



0241 Landscape – Walling and Edging

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00 Design principles

0.01 Main considerations

It is a requirement to undertake the [00 PLANNING AND DESIGN/0001R - DESIGN REFERENCE](#) and [GLOSSARY OF TERMS](#) information into all aspects of design, detailing and delivery when developing the content here within. Clear demonstration of adherence to these requirements is part of the services and will be called upon at key points in the project and during at the discretion of the Department of Education (DoE).

0.02 Building/ Site Interface

Many new schools generally have reinforced concrete slab-on-ground, requiring level changes, paving falls and drainage to be accommodated within the spaces between buildings. In these often limited spaces, avoid excessive fill with surface distortion, particularly in paved surfaces, which reduces the usefulness of such areas.

0.03 Retaining Walls

- Carefully consider location where retaining walls are necessary to meet site development parameters.
- Retaining walls may be incorporated under the edge of the building slab, to simplify providing acceptable surface grades and positive drainage.
- Walls adjoining grass slopes, batters or garden beds, should include a return.
- If retaining walls are located close to covered ways or roof overhangs they must be minimum 2.0 metres (horizontally) away from the roof edge to inhibit access onto the roof.
- Construct retaining walls in concrete or masonry (concrete blockwork, brickwork)
- Heights should be limited, if possible, to 1.0 - 1.2 metres (maximum) as this constitutes a reasonably economical solution.

Note that DoE requires a balustrade wherever level change exceeds 300mm, including level changes in external areas.

- Timber retaining walls are NOT considered acceptable as they can deteriorate quickly and occur a higher maintenance cost. (unless approved by the client for exceptional circumstances).

0.04 Steps

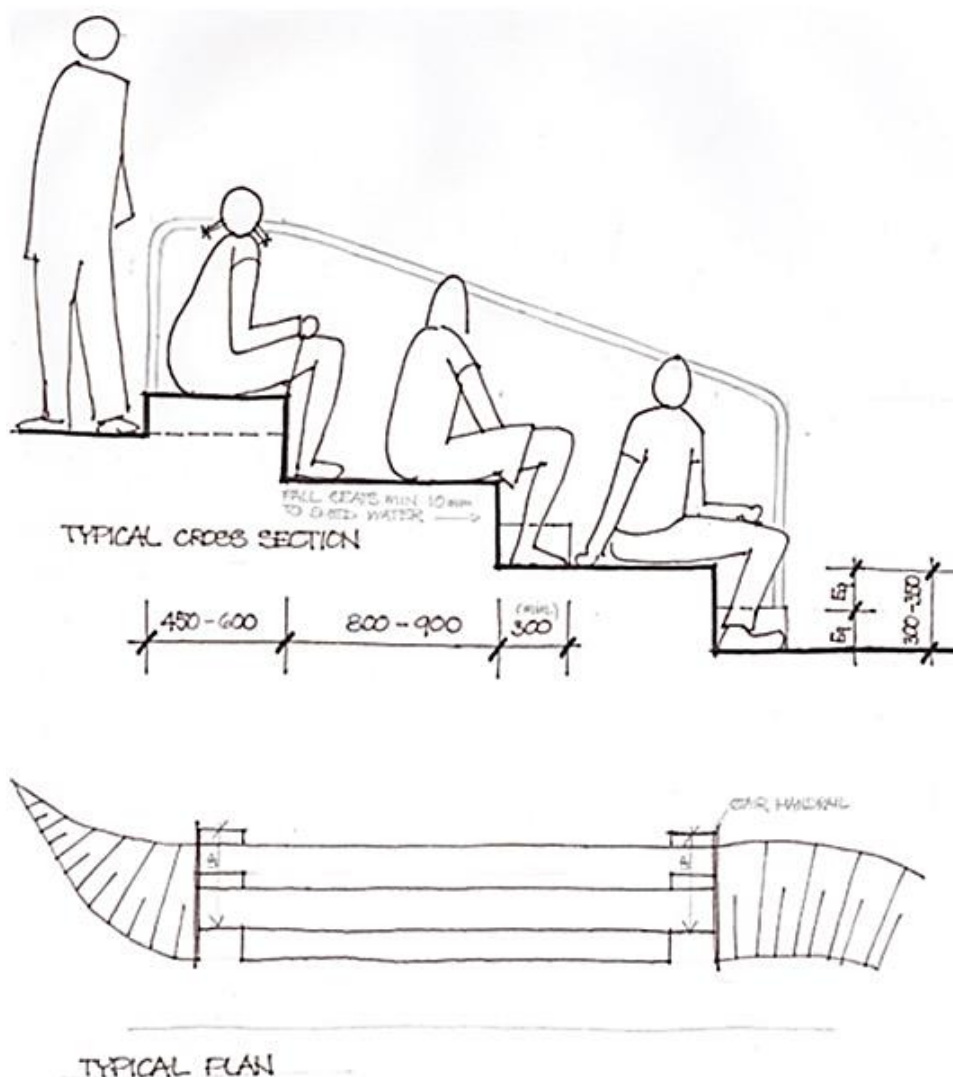
Unit paved steps are generally not considered appropriate as there is potential for the individual pavers to move or be removed and should not be used unless specifically approved by the client.

0.05 Seating Steps / Tiered Seating / Amphitheatre Seating

- Seating steps where appropriate, should be considered as an alternative method of retaining level changes.
- The design of the seating steps is similar to that of tiered seating as nominated within the Building Code of Australia Section H1, as such should be designed to meet the requirements of the BCA.
- Subject to the land slope and available area, the preferred dimensions for external stepped seating are:
 - Risers 300mm (Primary) – 350mm (Secondary)
 - Going 800mm (Primary) – 900mm (Secondary)
- Intermediate access steps (preferably at the ends of seating rows)
 - Risers ½ seating riser
 - Going 300mm (min.)
 - Width 900mm (min.) (size to suit estimated traffic).
- Top seating step should be at least ½-seating riser above ground level behind and 450 – 600mm wide.
- To shed water, provide at least 10mm fall across each seating row.
- Stair handrail to be provided to outer side of access steps.

Tactile indicators will be required to the top and bottom of external seating steps.

Figure 01: Typical Cross Section and Typical Plan



0.06 Edging

Edging should be installed between mass planted areas and grassed areas to facilitate maintenance and contain mulch.

- **Timber edges** should be sturdy and termite resistant. 100 x 50mm preferred, (100 x 38 for curves), fixed to 50 x 50 x 600mm [minimum] long pegs on garden sides of edge to withstand mower pressures.
- **Metal edges** must not be used. Do not use metal spikes to secure edging. There is an injury risk if a student were to fall onto metal edging or spikes.
- **Flexible synthetic** edges can be used to create curved edging. Use timber pegs to secure.

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- **All Exposed CCA treated timber** must be sealed with a minimum of one coat of a premium quality semitransparent penetrating finish based on oil-alkyd resin for exterior applications.
 - **Concrete mowing strips** 200mm to 300mm wide are recommended between turfed and vertical surfaces.

Specification

01 General

As per current NATSPEC.

02 Product

As per current NATSPEC.

03 Execution

As per current NATSPEC.

04 Selections

As per current NATSPEC.