



## Parent Survey 27,28 October 2009

Survey instrument: Internet based survey using the Zoomerang operating platform. (The same platform as used by DET).

Number of responses: 97.

This is very high response rate considering the survey was sent without notice and only open for less than 24 hours. The survey sample size is likely to produce highly accurate results.

### **Summary Results**

- 93% are aware of the School Hall project.
- Greater than 75%:
  - Disagree with the demolition of the existing CCC facilities;
  - Believe consultation on the project has not been adequate;
  - Believe that CCC users should have a say in the location of the new hall;
  - Are surprised to learn that the building of a school hall may result in a reduction in services offered by CCC.

### **Qualitative Summary**

- There is general support for the building of a new hall:
  - But not if it means compromising services offered by CCC;
    - There is strong concern that such reduction is even being considered.
- There is overwhelming support for the CCC to continue to offer what is seen as a high quality service, essential to the greater school community:
  - A common view is "a way to accommodate both the Hall and the CCC must be found".
- The fact that the hall will not accommodate the whole school is widely known, and seen as the main negative to the project.
- There is a strong feeling that consultation on this issue has been poor, and that consideration of all options has been inadequate:
  - There is a strong feeling of resentment amongst working parents that their needs are not being considered.
- CCC is seen as an essential asset to CPS, and an essential part of the fabric of the school community:
  - There is a very high degree of satisfaction with the service being offered.
- To not take time out to meticulously consider all options that allow the continuation of CCC services would be to ignore the desires of the vast majority of users of the CCC and by extension, a majority of the school parent community.

Actual survey results and verbatim respondent comments are attached to this Summary Report.

This Report has been compiled by a professional business consultant qualified at Masters Degree level in quantitative and qualitative research methods.

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**Detailed Findings**


**Coogee Care Centre 1009**



**Survey Status:** **Closed** Launched: 10/25/2009 7:09 PM Closed: 10/26/2009 7:28 PM

<b>Email Invites:</b> 0	<b>Visits:</b> 140	<b>Partials:</b> 0	<b>Screen Outs:</b> 0	<b>Over Quota:</b> 0	<b>Completes:</b> 97 <i>(Does not include blank responses)</i>
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**1.** The School has been allocated \$3,100,000 in Federal Government Funding for the building of a new School Hall. The funding is part of an economic stimulus package called Building the Education Revolution ("BER"). There are a number of options as to where the Hall can be located. The one talked about the most involves the demolition of the current Care Centre building. However there are other options including building the Hall in the lower playground. Detailed plans, drawings or building dimensions are not available making evaluation of the options difficult. Demolition of the Care Centre is tentatively scheduled to commence on 1 December. The Principal has advised that the Care Centre will continue to operate from the current school hall after this time. At this stage it is not clear if this is practical. The cost of relocating Care Centre operations during and after the construction will be in the order of \$1,000 for each family using the Centre. If the Care Centre building is demolished it seems likely that new facilities available to Coogee Care Centre will be significantly smaller than current. As such Coogee Care Centre may not be available to continue to provide the current levels of before and after care. Before reading the above, did you know about the proposed school hall development?




Yes		87	93%
No		7	7%
Total		94	100%



**2.** Do you agree with the Care Centre being demolished?




Yes		19	20%
No		74	80%
Total		93	100%


**3.** Do you feel that you have been adequately consulted?






Yes		21	22%
No		74	78%
Total		95	100%

**4.** Do you believe that the users of the Care Centre should have a say in the location of the new School Hall? 

Yes		85	89%
No		11	11%
Total		96	100%

**5.** Are you surprised to learn that the building of a new School Hall may necessitate a reduction in services offered by Coogee Care Centre? 

