public art



Artist's Brief

Expression of Interest

Cambridge Primary School Redevelopment

Commission	Outdoor artwork
Eligibility	Tasmanian artists who meet our general eligibility criteria Applications are encouraged from Aboriginal artists who meet: • Arts Tasmania's general eligibility guidelines and • the Tasmanian Government's eligibility policy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs.
Selection process	Expression of interest with up to 3 shortlisted artists selected to develop concepts. Each artist will each receive a fee of $1000 to develop their proposals. The selection committee will consider these proposals against the selection criteria and select an artist or artists to provide artworks.
Location	976 Cambridge Rd, Cambridge
Audience	Students, staff and community
Fee	$72,000 + GST (if applicable) for artwork concept, project management, detailed design, fabrication, footings and installation
Key dates	Applications close: 11.59pm, Monday 30 November 2026 Artwork installed by: August 2027 (TBC)
Contact	Tobias Hengeveld – Public Art and Industry Development Coordinator, Arts Tasmania Ph 03 6165 5556 tobias.hengeveld@arts.tas.gov.au
Apply	www.arts.tas.gov.au/public_art

The commission

Arts Tasmania and the Department for Education, Children and Young People invite expressions of interest from Tasmanian artists to create an outdoor artwork in the entry zone of the new gymnasium building at Cambridge Primary School, incorporating fence and entry gate, pathway, sport court and play areas.

Shortlisted artists will have the opportunity to visit the school, to further inform the development of their concepts.

Applicants can apply for the commission as individual artists or in creative collaborations.

Background

Cambridge Primary School is undergoing a major revitalisation, providing a mix of new and refurbished facilities. As well as significant building upgrades, the revitalisation will include integrated landscaping of recreation and sport zones and a new gymnasium.

The design for Cambridge Primary School is inspired by the school's strong culture of belonging, student agency, outdoor learning, and connection to nature. The project aims to enhance students' experience of the surrounding landscape, including the bushland, Barilla Rivulet, mountains, valley, and sky, while creating flexible and engaging learning environments.

Cambridge is a semi-rural area just east of Hobart. The school is located in the bottom of a valley running east west between the foothills of the Meehan Range and Mt Rumney. The catchment area takes in Cambridge to Dulcot, Mount Rumney, parts of Acton Park and Seven Mile Beach. The hills surrounding the school are a dominant visual feature. Large native gum trees support the feeling of being in the bush. The Wedge-tailed Eagle is a common site at the school and is referenced in the school logo, in concert with the surrounding landscape.

Cambridge Primary School has a set of *Cambridge Capabilities* that are referred to, taught and celebrated every day at school. They are a set of dispositions that the school sets out to grow in each student as assets for learning and life. They have been co-constructed with family, student and staff voice and are embedded in the school culture. For ease of reference, the individual *Cambridge Capabilities* have been collated under five domains that spell the Acronym EAGLES. These domains are *Explore Opportunities* (creativity – eagle eye), *Analyse Thinking* (critical reflection – eagle talon), *Grow Grit* (determination and resilience), *Learn Character* (personal skills), *Engage Others* (social skills – eagle nest) and *Students* (a reminder of what it's all about). Please see Project Document 5 for a visual reference.

The project is also informed by the cultural significance of the site to the Moomairremener people of the Oyster Bay Nation. The importance of Barilla Rivulet as a place of travel, gathering, and cultural practice has influenced the design's emphasis on reconnecting students with the waterway and surrounding environment. The landscape design focuses on increasing engagement with the natural surroundings through nature-based play areas.

The new gymnasium for the school will also be leased out to the local community and various sporting groups in after-school hours. The building includes an adjoining forecourt with play area, sport court and edges for seating and mingling.

The new building is to be light brown/sand coloured brick, and green “Pale Eucalypt” Colorbond reflecting the natural surrounding bush setting. Warm coloured twin-wall polycarbonate provides south-facing daylight into the gymnasium and will also emit light at night. The forecourt and outdoor court will be largely bitumen with line markings for games.

