unique and exciting learning options for students at all ages and all stages of their education.

Footscray Learning Precinct seeks to create partnerships and links between early childhood providers, primary and secondary schools, Victoria University and community learning providers, all working together across existing and new facilities and the latest advances in teaching and learning.

The ideas in this paper are the result of extensive discussions across the inner west with school principals and school councils, students, Maribyrnong City Council, Victoria University, international education experts and community groups. Now, we are asking for your thoughts and feedback.

Over the next few pages, we present a plan which shows how the Footscray Learning Precinct can take learning to a whole new level.

Visit [schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/Footscray](https://schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/Footscray) to learn more about the project and give us your feedback on the proposed concepts.

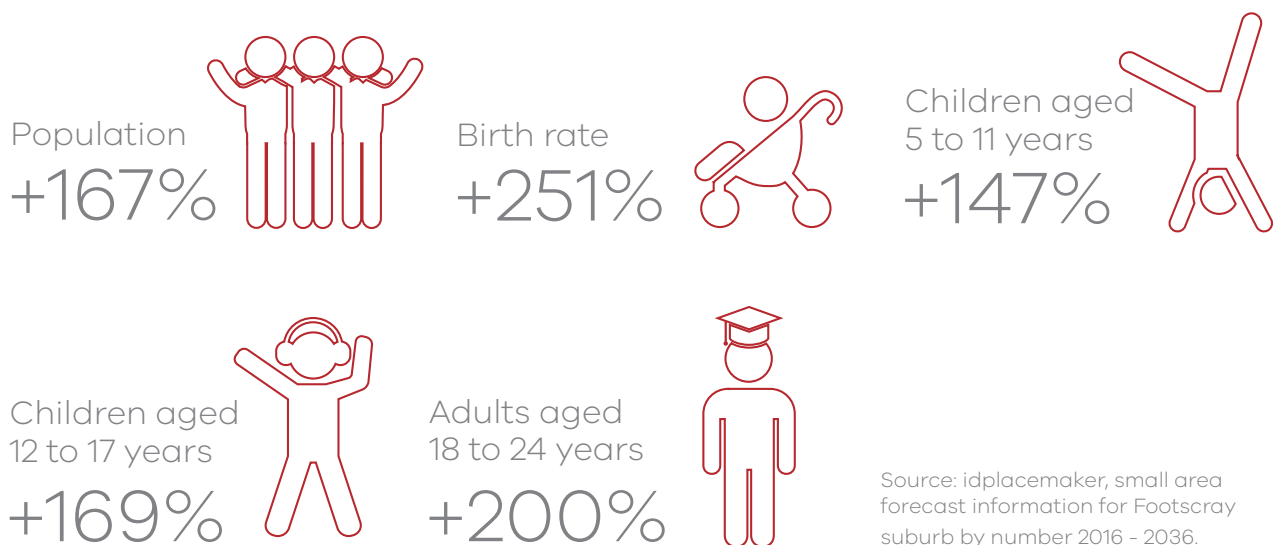
We're making Victoria the Education State by building an education system that produces excellence and reduces the impact of disadvantage.

**OUR PROMISE IS SIMPLE BUT BOLD: TO REVITALISE OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM AND TRANSFORM VICTORIA INTO THE EDUCATION STATE.**

To do this, we're investing in a quality education for every child, regardless of their background, circumstance or postcode. The Education State agenda supports the whole life cycle of education, from early childhood, through to schools and into adulthood.

## Meeting the demand

The inner west will continue to grow rapidly over the next 20 years. In Footscray alone, between now and 2036:







## 2. WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

Many schools and early childhood providers in the inner west are struggling to accommodate the booming population.

The Footscray Learning Precinct proposes to link, further develop and upgrade learning spaces across the inner west to provide more space and provide better learning opportunities for students at all ages and all stages of life.

“Footscray Learning Precinct could create consistent, dynamic, integrated and high quality education from early childhood to tertiary and training services for people in the inner west”

*SKY High Community Group*



## 2.1 The vision for the Footscray Learning Precinct

The ideas in this paper are the result of extensive discussions across the inner west with school principals and councils, students, Maribyrnong City Council, Victoria University, international education experts and community groups.