Yes		76	79%
No		20	21%
Total		96	100%

**6.** Is there any comment that you would like to make in relation to the proposed School Hall and the possible demolition of the Care Centre facilities?  [Tag Responses](#)

[View 68 Responses](#)

**6. Is there any comment that you would like to make in relation to the proposed School Hall and the possible demolition of the Care Centre facilities?**

#	Response
1	I will be attending the meeting tomorrow, but Coogee Care Centre is an important part of Coogee Public School. Any impact on the service of the care centre is an important consideration with respect to construction of the new school hall.
2	The care centre is an asset to the school, and compliments Coogee Public as being a brilliant provider of public education - it assists so many families and has continued to increase in size and improve over the last 8 years that I have used it. To know that the care centre may not be able to offer assistance to the families that need it is shocking! What will working parents do? If anything, the care centre should be allocated additional space / facilities to that which it currently has. This centre is a "home away from home" for many children and to take it away from many of these children would possibly be the worst decision the school has to make.
3	The care centre has never operated so well and to reduce the size of the centre and therefore reduce the number of studentd they can offer care to is ridiculous, It will create all sorts of problems With more parents having to work longer hours and reduced child care. I dont mind if they have to move the centre but to reduce the size is very unfair
4	I recognise that there are a number of competing interests to balance before undertaking any major project at the school, however, it seems that there has been too little consideration of these different interests, and too little exploration of options which may have a more favourable outcome for all interested parties. I am delighted CPS will be receiving more funding, but it shouldn't just be plonked in the middle of the school ground in a one size fits all template. That will give a poorer outcome for all. I want the tax dollar that has gone into the allocation of funding to the school to be maximised, and that may mean that the project should be more individually tailored to the needs of all those in the CPS

	<p>community. The school is growing and needs more resources, but that includes a high quality and viable Care Centre. Thank you.</p>
5	<p>This project offers good opportunity for both after school centre and school to benefit with new facilities however better planning is required to meet needs of both.</p>
6	<p>It is not clear to me what benefit there will be in having a school hall - especially in the proposed location.</p> <p>Frankly, what is the benefit in having a school hall given that there are classes that are being held in de-mountables. There's been no explanation for why a school hall was needed.</p> <p>The current proposed location appears quite obtrusive as it cuts the school into two sections. I can't tell from the drawings how students are meant to access the different school sections. The loss of two playgrounds (basketball court and area outside side of the care centre) will be a huge loss. This is a very disappointing aspect of the project. There are some children that spend up to nine or more hours a day at school. They need playgrounds, class rooms and a care centre - more than a school hall I would think.</p> <p>It also seems quite a waste to demolish the care centre AFTER ALL THOSE FUNDRAISERS. It really is so disappointing. I cant even imagine what it is going to be like during the construction.</p> <p>Three million dollars for school hall! The cost and the loss of the playgrounds does not add up as a worthwhile investment. I dont see the long term benefit for the students or teachers. It is really quite poor decision.</p> <p>Would it be possible to acquire the vacant land adjacent to the school (Melody St). There was talk once about using the land for playgrounds. A greenfields site would be easier and less costly to develop.</p> <p>Overall a very disappointing project - it really makes me feel sad for the children.</p>
7	<p>The one concern I do have is that the new school hall does not fit the entire school in...another concern is for the families that rely heavily on the care and how they will be directly affected, finally I am confused as to why the relocation of the care centre is \$1000 per family who pays this and how much do the care centre already contribute to the school? ie fete days etc</p>
8	<p>the pros and cons of all options should be aired publically. slap across the middle of the school brings many issues, not just the care centre. The lower yard is a good idea. How necessary is it anyway!!</p>
9	<p>Regarding questions 2 - I believe the Care Centre plays a very important part of CPS not only to assist families with child support but also as an excellent place for our kids to develop friendship across the all age groups. I feel that if the most logical place for the new Hall is on the current location of the Care Centre, then the Care Centre should be demolished however only if adequate place is allocated in the new hall.</p>
10	<p>I feel that the government program is flawed in the sense that the building is a pre-fabricated "one size fits all" design. I am sure that if the \$3.1m could have been used more freely, other solutions could have been found without sacrificing the Care Centre (an extra storey on one of the existing buildings, perhaps). However, as a school it is hard to turn down that sort of funding. I feel that using the lower playground would take away too much open space. I really hope there is a solution that can meet both the Care Centre's needs and that of the school.</p>
11	<p>Why can't the care centre be built on top of the new school hall?</p>