Objectives

Cambridge Primary School seeks to commission a bold artwork concept that has strong relevance and appeal to its student audience and supports connection to the natural landscape.

The artwork is to be located in one or a combination of five sites identified in the forecourt area (please see Project Document 1):

- Sport court and pathway zones – 2D artwork surface only
- Along the edge of the dry creek play area – sculptural / relief artwork
- A dedicated location in the dry creek play area – interactive sculptural work
- Low wall / seating areas – 2D / low-relief artwork
- Low front fence – sculptural / relief artwork

The artwork may be one or more works, in one or multiple locations. It can complement the building and landscape design and associated themes to amplify cohesion and consistency. It must appeal strongly to a student audience.

Two-dimensional artwork on the asphalt sport / pathway surface must work around or incorporate the line-markings for the sport court.

The zone is a high-traffic area for students moving between the school and gymnasium / sports oval. Concepts should consider potential hazards to high-volume primary student traffic and consider appropriate locations and heights accordingly.

The dry creek play area offers opportunity for artworks that are engaging and interactive for students (eg. seating) whilst adhering to safety standards.

The front fence has the potential for an artwork concept that is high-profile and an iconic visual element for the school.

Some suggested conceptual approaches include:

- themes or materials that are culturally and environmentally meaningful and relevant to the site and student body
- themes that foster connection to people and place.
- continuation of the design themes that have shaped the redevelopment.

The finished artwork should:

- be suitable for the site and not create hot spots with materials that are too reflective
- be robust and suitable for an outdoor school setting (artists should take into account student safety and potential risks of vandalism)

- require minimal maintenance or intervention from school staff
- be deemed safe for students in a school setting.

Apply

Concept drawings will not be required at this stage and will not be considered by the selection committee.

You can apply online via Smartygrants. You should include

- information about your artistic practice and how you would approach the commission.
- a brief biography or CV.
- artistic support material – examples of previous work

How it works

Selection committee

The selection committee is comprised of building users, capital project managers and representatives of partner agencies.

- Courtney Howard – Principal, Cambridge Primary School
- Hannah Webber – Architect, Bence Mulcahy
- Shane Bogus – Capital Project Manager, Department for Education, Children and Young People
- Shelley Spong – Business Manager, Cambridge Primary School
- Tobias Hengeveld – Public Art & Industry Development Coordinator, Arts Tasmania

Members of the selection committee may nominate a colleague to participate in the selection process on their behalf.

Selection process

The selection committee will assess all eligible expressions of interest against the criteria below to select a shortlist:

	Shortlist criteria
Quality	Are the key personnel experienced, or have the potential to develop and grow? Is the artist's work distinctive?
Planning	What is the track record of the artist or artist team to manage projects?
Benefit	How would receiving this commission benefit the artist or artist team, the Tasmanian Government Art Site Scheme, the site and the site users?

Shortlisted artists will be asked to prepare a more detailed concept proposal.

The selection committee will choose an artist to work on the commission using the criteria below:

	Artist selection criteria
Suitability	To what extent do the artistic concept, design, materials and delivery method address the brief?
Viability	How feasible is the project given the commission budget, constraints and timelines?
Capability	To what extent does the team demonstrate the necessary skills and experience to deliver the commission?
Vision	How well does the proposal demonstrate a creative or innovative vision in terms of concept, media, construction methods, materials and/or collaborations?

Commissioning process

Shortlist process

If you are selected as a shortlisted artist, you will be asked to:

- meet at Cambridge Primary School for an information session and site exploration to assist you with working up a concept proposal
- develop a concept proposal and present this to the selection committee in person (if possible). This will include concept, sketches or mock-ups, an indication of timeline and draft budget
- provide an invoice for $1000 after the shortlist presentation

Commission agreement

If you are selected to work on the commission, you will be asked to:

- meet with us to discuss arrangements for the commission, such as payment instalments, roles and responsibilities, insurance
- sign a commissioning agreement to confirm this information in writing.

