



Creating a beautiful common area for students with Porta Cumaru

Project Details

Our Lady Sacred Heart School in Bentleigh, Melbourne, engaged Orchard Design to redesign two large common areas for students. These areas comprised of outdoor seats along two walkways, that also served as common meeting areas.

For this project, Karl Russo, Landscape Architect, Orchard Design, specified a timber that was durable and attractive. Porta Cumaru was recommended to Karl by landscape construction company, Landstruck. Landstruck were eager to trial the timber because of its near zero leaching feature.

Landstruck used Porta Cumaru for all of the tops and sides of the formed concrete seating - featuring the school's logo embossed into the concrete.

“To our amazement, Porta Cumaru is not only a beautiful FSC certified hardwood that hasn't leached, it has saved us time, money and not to mention looks amazing”.

Estimator, Landstruck



The Verdict

Upon completion of the project, Melbourne was hit with a week of solid rain. Both Orchard Design and Landstruck were keen to test the near zero leaching claims of Porta Cumaru.

Karl and the Estimator for Landstruck were both impressed with the timber. “It was amazing to see that there was not a single leach mark on the concrete or paving from the Porta Cumaru timber,” commented the Landstruck Estimator.

As the first timber that Karl has used that hasn't leached, Karl commented, “I will definitely be specifying it on future projects!”

Landstruck was also equally impressed, sharing that Cumaru was very good to work with and experienced very little splintering when

cutting, “The timber quality was excellent, with very little waste”.

Being an imported timber, Landstruck was a little nervous about the sustainability and ongoing supply of Porta Cumaru. He was relieved to hear Porta is growing the range and holding stock in addition to having the full range of performance testing conducted. He was pleased that Porta's FSC certified supplier manages the forest in such a way that it is guaranteed to be here for generations to come. By investing and commercialising some species it ensures the protection of the species, along with the forests wildlife, flora and fauna and supports local communities.

Click here to hear more about [Sustainable Forest Management](#).