12	I am not happy the the care centre is being demolished and a smaller area will now accomodate the children. The care centre have worked hard to fix this hall and make it a happy place for the children. Most parents would rather not have to rely on the care for there children but it is hard when both parents work.I know I feel safe that my child is there and if my child was to go to another centre this would cause me extreme stress. It is good that the school is building a hall for the children but what thought has gone into the care centre.
13	I don't care where the hall is located, but it needs to be big enough to fit the whole school, and care centre services and facilities should not be diminished.
14	I think it would be fantastic to have a hall that could accommodate the entire school. I would also like to see the current quality and quantity of After School / Vacation Care continue as I use it for my 3 children. I don't think it matters where the Care Centre is located, as long as the facilities are adequate.
15	I don't beleive that the bigger picture is being considered. If the proposed school hall will not even accommodate all students at one time then it seems a huge sacrifice to lose the care centre for what appears to be a lot of money spent on an inadequate building. I understand that there is a significant time pressure on this project but this does not mean that hasty decisions should be made which could have a vastly detrimental effect on an excellent, award-winning out-of-school provision. There cannot be a fair consideration of the alternatives without detailed plans and it feels that, despite the public meeting, this project is already a fait accompli. I am unable to attend the meeting due to hospitalisation, but thank you for giving me an opportunity to voice my concerns. I hope our concerns will be seriously considered.
16	I think that the existing care centre is an excellent facility and that if the School is to build a new school hall they should only do so on a site that will house the entire school without negatively impacting the existing site at the Care Centre. The Care Centre is an essential part of the school and represents a lifeline to single and working parents. Continuity to children is extremely important and if they are to be picked up after school, surely they should be in an environment which they deem to be safe, familiar and secure. I do not think that the psychological and emootional impact of the destruction of the Care Centre on the children should be underestimated. Regards Dan Mather
17	Consultation from the school been very poor on this issue Only under exceptional circumstances shouyld be Care Centre be demolished
18	More trasnparent consultation around the new hall as a coogee care centre user AND as a parent of the school is essential. THIS has an impact on the whole community.
19	Please do not shut down the care centre. It is a vital lifeline to every child and who attends Coogee public School
20	I am supportive of the demolition of the care centre if it is necessary for the cosntruction of the new school hall. However, if this at the expense of continuation of current levels of care services then I do not support this solution. The care centre is a vital service for any working partent and reduction in the number of places would have a huge impact on families. Needless to say the reduction in space would be less than ideal for the children in care many of whom are there on a daily basis. There is no reason why a collaborative design cannot be reached.
21	I think more information should be made available ( include what are the optional sites for the hall and how each options impact on existing facilities and services). With this information we can then discuss openly and decide on the best option available. At present I only hear rumours from talking with fellow parents. There is a distinct sense of rush to this important project without much (any)consultation with the school community. Is there an option of delaying the project until a good discussion and consultation is made to all those affected by this project?