The agreed aims of the Footscray Learning Precinct are to:

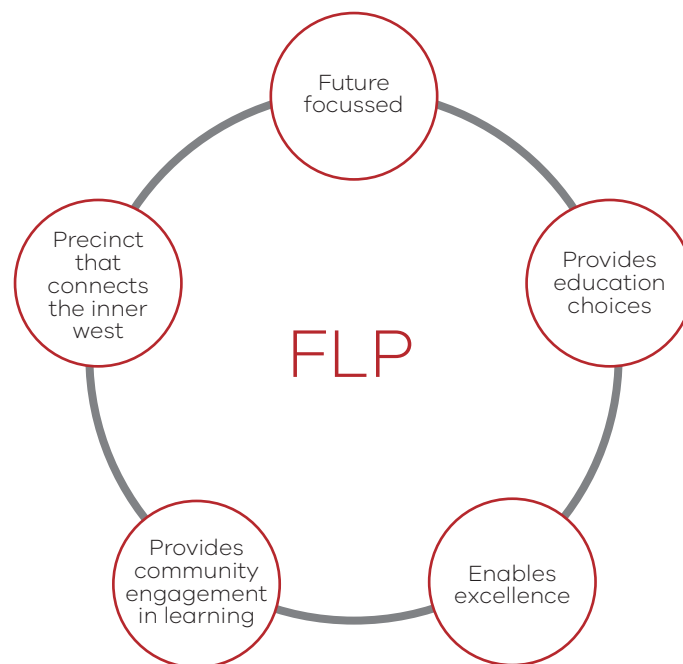
- take a world-class approach to education so that learners can reach their goals
- focus on meeting future demands for education
- provide more choice through a range of education providers and subjects
- include the community in learning, and
- connect education providers in the inner west.

“University students can partner with primary and high schools to help with transition, and there is opportunity for us to work at a higher level”

*Student, Footscray City College*

“There is a need to provide enhanced choice for families”

*School Principal*







## 2.2 World-class learning

New and upgraded facilities are just the beginning. We know that even with the best modern facilities, the best education relies on quality teaching and educational leadership.

While infrastructure gives students and educators the best possible environment in which to collaborate, create and learn, it is our teachers and innovative teaching practices that are at the core of our vision for the Footscray Learning Precinct.

That is why we have developed a draft Learning Framework for the Precinct in partnership with the local and international education experts and school leaders in the inner west. The Framework recognises the achievements of parents, students and teachers, and provides clear direction for the best possible outcome.

The Framework shows the aspirations for learners at all ages and all stages of education, capturing both knowledge and capabilities.

The Framework understands that literacy and numeracy are core capabilities that need to be enhanced. To ensure learners thrive, they need to be resilient, but also capable of learning to think and grow. Health and wellbeing are critical and both need to be supported by partnerships with family and community agencies.

A number of enablers have been identified, which provide a blueprint for implementation of the Framework.

### Victorian Curriculum learning areas & capabilities

Early 0 - 5	Prep - 3
Adult-child and peer interaction	
Self-regulation	Interpersonal development
	Growth mindset
	Metacognition
Self-regulation	
Executive functioning	
Play based learning	Structured exploration
Trial and error	Experimenting, hypothesising, inferring, predicting, recording
Hands on playful experiments	Using metaphors to think creatively
Creating art, drama, music, imaginary play	
Incursions and excursions	
	Intercultural understanding
Use of community infrastructure, libraries, art centres etc.	
Care of local environment	Engagement with older and younger cohorts
	Building concept of citizenship
Fine and gross motor skills through physical activity	
Developing sense of self and others	Health and wellbeing development
	Kitchen gardens
Learning outside centres, nature walks, precinct as a classroom	

