



Christian Brothers' High School Lewisham

A Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition
Educating boys in Years 5 – 12 since 1891

24 April 2023

Dear Neighbours,

I write to you again to brief you about our planning and processes about responding to your ongoing concerns about traffic management, parking and the future development of Christian Brothers' High School, Lewisham.

We have lodged a Development Application with the Inner West Council to rezone the use of 95 and 97 Denison Road for school use. We intend to retain the building at 97 Denison Road for counselling and other support services for students. The building at 95 Denison Road is proposed to be demolished to make way for much needed additional playground space for students.

I wish to make clear that this is not an application to increase the enrolment at the school beyond the 1350 student ceiling. In fact, the school has embarked upon the strategy of reducing class sizes to reduce the number of students at the school. The current enrolment is well under that ceiling and is below 1200 students. I wish to repeat the undertaking that I made in my first letter to you in November 2021 that planning for the school for the foreseeable future does not include us asking to raise our enrolment ceiling beyond the currently approved 1350 students.

Future works that we are considering will help ease some of the community concerns by increasing onsite parking, improving traffic flow, improving existing facilities and creating recreational spaces for the students. All capital works carried out at the school will meet NSW planning and approval requirements.

The school follows a traffic management plan and we have trained staff controlling traffic and parking before and after school each day. This traffic plan is independently audited annually. Our current observation is that traffic is flowing well before and after school and we have reminded parents not to double park or to wait more than a few minutes in the parking bays on The Boulevard. The congested periods appear to be limited to 15 minutes in the morning and afternoon and appear to be well below the extended congestion experienced by non-school traffic on Toothill Street.

We have minimised the traffic congestion on The Boulevard and Denison Streets by altering our school day so that different year groups commence and finish classes at different times. We have also staggered, where possible, school events such as Open Day by holding multiple events to reduce the congestion on local streets. Furthermore, our parent teacher interviews will again be held this year via video conferencing to reduce congestion and parking issues.

Our Green Travel Plan encourages the use of public transport for both staff and students. Every boy has an Opal Card and we incentivise staff to use public transport. We maintain litter patrols as a service to our local residents which are typically very clean.



I remind you that we have a dedicated webpage for neighbours which highlights upcoming events and provides an electronic version of these community letters. Minutes from the Community Consultation Meetings are also published and include our recent meeting held last month. The website address is <https://www.cbhslewisham.nsw.edu.au/life-at-cbhs/community/neighbours/>. You can also contact us at office@cbhslewisham.nsw.edu.au.

Christian Brothers' High School, Lewisham is a comprehensive school that educates boys who live in the Inner West and Canterbury Local Government Areas. It is an inclusive low fee Catholic school that has served local families for 132 years. I hope its long standing contribution to the community was a reason why you chose to live in this local area which we all share and enjoy.

Regards

Michael Blowes

Dr Michael Blowes
PRINCIPAL