22	I'm really cocerned about the size of the new Care Centre now.
23	I would like a new, better facility for the Care Center as the existing one has an unkept apearance and seems to be unaproprate for the purpose. On the other hand, if the new hall will be smaller and not able to provide the service that the Care Center is, a new plan shoud be submitted. Is not logical that although more funding is available, the school will not be able to provide the same amount of service.
24	The care centre is a very important facility. Should the building of the new school hall involve demolition of the care centre it is hoped that adequate provision is made for the new care centre.
25	need to know the proposed dimensions of the hall and several options available. How about using the space where the demountables are at present for the Care Centre? Why not extend the present hall area to the whole floor and look for options for classrooms?
26	Where will vacation care be held if the centre is demolished prior to school holidays?
27	Am all for getting a new school hall, but need to be able to also upgrade the Care Centre facilities if this is the proposed site rather than decreasing it. The Care Centre is such an integral part of the school and have provided so much for the kids especially over the last 12 months. Would be a real shame to see the hard efforts of the Coogee Care Centre team being abolished with all of this. Without seeing any plans or know of options proposed, difficult to make further comments.
28	A new school hall should be able to accomodate all children from kindergarten to 6th class for it to be reasonable. As the school numbers appear to be growing it would therefore only seem reasonable that the Care Centre be larger than the current one in order to accomodate these numbers and improve on its already wonderful facilities and programs.
29	Just to clarify my answers (I'm not sure if I can make tomorrow night as yet). I agree to the demolition if this is the best locetion for the hall. I attended the P&C so I think I am reasonably informed. I don't think it would be possible to take everyones opinion into the decision. I am dissappointed that a new hall impacts negatively on the CCC, but I understand the limitation and I'm sure other options were considered. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute, Nikki McAusland
30	I feel it is very important that all options be explored in depth to gain the best possible solution for the school and the care centre. Before and after school care is a priority for many working parents and the majority of schools in the area value this service to their school community by offering good quality care, they see it as a necessity to keep enrolment levels. I know I would not have enrolled by oldest child at CPS in 2001 if After Care was not available. Therefore I am concerned to here the centre may need to reduce the number of places due to the new hall construction and thus some families will miss out, creating a possible situation of resentment within the school commmunity, eg those with a place and those without.
31	If I have the facts right: 1. The new hall will still not fit the entire school and 2. The existing exceptional care centre will be disturb without a satisfactory solution Therefore..why would we do it. There must be a better solution.
32	Hard to tell what the options are. Looking forward to hearing more in the meeting.
33	My daughter has relied heavily on the Care Centre for the last 5 years and it has been a great service. I feel that it would be a great loss to lose some of the services provided by the centre. My understanding is that the fees were increased by the Care Centre a couple of years ago to enable them to install necessary amenities such as a new kitchen, new

	<p>furniture and air conditioning. If the care centre is demolished, does it mean that these amenities (that the parents paid for) will be useless. What a waste! Will the fees be increased again to pay for the care centre to be moved as a result of the demolition? More waste!</p>
34	<p>At present the Coogee Care Centre offer a great service for working Mums and Dads. I would not like to see a decrease in numbers for the Care Centre due to the demolition of the School Hall. As there has been a significant rise in numbers at Coogee Public you would think the need for a Bigger Care Centre would be more appropriate.</p>
35	<p>surely in this day and age a design could be made that is pleasing to both parties , we need a hall and we need a care centre that can cater for the ever growing number of families that need after and holiday care.kids need a place that is warm welcoming and able to cater for their changing needs.</p>
36	<p>Good quality Before and After school facilities at CPS are essential. As a working parent it was one of the reasons we selected Coogee School to attend because of the care facilities for our children. We recently moved from a school that used shared space for its care facility and it was very inadequate and the ability for the carers to plan events and activities was diminished. I am very disapointed to hear that removal of the CCC is even being considered.</p>
37	<p>Our family would be greatly effected by these proposed changes to the Care Centre. We certainly couldn't afford \$1000 to cover the costs to move to and away from the hall. The care centre is a critical facility to working families such as ours.</p>
38	<p>Construction of the school hall school should result in no net loss of services to the students of Coogee Public School, which includes the Care Centre. For \$3.1 million, there should be a significant net gain to the students of Coogee Public. The benefits of the proposed hall and impacts on open space, school functionality, learning experience and overall experience of attending Coogee Public have not been well explained. As such, it is very difficult to understand how the current proposal represents a wise allocation of such a large amount funding. The available funding should be sufficient to provide dramatic improvements to the quality of education provided by what is already a good public school. The services provided by the award winning Care Centre are invaluable to parents of CPS. Negative impacts on Care Centre services will negatively impact the whole school community.</p>
39	<p>n/a</p>
40	<p>I believe that the entire school needs to be consulted on any building/demolishing to be done (not just the users of the CC). I would like to see the options for the school hall. I believe that there may be interim downfalls, as with any renovations, to achieve the longer common good. This however should be be open to discussion.</p>
41	<p>We need a multi-purpose space that serves the needs of the children during school hours that ALSO can be used by the Care Centre outside school hours. A large open hall that does not accommodate all the children is not what we need. We already have one of those. The space(s) need to be multi-functional.</p>
42	<p>Very disappointing. Misguided information all round. As a single working parent this could have huge affect on our well being. To demolish the care centre has an affect not only on parents but the children and fabulous staff that make it a happy place for our kids. Gneral concensus being "our kids don't use the centre so we don't care" attitude. Truly disappointed with the decisions being made for our kids and a school hall that won't fit the whole school in. Why bother???? Thought coogee public was looking after our children not just between the hours of 9 and 3.</p>
43	<p>I am opposed to the loss of any more outside space than necessary so the demolishon of the existing care centre may be the only option IF, AND ONLY IF, the new proposal has the same amount of space OR MORE than the current centre. There is no way that the services provided (number of kids) should be reduced from the current situation. Coogee Care Centre is award winning! lets keep it that way!!</p>

