

Bungendore Public School

Works notification

8 October 2021

Investigations at Bungendore Public School

On Wednesday 29 September, Transport for NSW advised the Department of Education that lead contamination had been identified in the soil along the rail corridor in Bungendore.

Transport for NSW is continuing to investigate, including undertaking further soil testing in the rail corridor, at the station and at the Transport for NSW car park at Majara Street and Kings Highway.

In addition to the Transport for NSW investigations, School Infrastructure NSW engaged an independent occupational hygienist to undertake soil sampling at external areas of Bungendore Public School. This includes the sports field.

The test results at all locations returned lead concentrations well below acceptable limits. The independent occupational hygienist has advised that the areas are safe to occupy and no further action is needed.

We acknowledge that even the smallest traces of hazardous materials or substances can be an unsettling experience for our school communities. Our role is to be vigilant across all our schools and to understand how these events can affect people, while ensuring students, staff and parents have the information they need to feel safe at school.

The safety of students, staff, families and our community is of the utmost importance and at all times we will take every step possible to ensure safety of the site for everyone now and in the future.

To provide further reassurance, additional testing will be undertaken at internal spaces of the school. Further information on the results will be shared with the school community when they are available.

The Department will continue to liaise with Transport for NSW and will keep local residents and the school community informed as information becomes available.

For further questions in relation to rail infrastructure in the Bungendore area, please call 1800 491 566 to speak to the Transport for NSW project team or email bungendore.info@transport.nsw.gov.au.

Soil sampling previously completed for the high school project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Preliminary soil testing was undertaken to inform a report submitted as part of the EIS lodged for the State Significant Development application. This initial analysis reported that the results of the soil samples taken were generally within acceptable limits, however, further testing was recommended to validate those initial results, and broaden the scope of the investigations within the high school site.

For more information contact:

School Infrastructure NSW
Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 1300 482 651
www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au

Planned investigations as part of the new high school project

In September, we notified the community that School Infrastructure NSW would be undertaking further, and more extensive, soil testing on the site of the new high school in Bungendore and surrounding areas. This work is part of the planning process for the new high school project and is unrelated to the lead contamination identified by Transport for NSW.

Investigations are expected to start on 11 October 2021 and will involve a contractor taking soil samples using an excavator with an auger attachment. The contractor is expected to be on site for 3 to 4 days, pending weather conditions.

The objective of the investigation is to understand existing ground conditions to inform construction. It will also identify any contamination at the site. Should those investigations reveal the presence of contaminated material, appropriate actions will be taken to ensure the safety of the community.

For further information see the September 2021 Works Notification on the School Infrastructure NSW webpage: <https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/n/new-high-school-in-bungendore.html#library-tab>

For more information please contact School Infrastructure NSW using the details below.

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