



Christ Church Grammar School - Mount Claremont Playing Fields

At the heart of the School's recent request for the rezoning of the Mount Claremont Playing Fields (MCPF) is our absolute dedication to the health and wellbeing of boys.

Physical activity is an important aspect of health and wellbeing, and the School's vision is for many sports to be played in one location, hence the recent and planned developments at St John's Wood.

Last week, the School received notification from the Minister for Planning that the request to initiate a scheme amendment to rezone the MCPF for housing development would not be supported.

This decision is disappointing for many reasons, including:

1. The rezoning and subsequent sale of the land at Mt Claremont would have assisted the School in funding the development of St John's Wood phase 2
2. The development of this land would assist with the State's current and future residential housing needs

At every stage of this process, from application to the Town of Cambridge through to the submission to the Minister, the School followed the advice of statutory authorities.

During the process, misinformation has been prolific in the media, and I provide the following to ensure you have the facts.

The MCPF were purchased by and are owned by the School

On numerous occasions the MCPF have been referred to as being 'gifted' to the School. This is completely incorrect. The School purchased 20 acres of unimproved bushland for fifteen thousand pounds in 1959. The School's advice is that this was a full and fair price for the property.

MCPF is private property and NOT public open space

The MCPF is not public open space. The land is private property, over which the School has a freehold title with no conditions. The School has demonstrated years of goodwill by allowing the local community access to its playing fields.

Use of School's playing fields is encouraged

The School has always offered the use of its playing fields to other schools and community sporting groups. The surrounding girl's schools and IGSSA regularly access the fields at St John's Wood.

Playing fields and green open space in the vicinity

There is an abundance of green open space in and around the MCPF.

Our St John's Wood playing fields phase 1 is 8.63ha of green, manicured space just one kilometre from the MCPF.

When St John's Wood phase 2 is developed an additional 15.16ha of playing fields will be available.

Other green open space near MCPF includes:

- UWA Sports Park
- Perry Lakes
- Bold Park

The School is considering its next steps and makes no apologies for acting in the best interests of its community.

For further information:

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