Detailed design development

Once you have signed the commission agreement you will be asked to:

- produce a detailed design plan to realise your concept, including artwork specifications such as drawings
- make sure your design meets all relevant building standards
- report regularly to the selection committee as the commission progresses
- manage all aspects of design through to handover.

Fabrication and/or installation

Once your detailed design has been approved by the selection committee you will be asked to:

- fabricate and/or install your artwork according to the detailed design plan
- meet all work health and safety and other requirements while on site
- keep us updated on progress and let us know as soon as possible if you need to vary the approved timeframe or design.

Handover your artwork

Let us know as soon as possible when you are ready to complete your artwork so we can:

- make sure it meets the approved detailed design plan
- provide you with a handover certificate
- document it for our records
- promote it.

General information

The Tasmanian Government Art Site Scheme

This commission is supported through the Tasmanian Government Art Site Scheme. For information about the scheme please visit the Arts Tasmania website.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island content

If your activity involves Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander content, your application must provide evidence of how you are working with the Aboriginal community. The Tasmanian Government's Office of Aboriginal Affairs can provide advice on working with Tasmanian Aboriginal people and organisations. Please also refer to Creative Australia's Protocols for using First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property in the Arts.

Code of practice

Arts Tasmania encourages artists and arts organisations to comply with the National Association for the Visual Arts' Code of Practice for Visual Arts, Craft and Design.

Workplace health and safety

Siting artworks in the public domain can result in safety risks for the public and for artists. Building Tasmania requires that commissioned artists comply with Tasmania's Work Health and Safety laws and the Work Health and Safety Contractor Standards.

If selected for the commission, you will need to have public liability insurance cover of at least $10 million.

