

MOUNT OMMANEY SPECIAL SCHOOL

BUILDING UPDATE

BULLETIN



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS FORTNIGHT?

Important Early Pick-Up and Late Drop-Off Information (from Term 3)

Due to some queries following the last Bulletin, I wanted to provide a clear overview of the new arrangements for early pick-up and late drop-off from the start of Term 3.

Please refer to the diagrams provided and the short video clip. Please note that these images were taken during construction, so some features are not yet visible, including the fencing that will be installed before the start of Term 3.

The entrance road leading towards ECDP provides access to the ramp entrance, which will be the main entry point to the Administration area.

To ensure student safety, the walkways along this route will be fully fenced, with secure fob-operated gates at both ends. These measures have been designed to provide a safe and controlled environment for students and families accessing the school.



Early Pick-Up (Before 2:15pm)

- Park in the designated Family Parking spaces adjacent to the ECDP fence or in the temporary car park.
- Use the intercom at the gate.
- Walk along the covered walkway to Administration.
- Sign your child out at Administration.
- Administration staff will contact your child's classroom.
- A staff member will bring your child to Administration for handover.
- Parents/carers are responsible for accompanying their child between Administration and their vehicle.
- Staff will not be able to bring students to the bottom gate before 2:15pm.

Car Pick-Up from 2:15pm Onwards

- Parents can stay in their car or park in the nearby Family Parking area.
- Staff in the pick-up area will contact your child's classroom via walkie-talkie.
- Please wait while your child is escorted down from class.
- A staff member will bring your child directly to you when they arrive.

Late Drop-Off (After 9:00am)

- Park in the designated Family Parking spaces or temporary car park.
- Use the intercom at the gate to gain access to the walkway.
- Walk your child to Administration via the covered walkway.
- Sign your child in at Administration.
- A staff member will collect your child from Administration.
- Staff will not be able to collect students from the temporary pick-up area for late arrivals.

Existing Arrangements

- If your family already has an approved pick-up or drop-off arrangement outside these times, that arrangement can continue.
- Parents/carers will still be required to come through Administration to sign students in or out.

Students with Vision Impairment

A question was raised regarding students with vision impairment, where the environment after 2:15pm may be busy and overstimulating, while navigating the new walkway and ramp earlier in the day may present challenges.

To assist with this:

- The school will engage the Department's Advisory Visiting Teacher (AVT) Vision Impairment team to conduct an Orientation and Mobility (O&M) assessment of the new walkway and ramp.
- Recommendations will be considered and implemented where feasible.
- Parents/carers will continue to support students to navigate the walkway and ramp during early pick-up and late drop-off times.

Former Playground Area

- The former playground area will not reopen.
- The area will be demolished and incorporated into the new bus set-down zone.
- Construction is expected to be completed by the end of 2027.
- From the beginning of Term 3, the area will be secured behind safety fencing and will not be accessible.

Access to Administration

- The only access to Administration will be via the new covered walkway.
- The walkway will be fully fenced at the commencement of Term 3.

Bus Drop-Off and Pick-Up

- Bus drop-off and pick-up times are not changing and will continue at approximately 8:30am and 2:30pm each day.
- The only change is the location. Buses will now collect and drop off students in the new bus zone at the bottom of the ramp.
- Buses will use the lane closest to the kerb, with students boarding and exiting at two designated loading points.
- To support a safe transition, Wiley will install clear temporary traffic management measures, including lane dividers, bollards, signage and road markings to clearly separate bus and car access areas.
- Wiley will also provide qualified traffic control staff for an initial period to help direct vehicles and support families as everyone becomes familiar with the new arrangements.
- The school will continue working closely with Wiley to determine where traffic control and other support measures are most needed to ensure a safe and smooth transition for all students, families and staff.

Information for Families

- A video outlining the new traffic flow and access arrangements will be provided before the start of Term 3.
- This will be distributed once road markings, fencing and signage have been completed.
- Updated photos and maps will also be sent during the holidays.
- These arrangements are important for student safety, supervision and smooth traffic flow during this temporary period.

Staff Parking and Access Update

I've been working with the builders on a possible access gate from Endeavour Street (near the TriCare entrance) into the school grounds.

