



Dear Belconnen Community Council,

We are writing to advise that **the new Early Childhood Education Care Centre and preschool to year 6 primary school at Strathnairn in Ginninderry will now open in time for Term 1, 2026**, instead of the original planned timeframe of Term 1, 2025.

We understand that this might be disappointing news and would like to reassure you that there are arrangements in place for students starting school in 2025.

The delay is due to development and planning delays, as well as processes to remove an Environmental Clearance Zone (ECZ) surrounding the Lower Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre taking longer than anticipated. Strathnairn and Macnamara suburbs are affected by the ECZ, preventing works on the majority of the school site at this time.

Families in Strathnairn will continue to share a PEA with both Macgregor Primary School and Kingsford Smith School P-6 for enrolments to the 2025 school year. Please be assured that both schools will be able to accommodate all students.

Any family with a child starting school in 2025 can begin their schooling at their Priority Enrolment Area (PEA) school, Kingsford Smith School or Macgregor Primary School, or can apply to enrol at Southern Cross Early Childhood School nearby, which does not have a PEA. After that, families can either remain at the school they are enrolled in, or if they prefer and live in the PEA, enrol in the new Strathnairn School for 2026.

Public school enrolments for 2026 will open in April 2025 and the PEA for the new Strathnairn School will be advised prior to this time. For more information about PEAs, visit: https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school/priority_enrolment_area

Representatives from the Directorate will provide an update to the community at the next available opportunity.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us on ACT.Education@act.gov.au.

You can find further information on the Education Directorate website: <https://www.education.act.gov.au/>

Yours sincerely

Katy Haire
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Education Directorate
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