

# Bringing simplicity, sophistication and wow to Southern Cross Grammar



**Southern Cross Grammar is a relatively new school located in Caroline Springs. The school is proud of its focus on bringing modernity to both its facilities and learning practices.**

The school is fast developing a strong reputation for its creative arts disciplines including music, drama and theatre. In fact, these are a personal passion project for the Principal - Matthew Dodd - who is also keen to promote the use of innovative technologies in supporting student learning no matter the location or situation.

DIB AudioVisual was introduced to the school and its building via a consultant. The consultant

brought us in when the project ran into challenges in combining high levels of AV functionality with day-to-day operational simplicity (which the client reasonably desired).

They had an existing design, but it was costing a lot of money and missing the mark when it came to this simplicity. The project was under construction already so the DIB Audiovisual Team had to move quickly.

The construction project was extensive and included a new three-level building with everything from theatre and drama spaces to food technology and general-purpose learning areas.

Making use of our extensive experience in multi-purpose venues we conducted a consultative process with all stakeholders to investigate and identify the day-to-day operational requirements as well as the more advanced applications.

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For more information, please visit <http://bit.ly/3EZwt4s> or scan the QR code below.



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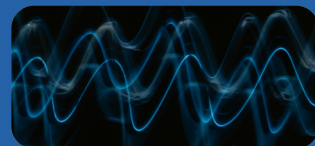
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# Bringing simplicity, sophistication and WOW to Southern Cross Grammar contd.



These were separated based on frequency and importance and filtered through with the school based on associated costs and budget impacts.

Throughout the consultative phase, the emphasis on simplicity of operation for the end users was maintained as a primary objective - even in the advanced, complex theatre space.

Once the consultation phase was completed, we moved quickly to complete full construction shop drawings detailing every wall plate and associated service. This allowed us to coordinate the efforts of all trades associated with the construction project.

This also provided the school with a greater level of understanding with respect to what they were getting and how it would look and function.

After the shop drawing process, we made further refinements to the systems and configuration.

The process of consulting and then shop drawings before installation is like peeling back the onion to reach the optimum destination and if done well it effectively aligns outcomes with the user's requirements.

One example of a refined technology in the project was the theatre video wall idea.

Southern Cross Grammar wanted to maximize the use and flexibility of the building and avoid a fly tower and traditional backdrops in the theatre. DIB Audiovisual solved this using three Epson projectors with edge blending to create a single image of a video wall. It also allows either single projector use for

presentations or side-by-side projector setups.

As well as having the ability to use all three projectors to deliver the WOW of a single image backdrop across the whole stage and all controlled via a simple wall controller.

The whole project included high-quality projectors, speakers, microphones and multi-channel sound systems. We set it up to allow the school to patch sound and vision out into the restaurant spaces, and into food science and drama rooms. As well as multi-functional classroom spaces that can now double as green rooms during performances.

In our Extron panels, we included simple push-button set-up options for the everyday user, whilst also partitioning advanced functions for use during complex drama events. Elegant touches like simple

Bluetooth pairing plates allow teachers to walk in, pair their phones and play beautiful music through the space. The pairing clears each time to avoid phantom pairing issues.

DIB was and is willing to dig deep in situations like this to uncover simple applications as our experience shows that 80% of the use of spaces like this is often simple straightforward presentations. Yet we still need to isolate more functionality for advanced users, for when this is required.

Along the way, DIB also made a number of modifications to the installation and location of various components like speakers to ensure they were hidden but still provided great sound.



There is a lot of horsepower in the solution for this space. But it is accessible for everyday use.

The client has confirmed that the DIB Audiovisual team met their challenge of delivering a complex space that was easy to use. In fact, it is not unreal to say that the school was very pleased to see us take the complexity out of the project, get it back on track and deliver a great outcome.



Inside the theatre



Cafe Space with Display that can play vision and sound from the theatre

For assistance with your school's audiovisual requirements, do not hesitate to contact a **DIBAV Solutions Consultant** today via [info@dibaustalia.com.au](mailto:info@dibaustalia.com.au) or **03 9457 4800**.

For more information on this project please visit <http://bit.ly/3EZwt4s> or scan the QR code below.



## Nureva XT



### Nureva XT

Nureva XT is a video conferencing solution that we recommend for hybrid classrooms up to about 8m by 8m in size. It offers high performance and is a cost-effective alternative to more expensive systems.

