



# Anoulack Chanthivong MP

## MEMBER FOR MACQUARIE FIELDS

### Re: SSD-9476 New East Leppington Primary School submission

I refer to the above matter and make the following comments.

I welcome this much-needed education facility to accommodate families in the growing suburb of Denham Court. This investment in educational infrastructure is long overdue.

I wish to bring to your attention issues and concerns that have arisen following the upgrade of Bardia Public School which are relevant to the proposed East Leppington Public School.

Unfortunately, Bardia Public School's expansion has been plagued with traffic and parking problems that are putting students, families and staff at risk.

The decision to not install traffic lights to coincide with the opening of the school's expansion, along with a delay in introducing a 40km/h speed limit in surrounding streets and inadequate drop-off/pick-up zones, has caused havoc.

The experience of Bardia Public School demonstrates that supporting infrastructure, such as traffic lights, pedestrian crossings, appropriate speed limits and adequate drop-off/pick-up zones, must be in place as soon as the gates open at East Leppington Primary School, not introduced as the student population increases.

I also make the following comments on specific aspects of the East Leppington Primary School proposal:

1. It is crucial enrolment is made available to families in Edmondson Park, considering they will be waiting years before a school is built in their suburb.
2. The location of drop-off/pick-up facilities and the staff car park on Elkhorn Street suggests the intersection of Commissioners Drive and Elkhorn Street may need to be upgraded to accommodate the expected traffic movements and ensure safety of motorists and students. I also question whether a roundabout at the intersection of Willowdale Drive and Commissioners Drive is sufficient given the capacity of the school.

I note that traffic lights are required at a major intersection at Bardia Public School which has a similar capacity to the proposed East Leppington Primary School. The absence of those traffic lights has resulted in unsafe driver behaviour that places the school community at risk. I would not want to see this situation repeated at the proposed East Leppington Primary School.

3. I note that the Traffic Impact Assessment refers to the provision of a pedestrian crossing on Willowdale Drive (section 5.3). I also note that in relation to general parking, the Assessment refers to "significant on-street capacity in the immediate adjacent local road network" (Section 5.2.4).

Given parents and carers are likely to park in surrounding streets and walk to the school, I would suggest there is a further need for adequate pedestrian crossings around the school to ensure pedestrian safety, particularly on Commissioners Drive and Elkhorn Street.

4. The proposal contains no mention of before and after school care services on the site. The NSW Liberal Government made a 2019 election commitment that before and after school care would be made to all parents with children at public schools by 2021<sup>1</sup>.


I note it was a SEARS requirement to provide information on the operational details of any proposed before/after school care services but the Environmental Impact Statement made no reference to these services.

I expect the Liberal Government to honour its commitment and provide these services for local families.

5. The Proposed Internal Bus Route, referred to in section 4.2.2 of the Transport Impact Assessment, must be operational before the school opens, including additional school period services. It would be ludicrous to open a school without adequate bus services during peak times.
6. The preparation of a Traffic and Parking Management Plan by the School and Department of Education, should be a condition of consent. Such a plan is crucial before the school opens to outline how the safety of students, families and staff will be managed.

I make the above comments with the best interests of my constituents firmly in mind. Whilst a new school in Denham Court is overdue, it must be planned and implemented in a manner that ensures the utmost safety of the school community.

Yours sincerely,



**Anoulack Chanthivong MP**  
**Member for Macquarie Fields**

2 December 2019

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<sup>1</sup> <https://nsw.liberal.org.au/BEFORE-AND-AFTER-SCHOOL-CARE>