

Bayswater Education Plan Engagement Report

About the Bayswater Education Plan

The Victorian Government recognises the importance of transforming local education in Melbourne's outer south-east and, in 2020, announced a new Bayswater Education Plan. The plan aims to build pride and confidence in our government schools and will focus on the wellbeing, engagement and achievement of all children and young people in Bayswater. It will provide a framework to map infrastructure needs so that our students have access to the facilities essential for them to reach their full potential. There are five schools involved in the plan: Bayswater Secondary College, Bayswater Primary School, Bayswater North Primary School, Bayswater South Primary School and Bayswater West Primary School. The schools have been working together and with their communities to strengthen and support the development of the plan. These shared voices represent the educational needs and aspirations of the local community.

About the engagement

We engaged with staff, students, teachers, parents, families, and carers from the five schools involved in the Bayswater Education Plan in February and March 2021. We did this via an online survey, in individual school and combined school student workshops, and a staff workshop. The goal of our engagement was to identify the wants and needs of the local community and help build pride and confidence in their local government primary and secondary schools. This report provides a summary of what we heard from the community during this engagement.

What we wanted to know



What participants **love about their school** and identify as their school's strengths



How students **like to learn** and what education in Bayswater should look like in the future



What schools need to **help drive success** for students and support teachers to deliver this

Engagement snapshot

WORKSHOPS



5 individual face-to-face workshops



1 combined student workshop



1 combined staff online workshop

60 students participated across six individual school workshops

40 students participated in the combined student workshop

Almost 100 staff participated in the staff workshop

ONLINE SURVEY (15 FEBRUARY – 12 MARCH)

We received 80 responses across the Engage Victoria survey

Social media promotion reached 6,312 people and resulted in 240 clicks through to the Engage Victoria website

What we heard

Bayswater schools offer supportive and caring communities. Students need access to more subjects and learning pathways, and engaging students in their learning is critical for success.

FROM THE SURVEY

Across all levels of schooling, good social skills, continual learning and development of self-confidence is critical for student success.

When it comes to choosing a school, resources, quality teaching, positive school culture and wellbeing programs are important for parents with younger students. Diverse subject choice and programs on offer are highly valued to those exploring secondary options for their child.

FROM THE WORKSHOPS

Across the workshops, students and staff were enthusiastic and positive about education in Bayswater and valued being involved in the development of the plan.

Successful schools will need:

- Wellbeing programs and resilience building
- Diverse curriculum and various learning pathways
- Student-centred learning for greater student engagement.

What we heard snapshot: students



From 43 individual ideas on the best way to improve school, **'create a more personalised curriculum and choose what classes you want to attend'** stood out as the **strongest idea**.



The **most effective and engaging form of learning** for students is to develop student independence and create an environment where their **thoughts and ideas can be expressed and respected**.



Students told us they liked **different styles of learning and working collaboratively on difficult projects** and we heard that 'brain breaks' worked well as a tool for younger students' concentration.

Students said...

SCHOOLS OF THE FUTURE WILL...

"Use technology in a more integrated way"

"Have bigger buildings to accommodate a larger population"

THEY LEARN BEST THROUGH...

"Quiet spaces for focused learning, with calming music"

"Working with friends to tackle tough tasks or problems"

"Asking teachers for help when needed"

IMPROVEMENTS COULD BE...

"A more personalised curriculum that allows students to do the work they want to do"

"Improving school facilities, including playgrounds and equipment"

"New ways of learning, with more collaboration and hands-on learning methods"

You can contact us:

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