

Q: Can you please explain what education advantages (not economic) a campus of 2700 can provide that four campuses of 700 or three campuses of 900 cannot provide? — Debra Barnes, Kialla

A: We're bringing the four local secondary schools together to reset the system and create an environment where educational outcomes in Shepparton and Mooroopna can grow, so all students have the best opportunities to succeed in their school education and beyond.

Community consultation highlighted perceptions of disparity in education outcomes between the four schools.

Creating a one-school approach will provide a better learning environment for all, significantly increase options and pathways for all students and make it easier to cater for the individual needs of students. This new school will offer many advantages for students — they will be able to study a broader range of subjects and have more student support and wellbeing measures in place.

The school will offer all VCE subjects, a VCAL program and a broad range of VET options.

Specialist learning and teaching facilities will also be a feature in the new school.

About 80 VCE and VET subjects, along with a full VCAL program, will be on offer.

This is a significant increase compared to the number of subjects on offer at the four existing schools.

While we acknowledge that the school will be large, we will create an environment where all students feel a sense of belonging.

This will be created through the house system, where every student is known by teachers and learning mentors.

The school will also accommodate extensive sporting facilities on one central school site. The new school will have indoor courts and outdoor courts, as well as the existing oval, so students can play their choice of sport.

The school will also have an innovation hub for students to gain practical experience in science and robotics and a state-of-the-art performing arts centre, so performing arts students can display their talents.

The new school will provide an improved transition experience for Shepparton students entering TAFE and university.

Greater Shepparton College (interim name) will create stronger links to training providers.

TAFEs, universities and industry will deal directly with one school rather than four, creating a more streamlined process for students to move into further education, careers and employment.