44	<p>I would have thought that a decision regarding the location of a new school hall should have been widely publicised. At the very least current parents should have been notified sooner rather than later, even if it was not feasible or practical to consult with everyone. This is something that affects the whole school community and not just care centre users. There is a great deal of confusion over the practicality of a new school hall that dissects the existing school space. Aside from the obvious impact on the CCC there are many other questions such as how will the kids get from the library to the other end of the existing school hall. Rumour has it that they will have to go out of the school up the street and back in. If this is true it is ridiculous, if it's not true then clearly there has been a lack of meaningful communication for such stories to be exchanged at the beach.</p>
45	<p>The hall MUST be built on top of an existing building, not taking up precious playground space &amp; resources. I am very upset about the proposal and the reduction of Care Centre Facilities.</p>
46	<p>I would hope that the school will ensure that there are equivalent or better facilities for the Care Centre on site if the current Centre building is demolished.</p>
47	<p>Coogee care centre is an important part of the school and vital service for working parents. These new school facilities should not impact on care centre operations and consideration should be given to improving the facilities. A priority should be allocating funds from the 3.1 million to do this.</p>
48	<p>while building a new school hall is fantastic i just dont see why care centre should loose the space it has with the numbers growing in care each year we should be expanding floor space not decreasing it i feel that all this should be seriously tken into consideration in planning any new building for the school the present team members at coogee care centre have worked extremely hard in bringing new experiences to the centre i have used the centre for both of my children over the past 9 or 10 years and i have never met a more dedicated team than this one please consider all options before demolishing we need the space at care centre as just as much as the school new a new school hall</p>
49	<p>The Care Centre has recently become a beacon of excellence in our area (and beyond!). I am horrified to think that any building and development plans could detract from the centre rather than add to it</p>
50	<p>i am disapointed especially after the centre won awards for the best child care centre in the area. The centre has been a part of our family history for the past 15 years and provided fantastic service for many working families during school and vacation care. I will be very disappointed if the centre is demolished or down-sized which would be detrimental to our local community. thankyou</p>
51	<p>I don't see why the building of a new hall has anything to do with CCC.</p>
52	<p>I am amazed at the lack of transparency by both the school principal and P&amp;C on this issue. For an issue that is well within the rights of school parents to have consultation to achieve a sensible outcome without reducing other necessary facilities there has been almost a veil of secrecy cast over the whole project. With the number of families with both parents working this reduction in the care centre facility exhibits a total lack of empathy towards their situation. This is simply an unacceptable outcome and the December deadline lifted to enable proper assessment of options.</p>
53	<p>It would be good to see the cost benefits for all proposals with a view to providing the best options for all. The child care centre is flexible and provides a vital service, and I understand the need for a school hall. There needs to be clarity about the options and the best solution given that there will be some give and take.</p>
54	<p>I'm stunned to learn that the current care centre could be demolished without consultation of the families who use the centre. Many current Coogee families may be affluent and don't need to have both parents working fulltime, however there are many families who cannot earn an income without access to OOSH facilities for our children. First and foremost this is a</p>



