

Gx Outdoors

St Bede's Catholic College, Chisholm NSW



Chisholm, NSW



Project Name
St Bede's Catholic College

Project Partners
Terras Landscape Architects
SHAC Architects
Richard Crookes Constructions

Installed
September 2024

Overall Project Value
\$50M

Challenge

St Bede's Catholic College was a greenfield site designed to accommodate over 1000 secondary students from Year 7-12. The project was planned as a multi-stage development over 12-14 years, requiring long-term design strategies that could adapt to ongoing growth.

The site presented a unique challenge: it was completely devoid of trees and natural shading, leaving the landscape fully exposed to heat in summer and strong winds during other seasons - creating an immediate need for functional, shaded areas using park shelters and shade structures for students between and around the buildings.

Because the project would be built in stages over more than a decade, product selection needed to be carefully considered to ensure that school outdoor furniture in later phases would match and integrate with those installed in the early stages.

Material Requirements

Playground furniture and shelters needed to be durable, sustainable, and low maintenance, suitable for a school operating from day one. Shelters needed to withstand strong winds common for the area and provide functional shade. They, along with the furniture, had to offer colour and customisation options that would allow them to blend seamlessly with the architecture of the buildings and natural environment.

Solution

GX Outdoors supplied a complete suite of furniture, public shade structures and modular seating, allowing the school to fully outfit outdoor spaces with products that are durable, low maintenance, and visually cohesive with the campus architecture. All products are Australian-made and backed by a 20-year warranty, ensuring long-term performance.

Large shelters, such as the Red Gum Shelter with its 6m x 6.4m footprint, provide generous shaded areas for students to gather, study, or take breaks, creating comfortable outdoor zones on hot days. The Riverside Cantilever Shelters form a corridor of shade, linking different parts of the campus and improving circulation between learning, social, and sports areas.

Tables and seating solutions, including the Metro Table Setting with Shelter and HYVE Table Setting and Bench Seat in TimberImage aluminium, offer versatile spaces for group learning, breakout activities, and informal social interaction. TimberImage gives a natural timber look with the durability of aluminium, supporting long-term use while blending seamlessly with the surrounding architecture.

The Integra EX Bin Enclosure ensures waste management is discreetly integrated, keeping the outdoor areas functional and tidy. Each structure was finished in a combination of premium powder coating (selected from our 55+ colour range) and TimberImage, ensuring a cohesive look that blends naturally with the architecture and landscape.

Impact

The addition of GX Outdoors street and park furniture has completely transformed the school's outdoor spaces into vibrant, multifunctional environments. Once open and exposed, these areas are now comfortable, useable zones that support both recreation and education - from lunchtime gatherings to outdoor learning sessions.

Hear directly from the project architects about the design vision and outcomes in our

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

PROJECT CASE STUDY

TimberImage: Aluminium that mimics the look of real wood

Humans are naturally drawn to materials that evoke the natural world - a concept known as biophilia. Wood has long been a preferred choice for outdoor furniture and landscaping, but in high-use public spaces like school campuses, it poses challenges such as limited durability and sustainability concerns from logging.

To address this, our team developed TimberImage: a highly realistic wood finish applied to 100% recyclable aluminium. Using a five-step sublimation process, TimberImage replicates the natural grain and warmth of timber while delivering the strength, longevity, and low maintenance of aluminium.

Currently available in three stock finishes - Western Red Cedar, White Ash Oak, and Blackbutt - TimberImage can also be custom-coloured to match your project requirements, offering landscape architects and urban designers complete design flexibility.

[Book an appointment](#) with our team today to explore your custom TimberImage options.

About GX Outdoors

For over three decades, we've earned a reputation for delivering research-backed park solutions, including semi-custom designs that offer flexibility without the bespoke price. From park shelters and public BBQs to modular furniture and wireless phone charging, our range is crafted to enhance outdoor spaces and bring people together. With fast delivery and a 20-year warranty, we've partnered with councils and architects to deliver thousands of projects nationwide.

[SEE TIMBERIMAGE COLOURS](#)



VISIT [GXOUTDOORS.COM](#)



[SEE MORE PROJECTS](#)

Products

Red Gum Shelter
Riverside Cantilever Shelter
Metro Table Setting with Shelter
HYVE Table Setting
HYVE Bench Seat
Integra Ex Bin Enclosure