

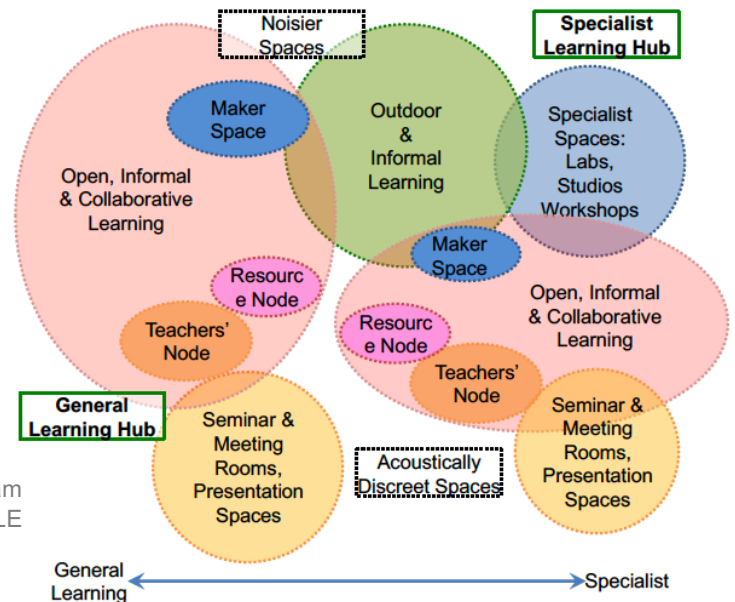
Inner Sydney High School NSW | Australia

01

Specifications

Client: FJMT
 Year: 2016 – 2020
 Location: Surry Hills, NSW
 Budget: N/A
 Area: N/A
 Year Levels: 7-12
 Students: 1200
 Architect: FJMT

Photo 1 | Learning Hub Diagram
 Source: NLE



02

Overview

In 2016, FJMT invited NLE to participate in a design competition for a high rise school in the inner Sydney suburb of Surry Hills on the former site of the Intensive English High School. Its creation is based on a predicted growth in the inner-city public secondary school population of over 2000 students, or 54%, by 2031. The upgrades, including a multi-level building with outdoor learning opportunities in terraces as well as ground and lower ground floors, will see the campus capacity progressively expand to the new school's maximum intake of 1200 students across Years 7-12. The enrolment pattern and school catchment are yet to be determined. The three existing heritage buildings on the site were retained and upgraded. Connectivity to and interface with the adjacent Prince Alfred Park to expand learning opportunities for both students and the community are also critical to the design.

03

Process

This project is the result of extensive collaboration and consultation over several years. More than 35 DoE high school principals gathered to view the proposal for the new school and contribute to visioning exercises around its establishment. This began to guide the design of the learning spaces. A second Think Tank, held after the Focus Groups described below, explored operational aspects of the school, such as leadership and staff recruitment, timetabling and curriculum development. In addition to ongoing design review, NLE produced critical documentation such as the Educational Model, Library and Resource Strategy and many translational resources to demonstrate how the Educational Model was being applied in the design. NLE also participated in extensive space modelling studies to ensure a comprehensive high school timetable could be accommodated in the spaces.

04

Outcomes

Learning Hubs The ISHS Educational Model embraces a Learning Hub based approach to aligning future-focused pedagogy to the learning spaces. Each level of the ISHS will incorporate Learning Hubs in some form: the refurbished heritage buildings will adhere to the Hub model as best possible within the existing structural constraints. Hubs comprise diverse spaces for learning and support: both specialised/targeted learning spaces and flexible learning settings, to optimise a wide range of pedagogical practices including formal and informal interactions, in groups of different sizes or independently, fostering both trans-disciplinary and interdisciplinary interaction between peers and colleagues.



Photo 2 | Artist's impression of the ISHS façade
 Source: FJMT