If approved, the gate would provide staff parking on Endeavour Street with a much shorter walk to school, allowing access down the hill, through the temporary car park and onto the ramp entrance, rather than walking through K, L and J Blocks.

A few important points:

- The gate will form part of the new perimeter fencing from the start of Term 3.
- Staff using the gate will need to ensure it is locked after every use.
- We will have risk mitigation strategies in place, including cleaners checking the gate each morning, but vigilance from all staff will be essential.
- We are currently investigating a temporary grip pathway and handrail to make the slope safer, particularly in wet weather.

Parking Locations

- Staff parking on Endeavour Street can use the proposed gate access.
- Staff parking on Capitol Drive and surrounding streets will need to walk via the ECDP road and enter through the ramp entrance.

Mt Ommaney Centre Shuttle

As previously discussed, we will offer one (1) daily pick-up and drop-off service from Mt Ommaney Centre.

To continue running this service, we will need a reasonably consistent group of at least five staff using it. If demand is very low, we may discontinue the service as it requires staff time each day.

Temporary Car Park

The temporary car park will be a **Limited Reserved Parking Area** for staff whose roles require them to come and go throughout the day.

This includes:

- ECDP teachers
- Therapists
- Nurses
- Some administration and leadership staff
- Other staff whose roles require regular travel during the day

If you have a temporary health, mobility or other significant circumstance that would make access difficult, please email me to discuss a temporary parking dispensation.

Active Travel Options

- Staff who choose to walk or ride to work are encouraged to do so where practical.
- A shower will be available for all staff in the new Multipurpose Building (the former Administration Building)

As I mentioned previously, we need to be considerate of each other's circumstances. Simply arriving early does not provide access to reserved parking spaces. These spaces are being allocated based on operational need and individual circumstances.

Thanks everyone for your flexibility and patience as we work through these temporary arrangements.

If you have any questions, feel free to email bulletinupdates@mtommaneyspecs.eq.edu.au and we'll get back to you as soon as we can. **If your question is about the construction itself, please call Wiley & Co Project Manager: Alex Readman on 0421 749 998**

This week's key points:

- New early pick-up and late drop-off procedures will commence from the start of Term 3, with all access through Administration.
- Access to Administration will be via the new covered walkway and ramp entrance only.
- Bus pick-up and drop-off times are not changing; only the location is moving to the new bus zone at the bottom of the ramp.
- Updated maps, photos and a traffic flow video will be shared with families before the start of Term 3.
- Temporary staff parking, access arrangements and a potential new Endeavour Street gate are being explored to support staff during construction.

PROJECT TIMELINE – CURRENT AS OF 22/05/2026

(This timeline is reviewed weekly and may change as projects progress. If timelines change, updates will be reflected in the next bulletin.)

Project / Milestone	Target Date	Status	Notes
New Classroom block and Hall Site Establishment	22 Jun 2026	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upcoming <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
J Block Site Establishment	22 Jun 2026	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upcoming <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
J Block Covered Play Area Handover	16 Sep 2026	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upcoming <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Endeavour Road Carpark Site Establishment	30 Nov 2026	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upcoming <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Vehicle Drop-off & Playground Site Establishment	14 Dec 2026	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upcoming <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
J Block Handover	15 Mar 2027	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upcoming <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Drop-off, Roadworks & Carpark Site Establishment	28 Apr 2027	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upcoming <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Endeavour St Carpark Handover	17 May 2027	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upcoming <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Drop-off, Roadworks & Carpark Handover	28 Jul 2027	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upcoming <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
New Classroom Block and Hall Handover	18 Aug 2027	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upcoming <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Vehicle Drop-off & Playground Handover	21 Sep 2027	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upcoming <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	

CURRENT PROJECT UPDATE

Project / Milestone: Construction site fencing and temporary access changes begin.

What is happening? New fencing, parking, access and drop-off arrangements being introduced safely.

When is it happening? Work will continue throughout the school holidays, with landscaping, fencing, signage and traffic management infrastructure being installed. The new access arrangements will commence from the beginning of Term 3, with updated maps, photos and a short video provided to families before students return.

Who will this impact?

- Staff
- Students
- Families
- Visitors
- Contractors

How will this impact the community?

