

Hurlstone Agricultural High School

Works notification | 11 May 2023

The NSW Department of Education is upgrading the boarding facilities and building a new farm hub at Hurlstone Agricultural High School to support the local community.

Work taking place near Hurlstone Agricultural High School

On 16 March 2023 we notified you of geotechnical investigations that were to be carried out on the land next to Hurlstone Agricultural High School to inform the future planning of the site. These investigations have identified low levels of PFAS detected on the adjacent land including the dam. These levels indicate very low or negligible risk to students, staff, and livestock. On this basis it is deemed that there is no risk to the current operation of the school.

- PFAS are most commonly found in non-stick cookware, stain-resistant upholstery and carpet, water-resistant clothing, some photo-imaging applications, such as X-ray films and some firefighting foams and products that resist grease, water and oil.
- People are exposed to small amounts of some PFAS in everyday life, through food, dust, air, water and contact with consumer products that contain these compounds.
- No evidence has been found of PFAS affecting the health or production of grazing livestock in Australia.

The Department of Education is aware of these initial results and is working with the school to ensure the health and safety of students, staff and livestock.

Asbestos removal works

In April 2023, we notified you of asbestos remediation works underneath the demolished Building B and Building C over the Easter school holidays (see map overleaf). During these works, the contractor identified additional material further in-ground underneath the demolished buildings. The material has been confirmed as non-bonded asbestos.

Work to remove the material will take place between Monday 15 May until Tuesday 23 May 2023. The area remains cordoned off and safety measures including air monitoring continue to be in place under the advice of an independent hygienist. The area will remain out of bounds to students and staff until the main works are finished.

Work will be done in accordance with SafeWork NSW regulations and the NSW Department of Education's Asbestos Management Plan. All work will be completed by licensed and accredited asbestos contractors and monitored by occupational hygienists strictly following all applicable legislation, regulations, policies and guidelines.

The area will be inspected to ensure it has been fully remediated and the school will receive a clearance certificate following the remediation.

The health, safety, and wellbeing of the school and the local community are our highest priority and we will minimise impacts on the community at every opportunity.



Working hours

- 9am and 2:45pm Monday to Friday, except Wednesdays.
- Work will be paused for break periods in line with school requirements.
- No work will only occur on Saturdays, Sundays or public holidays unless notified. Thank you for your patience while we deliver this important school infrastructure.

Contact us

If you have any questions about this work you can contact School Infrastructure NSW on email at schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au or during business hours on 1300 482 651.

Site map



 For a Translation and Interpreting Service call 131 450 and ask them to call the Department of Education - School Infrastructure NSW on 1300 482 651.