### Enablers

Community engagement

Funding & resources

	Grades 4 - 6	Junior Secondary	Senior Secondary & beyond
<b>Literate and numerate - progress along continuum</b>			
<b>Capable and resilient - students know their progress</b>			
	Peer interaction & teamwork	Collaboration in and beyond school	
	Set own learning goals	Initiating and leading	
	Metacognition	Persist in deep learning and mastery across curriculum	
	Self-regulation	Metacognition	
		Self-regulation	
<b>Curious and creative - posing questions, developing solutions</b>			
		Identifying and solving real world problems	
		Application of knowledge of science, maths and engineering	
	Creating and mastering	Design, prototype, produce, refine display	
	Performances, products, displays experiences	Design exhibitions, plays, dances, sound lighting, digital displays	
<b>Locally and globally competent - informed and engaged citizens</b>			
	Connecting locally and globally	Collaborating locally and globally in learning	
	Identifying and solving local issues		
		Enterprise skills	
	Growing citizenship awareness	Demonstration of citizenship through local projects	
	Interaction with local community providers	Industry understanding and exposure	Industry engagement
			Partnerships with local and global universities
	Engagement with older and younger cohorts, cross age projects		
<b>Healthy and physically active</b>			
	Exposure to sports	Mastery of sports and regular physical activities	
	Engagement in physical activity and health education	Research, inquire and apply healthy lifestyle practices	
	Use of open spaces to learn and play		
	Precinct for active living and learning		

Multiple pathways to excellence

Virtual & physical spaces for parent, community & industry interaction

Data & technology

Managed & supported transitions

Leadership & governance





To provide the foundations for the Framework, the Precinct will aim to incorporate:

- open and welcoming spaces for parents and communities to ensure parents and their children are engaged early, while offering safe places to play and travel between providers to support physical wellbeing
- opportunities for teachers to collaborate and learn, with a shared approach to professional learning across the Precinct to reduce variability between schools, smooth student transitions and improved education outcomes
- data measurement to understand each child's knowledge and capabilities, help students transition between education providers and encourage greater collaboration
- managed and supported transitions between schools. Students have told us they are interested in working with different age groups, such as primary children working with pre-school children. The Precinct could also enable students to take subjects at other year levels and with other local and global providers, and
- effective leadership and governance to enhance collaboration, shared use of facilities and joint planning.

"The Footscray Learning Precinct is not just about infrastructure – there is more to it. There is the opportunity to improve the linkages between the organisations"

*School Council, Footscray City College*

"Victoria University is interested in building a stronger teaching placement model, a Teacher Centre of Excellence, to build stronger pathways from university learning to job placement"

*Victoria University*

"The Footscray Learning Precinct could create partnerships with industry/ business and more involvement with trades and technology"

*Student, Footscray City College*

## 3. THE CONCEPT

The concept for the Footscray Learning Precinct is a national first, providing inner west education providers room to evolve and grow through innovative infrastructure and partnerships.

The Precinct will create a strong community of educators across early childhood services, kindergarten, primary and secondary schools and Victoria University. These connections will enable teachers and students to share world-class facilities and collaborate across institutions.

The Precinct will be delivered across three Hubs, spanning the area from Farnsworth Avenue (Footscray City College) in the north, and down to Hyde and Nicholson streets (Footscray City Primary School and Victoria University) in the south.

### Opportunity 1

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Work with the City of Maribyrnong to develop a new children's centre, co-located and integrated with Footscray City Primary School, in the southern Hub. The new children's centre would add much needed early years education capacity and allow children to progress to a co-located primary school.

### Opportunity 2

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Create extra primary school places by expanding Footscray City Primary School.

### Opportunity 3

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Deliver extra secondary school places in the southern and central Hubs, while making better use of Footscray City College to meet the needs of senior students.

