The Westmead Education and Conference Centre (WECC) level 1 is being upgraded by the University of Sydney as part of the Westmead Redevelopment refurbishment program. It will open in September 2017 for students and staff participating in education, training and research activities.

The University of Sydney has committed to invest $500m into Westmead for infrastructure and programs over the next 15 years. Part of the investment is transforming WECC level 1 into a new, highly engaging teaching and learning environment.

The new space will provide attractive formal and informal learning spaces designed to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration, and to support Westmead’s diverse students, educators, researchers and clinicians. Contemporary, flexible and technology-enabled spaces will encourage peer-to-peer learning, dialogue and visualisation.

The WECC level 1 project is the first major upgrade of shared education, training and research spaces for Westmead Hospital. The design of the space has been influenced by consultation with current and future staff and students, and experience from leading education facilities around the world.

The transformation of education, training and research at Westmead responds to our growing multidisciplinary environment and better aligns with the Westmead precinct’s vision of being a global health precinct.

The University of Sydney’s investment in Westmead will see the number of students at the campus quadruple to more than 6,000 students, and enhance the already active interdisciplinary collaborations between healthcare, research and education at Westmead. Patients, clinicians and researchers continue to build on the culture of innovation and knowledge sharing at Westmead.
Work progresses to design two floors of the new central acute services building, due to open in 2020.

An exciting collaborative project is underway, with the University investing in a transformation of the Westmead Hospital Library into a contemporary and forward-thinking learning hub. Plans for the library include purpose built clinical examination rooms for university students and hospital physicians.

New courses and units of study are being introduced, such as the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry), and new Applied Medical Sciences major and Design Thinking for Health and Medicine, which are only taught at Westmead.

Other projects include the creation of a ‘home’ for the Faculty of Dentistry, and plans for the refurbishment of an engineering technology laboratory in the Kids Research Institute, to support increased undergraduate engineering activities at Westmead.