It is adaptable and you can integrate it with a one-touch video conferencing system or it can also be used in a bring-your-own-device mode, where the teacher supplies their own laptop to run the conference or lesson.

The Nureva XT bar acts as a combined microphone and speaker system. These bars have a neat technology that 'creates' thousands of virtual microphones throughout the room, meaning you get a very consistent sound level throughout the room. Anyone who has attended a video conference that relies on the speaker being close to the microphone will attest to the benefits of this type of technology.

In larger rooms, you can simply add another bar to the room.

Schools choosing the Nureva XT can enjoy savings of many thousands of dollars compared to similar products, which might provide marginally better technology, but at a large price premium.

One nice feature of the Nureva XT is that a teacher can add a supplemental headset microphone to amplify their sound within the room, whilst the system simultaneously provides full-room microphone pickup for remote students.

Nureva XT provides high-quality audio pickup in hybrid classrooms.

Education pricing and grants are available via DIB for this product. Please ask your solutions consultant for more information on these grants for your school.

### INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE ABOUT THE NUREVA XT?

For more information on the products featured in this article and which device will suit your requirements please contact a DIB Solutions Consultant at **9457-4800** or scan the QR code.



# Sports Pavilion for Kilmore Assumption College.



**DIB Audiovisual has been working with Kilmore Assumption College for many years, and we were delighted to be involved in the planning, design and installation of audiovisual equipment across multiple rooms in their recently opened Community & Sports Pavilion**

We were involved right from the beginning, and this very much included being invited to a supplier luncheon hosted by the school and prepared by the school's students to share with us and others the future plans for this project. Kilmore is famed as a very strong sporting region and that passion runs through

to the school. They wanted to develop this pavilion next to one of the school's ovals.

Our solution consultants worked with both the school and BRT Electrical Engineers to come up with a design.

The installation is across multiple rooms including two function rooms that are a highlight of the project. The function rooms can be used as two individual spaces or opened up into one large space that looks out onto the oval.

In this space, we recommended and installed two Epson EB-G7200W projectors - one in

each function room as well as a 75 inch Sony Bravia screen at the front of the room.

We detailed multiple locations to plug in laptops in the bar as well as in-floor. Microphone sockets allow the use of a lectern in each space. An iPhone/iPod connection point allows for easy connection of devices for background music.

Touch control panels make what could be quite a complicated system, easy for the average everyday user. We also included handheld wireless microphones in the installation as well as high-quality speakers out on terraces to allow for

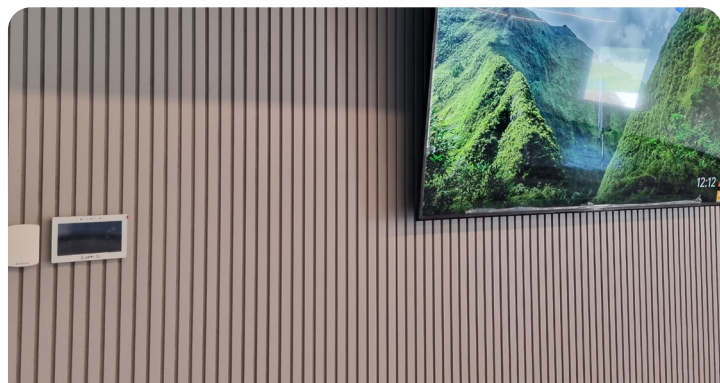
background music to be sent out to these locations as well.

There is digital signage in the Hall of Excellence allowing the school to play images and videos of past players.

Weatherproof speakers installed outside of the building allow sound and announcements to reach across the oval.

A remote antenna ensured the range of the microphones was extended to allow outside and even mid-oval use of the microphones.

An ultra-short throw projector and whiteboard in the home change room allow the coach to use visual aids to support their coaching sessions.



For more information, please call the team at DIB Audiovisual Call (03) 9457 4800. Click this link <http://bit.ly/3gwb3IT> or scan the QR code in this article.





# St Catherine's Black Box Theatre



**St Catherines School has been a DIB Audiovisual client for close to 15 years and we enjoy a strong long-term working relationship with John Toulantas – Director of ICT.**

The school approached DIB to help them transform their gymnasium into a theatre space. **The school referred to the new space as the black box theatre, but it was formally changed to the Jamie and Rebecca Gray Theatre** when it was opened earlier this year by the Hon. Julie Bishop.