	<p>public school for local families, where is the consultation. School executives may move on to higher positions and claim things on their resumes but we will still live here and need these facilities to function as families and a community. This should not be a decision made by people who live outside the community and who do not have a long term commitment to this community and its families and their needs.</p>
55	<p>I do not like the idea of the care centre possibly being smaller than the current one. The school should be looking in the best interest of the students and this may sabotage the school great reputation. I understand that the school wants to accomodate for everyone, but this is not the way to do it. :(</p>
56	<p>Locating the hall at bottom playground sounds more feasible. Make the hall a multi use centre not just a hall. We need classrooms to be incorporated in the hall also a gymnasium. the aftercare centre should not be compromised when other better alternatives are available. We will be there to support you. (michele Simpson)</p>
57	<p>the care centre should not be compromised. Build a hall off the existing classrooms at bottom playground</p>
58	<p>I do not believe that the school can benefit in the long or short term by reducing the size and capacity of the care centre. The trend for modern families is that more and more parents are working full time and depend heavily on before and after school care/ vacation care to ensure their children are safe and happy. I believe it would be responsible and forward thinking of the school and government to seek an alternative solution than demolishing a functional facility to rebuild a smaller one.</p>
59	<p>I am led to believe the new school hall will not facilitate the entire school thus we will not have addressed the needs of the school and making it necessary to travel to other school halls to conduct large assemblies and shows.</p>
60	<p>I think the demolition of the Care Centre is an appalling, short-sighted proposal. There are other possible sites for the hall, which have not been fully explored. The proposal has wide-reaching implications for the entire school community that have not been explained by the Department of Education.</p>
61	<p>There appears to me alot of grounds at the rear of the school premises that are not being used to their full/best capacity. For example, the huts (outbuildings, external classrooms) could be knocked down and a proper building erected in that area. this could either be a new hall or new care centre facilities. I believe that the current school hall will be made into new classrooms, therefore not reducing the number of classrooms available to the school should the external classrooms (huts) be demolished. As the school's intentions are to grow and increase in numbers, I do not understand why the care centre service would be reduced. This does not help the community for working parents and would put families off attending the school if there were difficulties in getting after school care.</p>
62	<p>The level of consultation that Coogee School has undertaken with us working parents on this matter, is a reflection of their general habit of treating the working parent families like second class citizens within the school structure. It is the high- income families with the stay at home parent that have the loudest and most listened to voices at CPS and this matter of the hall and the care centre just goes to reflect this attitude yet again. It is time that the School addressed this bias and behaved in a more equitable and fair way for all families and respect the vital and significant role that the centre plays in our children's lives. My daughter spends a third of her school week in the centre. It is as important to our family as the time she spends in her classroom and possibly more so. I'm sure our family is not alone in this. If there was any respect or consideration for the juggle and sacrifices working families make by the school's governing bodies they would have not for one moment considered tearing down our centre!</p>
63	<p>Information should have been sent out to all parents with regards to this and also plans of the hall. Seems things were not clearly communicated to everyone.</p>

64	I trust the school has made informed decisions that benefit the whole school population
65	May we have more details on other options?
66	GIVEN YHATY THE NEW HALL WILL ONLY HOLD HALF THE CHILDREN AS DOES THE OLD ONE WHY BUILD AT ALL?Our principal being ambitious of course doesn't want to rock the boat .But why cant we say thanks but no thanks!
67	I think the care centre should stay where it is,and a better solution for the school hall.