



## Hebel® SoundBarrier scores top marks from teachers, students and parents at Erina Heights Public School

### Project Name and Location

Erina Heights Public School, Central Coast Highway, Erina NSW.

### Start and Completion Date

The project was completed during the third term's school holidays in October 2012

### Developer

Roads & Maritime Services

### Builder

D H Holland Pty Limited

### Designer

Aurecon

## PROJECT SCOPE:

Erina Heights Public School is located adjacent to the Central Coast Highway, a major arterial road that connects the F3 freeway, Gosford, Terrigal, The Entrance and other beach-side suburbs. With a daily average of more than 26,000 cars passing the school each day, road noise was significant and distracting.

As a result of heritage listings on some parts of the school, it was not feasible to sound proof existing buildings. A freestanding acoustic barrier to shield teachers and students from traffic noise was proposed as the solution to reduce resonance and help to improve the learning environment.



### Products and Applications:

300m<sup>2</sup> of plain and decorative Hebel® SoundBarrier panels were specified for this project, as a result of their versatility, design flexibility and ease of installation

### Challenges/ Requirements:

The major challenges were the design and installation of a sound barrier within a narrow footprint, but without impacting on the school community or road users. The project was further complicated by the presence of underground optical cables and other services, historically significant trees and an existing retaining wall.

Construction time was restricted to school holidays to avoid interfering with classes and day to day processes. This required extensive planning and tight cohesion between the design development, panel routing, supply and delivery and construction schedules.

Other requirements included:

**Aesthetics** - Routed designs incorporated children playing and the addition of the school motto brought the noise walls to life. This creative treatment of a functional barricade reinforced the school's purpose, complemented the surrounding area and provided an iconic landmark.

**Minimal impact** - Hebel SoundBarriers were the noise walls of choice. Being a lightweight, aerated concrete product, they were quickly installed by smaller construction teams without the need for heavy equipment.

**Economical** - The Hebel SoundBarrier system was very cost effective due it requiring fewer footings than alternative noise wall designs.

**Speed of Construction** - Due to their local manufacture, Hebel SoundBarriers easily met the short lead times the project demanded.

**Minimal On-Going Maintenance** - High performance Dulux® coatings were specified to achieve a quality, long-lasting colour fastness with minimal maintenance.

### Results:

A lightweight masonry product, Hebel SoundBarrier system was specified as a result of its design flexibility, fast construction and superior acoustic performance.

### Testimonial:

**Sue McNamara, Principal of Erina Heights Public School**

"The students' lessons and play time was impacted by a high level of noise from one of the Central Coast's busiest roads. Our new Hebel SoundBarrier provides a respite from the distracting din of the traffic and creates a quiet setting for learning."

Using Hebel gave us the opportunity to create a uniquely patterned feature wall whilst maintaining a safe environment for students and teachers. Incorporating our school's title and motto on the wall's exterior and children playing on the inside has added favourably to the school's image and enhanced its proud place in the community. Parents and teachers have noticed the reduction in noise, better concentration in class and the subsequent improvement to the educational environment."

### About CSR Hebel

For more information on CSR Hebel, please call 1300 369 448 or visit [www.hebelsoundbarrier.com.au](http://www.hebelsoundbarrier.com.au)



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