

NSW Building Grant Assistance Scheme

NSW Government protocols for organising an Opening and Blessing Ceremony.

Opening and Blessing Ceremony Information

Your agreement to accept a New South Wales ('NSW') Government Capital Grant requires where the project is of a major nature that the *Official Opening and Blessing* is to be held within *seven months* of the physical completion of the project. As per the NSW Government policy, the Minister for Education, *is to be invited* to the opening and blessing ceremony, giving the current Minister's office at *least two months'* notice of the date.

Where the NSW Government has provided more than *50 percent* of the *value* of the project it is a requirement of the NSW Government Building Grant Assistance Scheme that the Minister or representative officiates at the opening in a significant way. If *less than 50 percent* of the funding is *provided* by the NSW Government the school or institution may invite the person of their choice to officiate. However, there is to be provision in the official proceedings for the NSW Government's representative to speak if he or she elects to do so.

If you are planning an *Opening and Blessing Ceremony* on a *weekday*, please verify on the NSW Government's [website](#) in advance that the Minister is available to ensure that the proposed date is **not** a *parliamentary sitting day*.

The *Delegated Approved Authority* is to invite via [email](#) the current NSW Government Minister for Education, i.e.:

The Hon Prue Car
Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning

Acknowledgment of the NSW Government Funding

All recipients of NSW Government funding for infrastructure and capital works should [acknowledge the government](#).

There must be a *construction sign* and [plaque](#) displayed for any capital project costing more than \$100,000 to which the NSW Government contributes. Please observe the NSW Government [signage requirements](#).

Notifying the NSW Catholic Block Grant Authority for Approval

The NSW Catholic Block Grant Authority is to be informed of your *Opening and Blessing Ceremony* details. Please [email](#) your completed NSW BGAS – Notification of Opening and Blessing Ceremony [form](#) as soon as practicable.