The Brief
To review the form and design of the courtyard space adjacent to the tuckshop and bordered by the existing multi-purpose covered area to create a usable and central space that responds to the varied needs of the school community that simplifies the materials and elements that have formed over time.

The Idea
The concept design for the central courtyard is to provide a 'canvas' to facilitate the varied uses and circulation requirements that are required by this key site space. The design builds on the framework of surrounding built forms and structures to maximise the sites views and historical context. The result is a destination that delivers functionality with a classic and dynamic arrangement of materials. The design aims to simplify the materials palette and develop a strong theme that can be translated around the school site with consistency and clarity.

The Components
Through the development of two main terraces, the design provides the opportunity for the gathering of small and large groups, with the inclusion of seating benches, broad terrace steps and ramp access. The new upper terrace is developed as a performance / stage area with a new sliding door connection to the existing courts and climbing play net with rubber soft fall surround, with views across to the church.

The floor of the space is broom finished concrete sections with stencilled feature colours to reinforce circulation patterns with diagonal bands. The feature bands provide the framework for the positioning of the seating areas and handball courts.

The existing concrete stair to the central oval area is removed and replaced with a repositioned 'grand stair' of more suitable tread proportions and ramp access. The stair incorporates terraces for seating and viewing opportunities on the lower oval.

The existing sails are replaced and the oversized columns supporting the shade sails are embellished to become a feature of the design with key words printed on them reflecting the uses of the space. Words such as 'meet', 'eat', 'food', 'climb', 'play', 'perform' adorn the columns to give the design a further subtle layer of detail that makes the design unique and site specific. Potential bold post colours reflect school sports colours and historical references such as 'Murphy’s Green'.

The design considers the current uses and provides for future additions such as a proposed all weather access links to the Prep and Junior school areas via the multi-purpose court to the Administration building. Considerations for future cover to the stage and play structure have been reviewed.