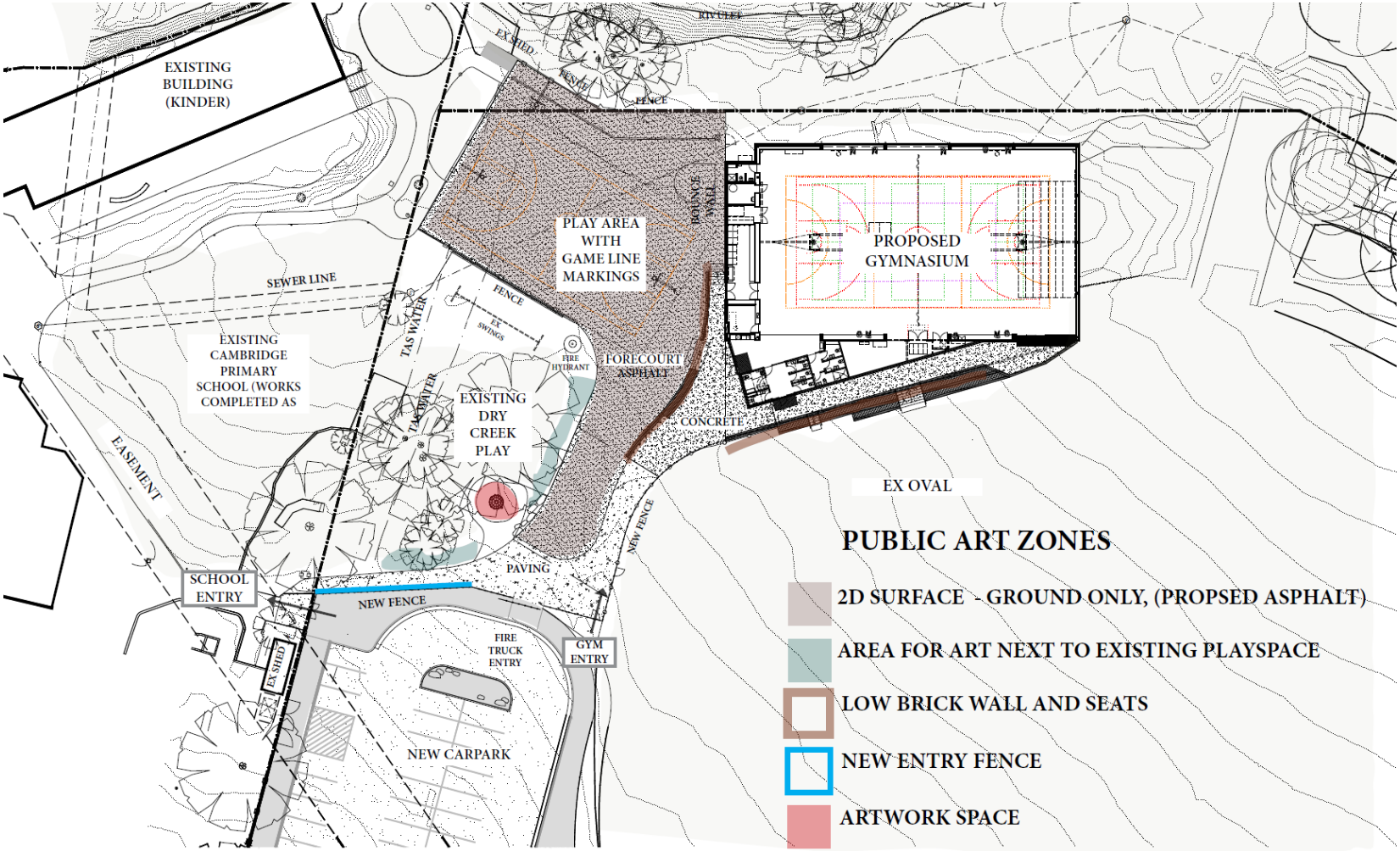
Working with vulnerable people

The Registration to Work with Vulnerable People Act 2013 aims to protect vulnerable persons, including children and young people, from the risk of harm. It requires those working with children and young people to have a current registration and Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) card.

Please visit our website to see Arts Tasmania's policy on working with children and young people.

Project documents

Document 1: Plan of landscaping works with markup of zones for artwork



Bence Mulcahy

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PROJECT
CAMBRIDGE PRIMARY STAGE 2 GYMNASIUM

CLIENT
DECYP

TITLE
PUBLIC ART ZONES

REV. No.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

The recipient is responsible for checking the transfer of this drawing as to its accuracy and completeness. The architect does not warrant the accuracy of the data.

DRAWING No. A0000 REVISION No. A

DATE	24/08/2026 CHECKED BY: SB
SCALE	1:400
PROJECT CODE	2512
APPROVAL	DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

Figured dimensions take precedence to scale readings. Verify all dimensions on site. Report any discrepancies to the Architect for decision before proceeding with the work. Copyright ©

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Document 2: Overall plan of school site and development

Bence Mulcahy

Cambridge Primary School Major Redevelopment

STAGE 1 + 2
976 Cambridge Road, Cambridge TAS 7170

① STAGE 1 building 1 - new openings connecting GLAs to covered outdoor space, internal alterations.

② EX Building 2
③ EX Building 3
④ EX Building 4
⑤ EX Building 5
⑥ STAGE 1 'Cambridge Up' - a new two-story building accommodating 4x new
⑦ STAGE 1 New extension to existing Kinder
building accommodating
⑧ Canteen expansion.
⑨ Existing bitumen sports court reduced to a half court and proposed landscaping shaped around new Kinder GLA. Proposed work to regenerate landscape that was previously bitumen and connect new outdoor space to existing dry creek bed play area.
⑩ 'Dry creek bed' play area retained.
⑪ STAGE 2 New forecourt, brick seating and entry walkway
⑫ Primary site access point retained.
⑬ STAGE 2
New Carpark and bus drop off, TBC
⑭ STAGE 2
Existing half court extended, new hoops, hard stand play area and bounce wall.
⑮ STAGE 2
New Gymnasium



Document 3: Exterior render of forecourt area and gymnasium



Document 4: Interior render of gymnasium



Document 5: EAGLES – Cambridge Capabilities

