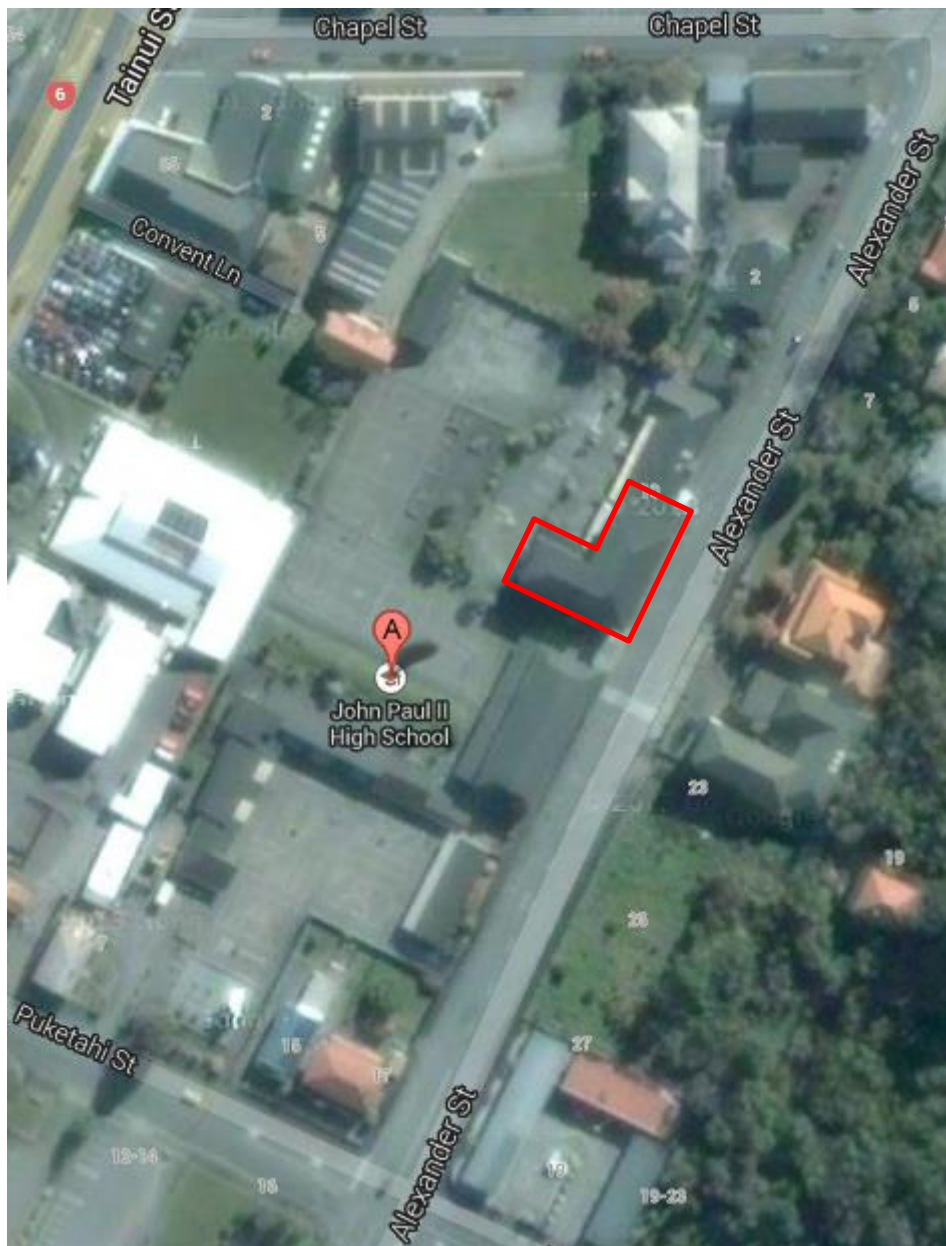


John Paul II High School (Greymouth)



During the preparation of the detailed engineering evaluation (DEE) for Block A, the structural engineers from Opus International Consultants have determined the two-storey concrete frame section (outlined in red above) of the building to be “earthquake prone”. It is assessed to be less than 34% of New Building Standard (NBS).

While the two-storey concrete frame section of the building is earthquake prone, it does not have a critical structural weakness; i.e. it is unlikely to suddenly collapse in an earthquake. Consequently the two-storey concrete frame section of the building can be legally occupied but, consistent with actions taken at other diocesan schools, it is not considered to be suitable for use by school students.

The Catholic Diocese of Christchurch has determined that the two-storey concrete frame section of Block A is to be closed for occupancy by school students forthwith.

The following actions have been and/or will be undertaken:

1. A concept for new replacement classrooms is being prepared by Opus.
2. This concept will be costed by a quantity surveyor.
3. After consultation with the Greymouth Catholic Schools' board of trustees, the Bishop will proceed with the construction of new replacement classrooms; with a target completion date of March/April 2014.

Please note: The Opus structural engineers have determined that the nature of the concrete frame construction and its foundations means that strengthening and refurbishing of the two-storey concrete frame section of the building is not a technically and financially viable option.

Mike Nolan
Manager
Catholic Education Office
Catholic Diocese of Christchurch

07 October 2013