### Opportunity 4

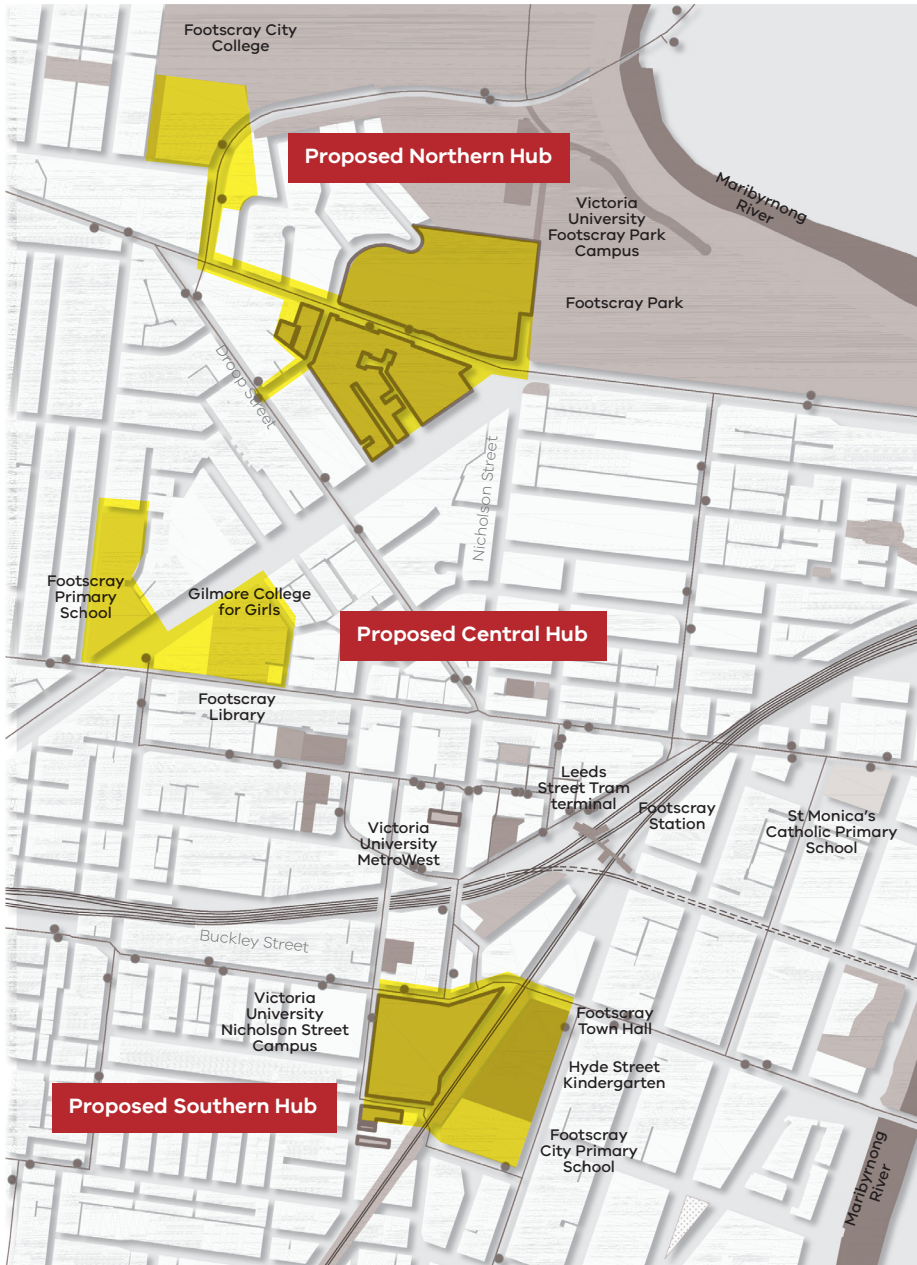
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Create opportunities for excellence and pathways through establishing a new Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Learning Centre, delivered in partnership between the Victorian Government and Victoria University.

### Opportunity 5

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Deliver sports and performing arts facilities to be shared by schools and the community.