Whenever we approach a complete retrofit of any space for another purpose, we take into consideration all the major sound and vision challenges.

And on this occasion the school was also looking for an innovative visual element to give a unique 3D effect for performances. In short, they were looking for a WOW factor. Our Recommendation was to use an LED Video Wall which really delivers wow when compared with other visual technologies like projectors. A video wall can be used as a backdrop for stage performances or alternatively for everyday slide presentations.

Even school movie nights.

*"While the LED wall has incredible application for digital stage backdrops and sets, it also enables so much versatility and flexibility to the space beyond the performing arts". John Toulantas*

We also installed a central control system along with the LED wall. The Extron Touch Control gives simple yet flexible power over the AV system, including sound, stage lights and even curtain controls. This also included vision cabling for HDMI inputs for the LED Wall from various locations around the performing arts theatre. Let's talk size - this video wall is 6.5m by 3.5m which is a huge display.

Another WOW factor in our installation was the design and production of a custom bracket to attach the display to the wall. This allows the school to bring the display up to 1 meter out from the wall creating a space backstage where students can pass behind during performances.

The system also included the ability to mirror the control panel with an IPAD - allowing the teachers or staff the freedom to move around the room and control the AV system from anywhere within the space.

On this project we worked in collaboration with the various trades to incorporate the control of the LED Wall, Audio, Lighting and the curtains all from the installed touch control panel to allow simplified use of the system.

Time was invested with the school to discuss the various scenarios the space would be used in so that the control system was simple to use - very minimal instruction for someone to come in and use the system in different modes.

*"A key functional requirement for our new theatre is a system that allows anyone using the space to control the AV resources. The Extron Touch Control panel enables this to happen, making this space simple for everyday use." - John Toulantas*

The key components in this project were:

A large 6.5m by 3.5m Aurora LED wall.

A custom bracket allowing the whole display to be moved up to a metre out from the wall.

A complete Extron control system including Touch Control, control processor & audio control processor.

A Kramer HDMI matrix that tied in all the vision inputs

For more information please call DIB on (03) 9457 4800.

For more information about this project, please visit <https://bit.ly/3OuxrbT> or scan the QR code below.





## Emmanuel College rolls out largest Commbox Project

Across two campuses at Altona and Point Cook, Emmanuel College aims to provide quality educational experiences where staff ensure students have the opportunity to unlock their potential. Emmanuel provides a Catholic education that focuses on the development of the whole person: academic, social, emotional, spiritual and physical.

DIB Audiovisual has been working with the college for several years, servicing existing equipment and replacing projectors. This particular project was the largest rollout of CommBox products in Australia. More than 150 individual displays - both installed and portable were installed across the St Pauls and Notre Dame Campuses.

As a project-based learning school, Emmanuel explored options to integrate contemporary technology in classrooms for seamless collaboration between students and teachers. The existing school equipment was unable to support the learning & teaching strategies being implemented by the College. The solution

proposed by DIB Audiovisual gave consistency throughout the school and the opportunity to ensure that staff and students had all the tools needed to make the most out of the audiovisual systems in their classrooms. The school chose to use VIVI as a wireless presentation device for reasons including; combining multiple rooms, broadcast features, seamless annotations and the capacity to support collaboration in class.

The school got this and more with all the benefits of VIVI being paired to each display. VIVI can be centrally controlled by IT and is the only wireless screen mirroring tool designed for education. Ultimately it was about transparency and classroom control with monitoring of students sharing and displaying content to multiple screens or rooms.

The college also had an eye on the future and wanted a solution that would not date, with software that could easily be upgraded as technology evolved. A major benefit of the match made in heaven between

Commbox and VIVI is they can both be updated over the cloud. As far as logistics, the reader can appreciate that whilst the system and use of these tools can be quite simple, the coordination of the project took some intelligent planning.

We measured each and every room. After a room-by-room review, we produced drawings to make sure the Commbox Displays were all in the optimum viewing position. This also involved moving existing whiteboards, re-running power/data and adjusting the heights of the panels depending on the spaces. A great example of this is in the science rooms. Displays were positioned higher due to island benches and in several rooms, displays had to be mounted on floor stands due to windows and operable walls. As the school remarked - ***“DIB were very professional to deal with from the beginning, contributing to classroom audits to determine needs and source the best solution. They worked in partnership with the school and the installers to manage the project to an excellent level.”***

DIB has coordinated with CommBox directly to run several workshops with staff to ensure the systems are easy to use, and this is supplemented by the fantastic training documentation and videos from Commbox which are accessible direct from each panel.