- ✓ Families will need to follow new pick-up, drop-off and Administration access arrangements from the start of Term 3.
- ✓ Traffic flow around the school will change as buses, family vehicles and pedestrians use the new temporary access points.
- ✓ Families may need to allow a little extra time during the first few weeks while everyone becomes familiar with the new layout.
- ✓ Staff and Administration will be available to assist and guide families during the transition period.
- ✓ These temporary changes will support a safer, more organised environment while construction continues and new facilities are delivered.

What do you need to know / be aware of?

- ✓ Construction works will continue throughout the school holidays and into future stages of the project.
- ✓ Some areas of the school will remain behind secure fencing and will not be accessible.
- ✓ Temporary arrangements may be adjusted over time as construction progresses and site requirements change.
- ✓ Safety remains the highest priority, with traffic management, fencing and supervision measures in place.
- ✓ Families are encouraged to read Building Update Bulletins to stay informed of upcoming changes and project milestones.
- ✓ Questions or concerns can be directed to the school so they can be addressed as early as possible.

Actions / Planning / Mitigation

What the school is doing to minimise disruption:

- Working closely with builders and the Department to plan safe and practical access arrangements.
- Providing regular updates through Building Update Bulletins, email, SMS, Facebook and the school website.
- Installing clear signage, fencing, bollards and traffic management measures to support safe movement around the site.
- Developing maps, photos and video guides to help families understand new arrangements before they commence.
- Having Administration staff available to assist families during the transition to new access and traffic flow arrangements.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of temporary arrangements and making adjustments where needed to improve safety and efficiency.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Question: How will families be kept informed about changes resulting from the building works?

Answer: Building updates are regularly shared through this Building Update Bulletin. Links are distributed via email, Facebook, the school website and SMS to ensure families receive important information through multiple channels.

Question: Will parents and carers be shown where to go when the new arrangements begin?

Answer: Yes. Before the start of Term 3, families will receive maps, photos and a short video explaining the new traffic flow and access arrangements. Staff will also be available to assist during the transition period.

Question: Why do I need to come through Administration for early pick-up or late drop-off?

Answer: These arrangements help ensure students remain safe and appropriately supervised at all times. Administration staff can coordinate student collection and sign-in/sign-out processes efficiently.

Question: Are bus times changing?

Answer: No. Bus drop-off and pick-up times will remain the same. The only change is that buses will now use the new bus zone at the bottom of the ramp.

Question: Will these arrangements be permanent?

Answer: No. These are temporary arrangements required during the current stage of the building project. We will continue to keep families informed as the project progresses and arrangements change.

Question: Why can't students be collected from the bottom gate before 2:15pm?

Answer: Staff are supervising teaching and learning programs until that time. Early collections must occur through Administration to ensure students can be safely signed out and collected.

Question: What happens if I arrive to collect my child between 2:15pm and 2:30pm?

Answer: You can park in the Family Parking area and an Administration staff member will contact your child's classroom. Please allow a few minutes for your child to arrive with a staff member.

Question: Can I walk through the former playground area to access the school?

Answer: No. The former playground area will be incorporated into the construction zone and future bus set-down area. It will be secured behind safety fencing and will not be accessible from the beginning of Term 3.

Question: What if my child becomes overwhelmed by the new arrangements?

Answer: We understand that change can be challenging for some students. Staff will work closely with families to support students during the transition and make reasonable adjustments where required.

Question: Why are these changes necessary?

Answer: These arrangements are required to maintain safe access, supervision and traffic flow while major construction works are underway. They are designed to keep students, families, staff and contractors safe throughout the building project.

COMMUNICATION PLAN

How this update is being communicated:

Who to?

Staff

Families

- P&C
- Transport providers
- Wider community

When? Fortnightly, alternate Fridays to the Family KIT


How?

- Building Update Bulletin, linked to Facebook, Website, email, KIT, SMS
- Meeting

Responsible Officer Mike Curtis, Principal

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Please contact the school if you have questions, concerns or require clarification about school access, safety, communication, parking or transition arrangements.

 Phone: 3717 6888

 Email: buildingupdates@mtommaneyspecs.eq.edu.au

If your question relates specifically to the building or construction works themselves, rather than school preparation or site operations, please contact the Wiley Constructions Project Manager directly:

Alex Readman – Wiley & Co Project Manager

 0421 749 998 alex.readman@wiley.com.au