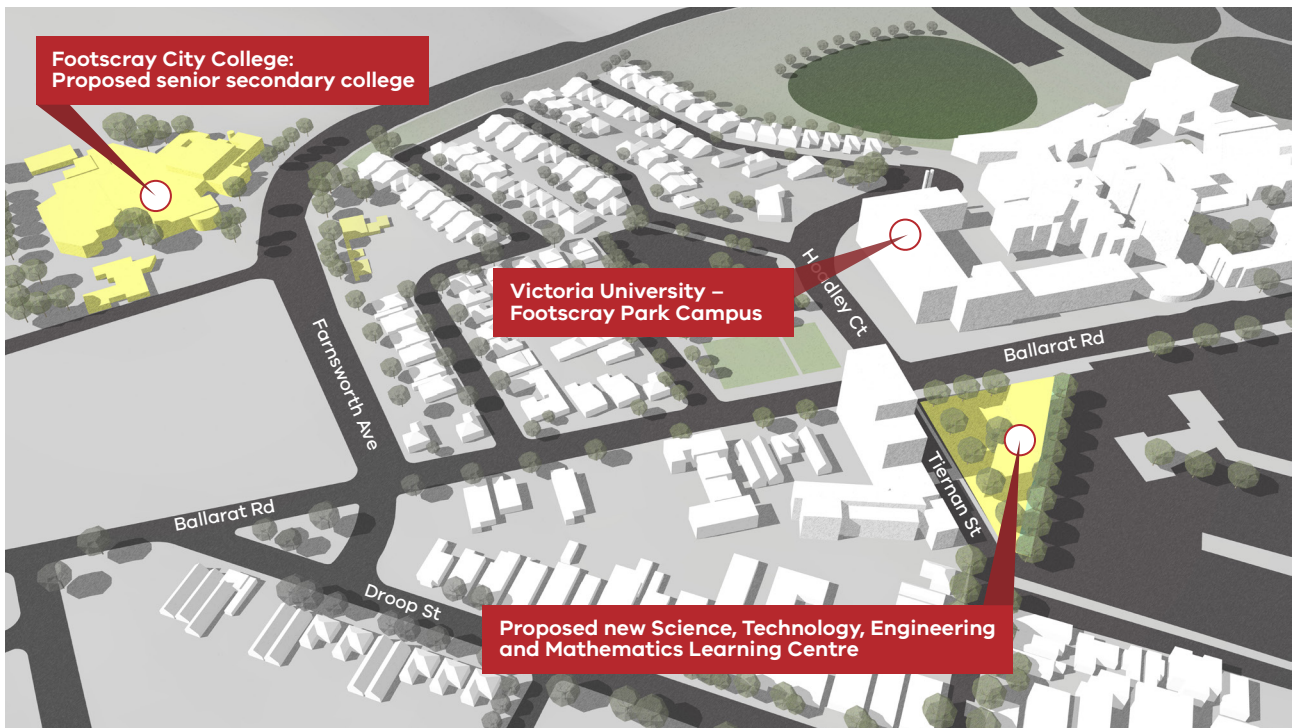
To demonstrate how our ideas could work in practice, we have split the Precinct into three Hubs — north, central and south.

The following maps demonstrate how the Footscray Learning Precinct could take shape, subject to review and agreement of partners and Government. After we review public feedback, a recommendation will be given to the Victorian Government to consider.



## Proposed Northern Hub

- Redevelopment of Footscray City College to a senior secondary college, catering for Years 10-12
- A new Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Learning Centre delivered in partnership between the Victorian Government and Victoria University to offer specialised teaching and learning in state-of-the-art facilities



