



6.

Special Features

6.1 Wooranna Park P-6 Primary School — Furniture

Use of Indoor/Outdoor Space

Research shows that students better absorb and retain maths, science, language arts and other skills that incorporate their immediate environment and use all five senses.

In the effective inclusion of outdoor learning spaces, the learning community will come to appreciate the health, sensory and aesthetic benefits of the environment they have helped to create and protect.

The provision of outdoor spaces should extend beyond the inclusion of play areas and sporting grounds. Authentic learning related to sport, art, science and horticulture can occur in the outdoor environment, but this should not be restricted to these subjects alone.

Flexible outdoor spaces suitable for a variety of activities should be accessible by all teachers and students in all subject areas. Not only does this help to create positive connections between people and their natural environment, but it also helps to provide a positive conception of 'school' as a part of the broader environment.

Furniture

The quality, design and function of furniture can change the learning environment dramatically, not just aesthetically but in terms of purpose. Furniture that is capable of transforming the intended use of a space is essential to the creation of a flexible learning environment.

Similarly, furniture design that can impact upon student well-being through ergonomics or engagement is another way in which design can contribute to the learning experience.



6

SPECIAL FEATURES

Wooranna Park Primary School endeavours to provide a learning environment for students that prepares them to live in a rapidly changing world and caters for their personal needs and passions and excites their thirst for learning.

The furniture shown here has been purpose designed for this school. The way the furniture interacts with the learning spaces demonstrates how design can support a dynamic and responsive approach to learning.

6.1 Wooranna Park P-6 Primary School —Furniture, Dandenong, Victoria

Figure 6.1: Purpose-designed furniture at Wooranna Park Primary School



