# Brisbane State High School

## Building for the future

Construction of a new state-of-the-art facility for a Brisbane high school has been accelerated by the use of precast concrete.

As part of a major redevelopment, a new six-storey campus (two basement and four above ground) for Brisbane State High School will feature 40 classrooms, an arts centre, staff centre, tuckshop and other essential amenities. It will cater to about 850 students allowing the school to expand enrolments to 3000 students. Two levels of car parking are part of the project.

The building works incorporate precast manufactured by National Precast member Precast Concrete Products.

**Project Owner**
Queesnland Government

**Architect and Project Superintendent**
Broad Construction Services

**Precast Manufacturer**
Precast Concrete Products

www.nationalprecast.com.au

General Manager at Precast Concrete Products Colin Ginger says the company was contacted early during the tender process when the builder, Broad Construction, was looking for an alternative to traditional insitu construction. "We provided them a solution that would save them a lot of time with their construction and all the added flow-on benefits that come with it. This was the first precast flooring system this particular building team had used and they went through a quick learning curve. They're very happy with the amount of time they've saved.

"We've hit all the targets and all the milestones that they wanted to hit from the beginning. The time savings they initially wanted, have been achieved," Mr Ginger said.

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**Precast flooring reduces build time and improves safety**

According to Mr Ginger, the Brisbane flooring market is an evolving one. "In the past there have been people who've had a go at flooring in Brisbane but it's never really taken off in a big way. Probably part of that is not having a suitable facility like we have with the modern hollowcore plant that we've built".

The project called for a high quality flooring solution that could be installed efficiently and economically. Precast Concrete Products manufactured 300 beam shells and 1300 hollowcore planks.

Broad Project Manager Phillip Millan says the flooring solution was an innovative choice. It reduced the construction program through a shorter curing time, improved access to lower decks, cut on-site labour expenses by eliminating most of the formwork and reduced the required amount of reinforcement fixing and concrete placement.

Mr Ginger agrees the main driver for the builder was a shorter built time. "They wanted to reduce the construction time on site which we've been able to do. But, one of the other great spinoffs that comes with a precast flooring solution is the reduced number of men onsite and that's a huge advantage on an inner city site and all the associated benefits of safety that go with that".

**Fast pace attracts attention**

Due for completion at the start of the 2016 school year and ready for the State High's 95th anniversary, the swift progress of site works has been welcomed. The pace of the project has attracted attention from developers, project managers and construction contractors in the Brisbane market. The Queensland Government says the project is an investment into the State's future, with school infrastructure vital to better student education outcomes.