Returning to the start of this project, whilst we had been working with the school for many years, it was our dedication to demonstrating various options and working with the school to find the exact right solution that led to DIB Audiovisual being selected for this huge and demanding upgrade. As always it wasn't just about the usability of the system for students and staff, but the simplicity of management of a fleet of over 150 displays for the in-house IT department that led to the selection of this Commbox and VIVI partnership.

For more information about this project, please visit <http://bit.ly/3V12237> or scan the QR code below.





# Tips on Room Acoustics



**Room Acoustics are incredibly important in designing and installing an audiovisual system and the team at DIB Audiovisual have a wealth of experience in understanding the impact of a room on sound.**

Factors such as the size of the room, the materials of walls, floors and ceilings, and even furnishings all have an impact. Likewise, the positioning of speakers and attendees. If you've ever shouted cooee across a bushland valley, or been in a restaurant where you couldn't hear the people at your table, you'll have an idea of what we are talking about.

In this article, we wanted to share some tips for improving your room acoustics, and also the various things you need to take into account.

1. Walls and ceilings reflect sound - when you get sound bouncing around in a room, it can really wreck a good acoustic. If you've ever walked into a house where all the furniture has been taken out, you'll have heard the

echo. In any room, it is a good idea to have some items to deaden the sound. This can be as simple as a couch in the room, or choosing the rights chairs around your conference table.

2. Meeting and quiet areas - in a school or office situation, one good idea is to nominate specific meeting areas and quiet areas.
3. Plants - plants can be good sounds absorbers and double as room dividers
4. Phone rooms - if you're in an open plan area, you can have a place where people can make a louder phone call, rather than everyone conducting these calls at their desks
5. Sound absorbing materials - in certain situations, lining a wall or area with sound deadening material might be important.

When we look at acoustics, here are some specific things we do to help increase sound quality in a space.

1. We select high quality directional speakers - some speakers are not designed for the space where they are installed and they throw sound out in all directions. Directional speakers can be used to point sound at specific parts of an audience
2. Hearing loops - we've designed and installed hearing loops for various organisations and groups where a percentage of their audience have hearing problems.
3. In gymnasiums, the hard flat, parallel surfaces are the main causes of echo and reverberation. We take the time to consider a specific room and then select speakers and locations for those speakers that will work best within the dynamics of the room.

4. In dining halls, especially those with large glass windows or hard furniture, you can get messy acoustics and the choice of microphones, speakers and their placement is a critical consideration that we are well versed with making.

No one likes noise, and we all crave a clear and high quality sound experience. The team at DIB is skilled in understanding acoustics and will work with you and your location to design and install the best possible solution.

It is also good to bring us into the huddle early in the design phase of new buildings, because we can help guide your architects and builders on key sound and light considerations that will save time and money down the track.

We look forward to working with you on your next project.



# Meet the DIB Audiovisual team



## Gabi Ceglia

1. What is your role at DIB?

Sales / Consulting

2. How long have you been at DIB?

Over 12 years.

3. What do you love about audiovisual technology?

It's always changing, advancing and allowing us to do things that wouldn't be possible without it. I love how a good AV system can turn a normal room, gym, hall or any area into a space that can be seamlessly used to engage a whole group of people.

4. What is your favourite recent project?

Cliche, but I enjoy every project I work on with schools, from the classroom upgrades like the new Junior and Middle School buildings out at Overnewton, to the speciality projects like the LED Wall System with Recording and Streaming functionality at Rowell Park PS Gym.

5. What is a fun fact about your life outside work that you'd be happy to share?

Passionate about my football and spending time with my two french bulldogs Winnie and Theo

6. If you could have a superpower, which one would you choose and why?

To be a wizard - maybe not a superpower exactly, but I am still waiting on my Hogwarts letter!

7. What does your ideal weekend look like?

Spending time with friends and family, playing footy (and hopefully winning) and just relaxing at home with the doggos.

**For more information on how our team can help your team please call DIB on (03) 9457 4800.**