



# Design Guide Note

## DGN002 – Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment Storage in High School General Learning Spaces

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## Overview

The purpose of this Design Guidance Note (DGN) is to record and communicate the main guidelines developed from School Infrastructure New South Wales (SINSW) design standardisation and EFSG across high school General Learning Spaces (GLSs).

The intended audience for this DGN is SINSW architectural consultants and project teams.

This DGN is intended as a guideline only and it is considered that project specific circumstances will require these principles to be reviewed by each project team to confirm appropriateness.

## Design Guide Note - Proposed Change

The workshop outcomes resulted in the recommendation of the following guidelines for GLS storage.

Movable and relocatable storage in high school general learning spaces, in line with EFSG entitlement rather than fixed joinery teaching walls, will result in significant cost savings and maintain current EFSG storage requirements.

Flexible storage in High School environments might be sufficient to satisfy teaching requirements. It needs careful consideration of elements included in the FFE schedule and detailed consultation with the school. In addition, utilisation of FFE enables storage requirements to be addressed on a need's basis, allowing them to be moved within the school environment as required.

High School GLS are to allow for the following:

- A wall mounted smart screen
- Wall mounted pinboard – preferably full-size panels to reduce waste
- Wall mounted whiteboard panels – preferably off the shelf items.
- Whiteboard panels to be located to achieve good sightlines and visibility from the students' desks.
- Movable FFE shelving to achieve the lineal meterage required under the EFSG. Minimum 19 linear meters of shelving integrated with cabinetry is required.

## DEFINITIONS

**General Learning Space** – Primary or High School teaching space (not workshop) that is general in nature and can host a variety of timetabled subjects in which teachers and students move in and out of throughout the course of a school day.

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*The Design Guide Note provides the details of the proposed changes to Education Facilities Standards and Guidelines (EFSG) and/or design guidance for technical and project teams. If your projects are unable to meet these parameters, then please reach out to the Design and Infrastructure Standards (DaIS) team to assist. The DaIS team can help navigate achievable outcomes whilst informing ongoing development of SINSW projects.*

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## Background

On Friday 11 February 2022, SINSW convened a standardised position on high school GLS with the view of standardising the design criteria. The workshop was facilitated in response to both queries from SINSW and their architectural consultants regarding design criteria. It was advised that different project teams were adopting different design criteria in similar circumstances.

The workshop was attended by selected architectural consultants engaged on current SINSW projects, the representatives of the SINSW Expert Review Group, SINSW Director of Major Projects and SINSW Project Teams.

The MMC prototype project (Fern Bay PS Pavilion) delivered a teaching wall for primary school General Learning Space (GLS). In primary schools, teaching wall spans the entire length of the GLS wall (9m) and is expected to accommodate:

- A smart screen
- Pinboard
- Whiteboard
- Storage space
- Bag storage
- Optional device charging element

While the provisions for smart screen, pinboard, whiteboard and storage are known requirements for High School GLS, these have previously been provided in various ways. The inclusion of bag storage for high school students has been queried due to the limited duration of relevant classes and the access to resources required by high school students.

Additional costs of approximately \$20k per classroom for the teaching wall have been identified, 7% of the floor area of the teaching space is dedicated to the fixed teaching wall and reduces the ongoing flexibility and usability of the floor space.

Information and Communications Technology have been consulted and do not support the fixed joinery for fixture of smart screens due to the limitation on future replacement and upsizing of screens over time.