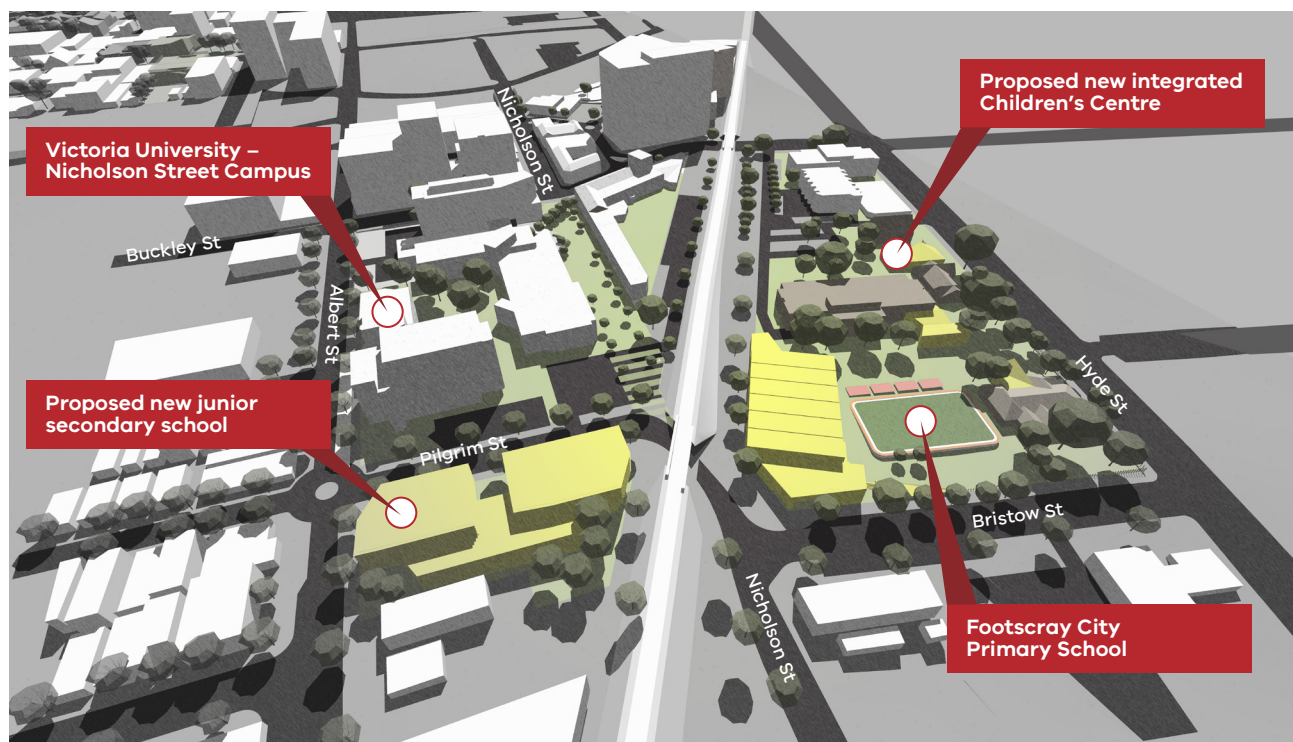
## Proposed Central Hub

- Redevelopment of Gilmore College for Girls as a new co-educational junior secondary school, catering for Years 7-9
- The Central Hub could house the performing arts centre



## Proposed Southern Hub

- A new integrated children's centre developed in partnership with the City of Maribyrnong, co-located with Footscray City Primary School
- Extra school places at Footscray City Primary School, created by expanding and redeveloping the school
- New sporting centre and recreation building that could also house the performing arts centre
- New junior secondary school catering for Years 7-9
- The proposed concept demonstrates how Footscray Learning Precinct could take shape. Following community engagement a recommendation will be made to the Victorian Government for consideration. We will then look at options to acquire land and consult with those affected.





## A snapshot of what is proposed where

	Early learning	Primary	Secondary	Science, Technology Engineering & Mathematics Learning Centre	University	Sport & recreation	Performing arts
Proposed Northern Hub			✓	✓	✓		
Proposed Central Hub		✓	✓				•
Proposed Southern Hub	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	•

✓ = existing/proposed new

• = option



## 4. WHAT IS NEXT?

The ideas in this paper are the result of extensive discussions across the inner west with school principals and councils, students, Maribyrnong City Council, Victoria University, international education experts and community groups.

Now we want your feedback. What are your thoughts on the plans and maps? What do you like? Do you think there are better ways of delivering the Precinct? Has something been missed?

To learn more about the project and give us your feedback, **visit [schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/Footscray](http://schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/Footscray)**

We will gather all feedback and use it to inform our final report to the Victorian Government.



## 5. WHO IS INVOLVED?

The Victorian School Building Authority is responsible for all government school building projects across Victoria. The Authority was created in 2016 to deliver the Victorian Government's infrastructure program for schools.

A strategic advisory group was established in June 2015 to advise the Victorian Government on the creation of the Footscray Learning Precinct. The group is made up of staff from the Department of Education and Training, representatives from schools in the inner-west, local MPs, Victoria University, Maribyrnong City Council and the SKY High community group.

The strategic advisory group has worked with the Department of Education and Training to commission and review research, feasibility and designs. It has heard from international education experts, visited innovative schools across Melbourne and guided the development of the concept.

Now it's over to you to tell us what you think.

 [www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/Footscray](http://www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/Footscray)

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