Welcome to the 8th edition of the Christchurch Schools Rebuild (CSR) programme update. The last few weeks have been very busy and exciting for the programme, with four more schools being completed. This issue shares details of the four schools, as well as providing a general update on the programme.

Recent earthquake
The Ministry has been working with schools to ensure all buildings are safe to occupy following the recent quakes.

All schools were contacted within a day of the earthquake to determine if any damage assessment was required. Engineers visited 23 schools and all buildings have been assessed as safe, with only minor damage. We are pleased that all of our buildings have performed well.

If you have any outstanding queries or questions related to the recent earthquakes, please contact your Ministry property contact.

Programme progress
As at the end of February, 8 projects are being constructed, 31 schools are currently working through their design, 16 schools are engaged with the Ministry and are working on or have recently completed their education brief. Overall, 61 schools of the 115 (53%) have now started working with the Ministry in the programme. February also saw 4 Christchurch schools open on new premises:

Rāwhiti School
Rāwhiti School is the merger of Central New Brighton, North New Brighton and Freerville schools. The new school, rebuilt on the previous North New Brighton site, accommodates up to 600 students across 6 innovative teaching spaces. Also on site is a multi-purpose hall, library and community space.

Waitākiri Primary School
Waitākiri is the merger of Burwood and Windsor schools. For the past 2 years the school had been split into senior and junior campuses on the old school sites. The school opened in brand new buildings on the Windsor site this year. Stage 2 of the project, which will complete the multi-purpose space, is already underway.

Marshland School
Marshland School has reopened on a new site. The roll of Marshland School has increased rapidly with the construction of new subdivisions in the area. The new building includes a block of 4 learning studios and a multi-purpose hall, library and community space. The school will gain a further learning studio, and also host a Ferndale Special Education satellite unit, as part of the Stage 2 development which is currently underway.

West Rolleston School
West Rolleston School opened doors to students for term 1 this year. It was built to accommodate the increasing demand and population growth in the Rolleston area. The school also includes a new special education needs satellite unit managed by Waitaha Special School.
Visioning for design

Visioning for design is an essential process that ultimately drives the design and construction of the project. The two main elements are the school's education brief and the Ministry's design management guidelines.

Together, these two documents drive the design outcome and realisation of the school's vision for teaching and learning. A factsheet on the visioning for design process is in development and will be circulated in the near future.

“...we are delighted with our new school and our work with the Ministry in developing the school design that meets our vision for teaching and learning. The Ministry team were responsive, proactive, and fair in their dealings with the school, BOT and community. I understand how hard the Ministry team work to meet our needs (and deal with my ideas, expectations and revisions) and they do so with professionalism, a positive attitude and in the best interest of our tamariki.”

Neill O’Reilly - Principal, Waitakiri School

Furniture and equipment (F&E) grant

CSR schools are still entitled to the 5YA F&E grant that relates to their old 5YA funding cycle.

The Ministry has changed the way that 5YA F&E grants are processed. The system has been simplified so schools will no longer be required to submit an invoice for payment for the 5YA related F&E grant. Instead, this payment will be paid out with the schools operational grant. Any outstanding F&E grant will be included in the school’s operational grant in early April 2016. Future allocations of the 5YA F&E grant will be included in operational grants aligned to the 5YA cycle that the CSR school was on.

Escalation

Although we are working towards meeting each school’s needs, sometimes things do not go according to plan. We hope that during these times, schools and other interested parties will take every opportunity to work with us, in partnership, to resolve issues through your delivery manager and make the use of the CSR dedicated email (see below) to give us feedback.

In the event that you do want to escalate an issue, please contact:

David Hobern
CSR Programme Manager
david.hobern@education.govt.nz

Angela Hawkins
CSR Programme Director
angela.hawkings@education.govt.nz

Design guidelines

The Ministry recently released national design guidelines to provide consultants and schools with standardised guidance on technical design matters. They have been well received by the sector and will ensure school buildings all follow the same technical design standards.

You can find these on the Ministry website:
www.education.govt.nz/school/property/state-schools/design-standards/
education-infrastructure-design-guidance-documents/

Key updates

- Three tenders have been released to appoint contractors for build works at the following schools:
  - Cashmere Primary, Beckenham and Shirley Intermediate Schools
  - Halswell Residential College
  - Te Waka Unua School – Stage 1
- CSR programme construction contracts in the order of $140 million (23 Christchurch schools) will be tendered in 2016.
- The CSR programme is in the process of establishing a panel of preferred contractors to carry out demolition works. This could include whole schools or single classrooms. It will enable the Ministry to engage with contractors that are familiar with education work and our specific requirements, particularly around health and safety.
- The new Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 commences on 4 April 2016. The Ministry has been working with the sector to provide support and guidance to schools on the new requirements. A new guide, example policies / procedures and tools are available at http://www.education.govt.nz/ministry-of-education/specific-initiatives/health-and-safety/h-and-s-for-boards-of-trustees-and-school-leaders/
- The CSR Minor Works team delivers a wide range of projects such as investigations of defective buildings and infrastructure; asbestos reporting, investigation and removal; implementing prototyping as agreed with schools; demolitions; relocation of temporary buildings; and the management of larger maintenance projects. The team has delivered 780 to date, most frequently infrastructure works, and roof and carpet repairs.
- Waitākiri, Marshland and Pegasus Bay schools (all recently completed) have stage 2 developments underway.
- All schools in wave 1a, 1b, 2a and 2b are on track to be completed within expected timeframes.
- The next round of formal visits is scheduled to be completed by May 2016. Preparation is underway.
- Wave 3A schools have commenced in the programme.