Newcastle East Public School

Works update

31 January 2020

On Wednesday 29 January 2020, we committed to undertake further validation samples on equipment and resources located throughout the school, including the school library, as an added precautionary measure. This followed works on the heritage building roof as part of planned maintenance at the school.

Comprehensive testing occurred yesterday at various locations across the school, as recommended by an independent professional hygienist, and including areas requested by school staff and the principal.

Works were conducted in accordance with the Department of Education's Asbestos Management Plan and SafeWork NSW requirements.

Of the 167 composite samples (one 'composite sample' is ten swabs from surfaces in one area), three positive results were returned. Two were identified in the sports shed and one in Room 4 of Block C.

On the advice of the independent hygienist, Room 4 of Block C has been professionally cleaned overnight. The room has been re-tested this morning and a clearance certificate has been issued. The sports shed has been secured ahead of professional cleaning over the weekend.

It is important that our school community are confident that facilities can be used safely. Every air monitoring test to date has returned negative results.

Air-monitoring at the school will continue and as a further precaution, the entire school will be professionally recleaned over the weekend.

In response to community feedback, a school community drop-in session will be held on Monday 3 February 2020 from 5.00pm.

The health, safety and well-being of our students, staff and neighbours is our highest priority and we will continue to keep the community updated.

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