

Newcastle East Public School

Works notification

11 September 2020

Update on work at Newcastle East Public School

To keep the community informed during ongoing construction and remediation work, we will continue to produce weekly updates. The notification will provide both a weekly look ahead of work and confirm the upcoming weekend works.

Update: Remediation of subfloor in Block A (the heritage building)

Further to our works notification issued on 7 September 2020 works to remediate the material beneath the subfloor of Block A at Newcastle East Public School were scheduled to be complete by Thursday 10 September 2020 however the work was not able to be completed during this time.

The area will continue to be remediated outside of school hours during the evening on Friday 11 September 2020 and over this weekend on Saturday 12 September and Sunday 13 September 2020. All air monitoring continues to return results below the minimum detection limit (i.e <0.01 fibres/mL) and air monitoring will remain in place for the duration of work. Please refer to the attached notification for additional information.

Playground Upgrade

Between Monday 14 September 2020 and Sunday 20 September 2020 work will include:

- Stormwater improvement works including excavation of soil and installing new pits and pipes
- Building the new retaining wall including pouring concrete
- Removal of contaminated soil and importing of clean fill
- Remediation of existing garden beds around the school including placing new soil and mulch

Within the construction site movement of plant and equipment will be minimised as much possible during school hours and will be restricted to areas that are currently encapsulated. Continual air monitoring will be in place during the work. No contaminated soil will be removed during school hours.

Progress Update

Works are progressing well with approximately 75% of the site now encapsulated with a geo-fabric layer and new clean fill. Over the coming weeks the remainder of the site will be fully encapsulated as the stockpile and demountable are removed from the site. It is planned to remove the demountable in the upcoming school holidays.

Managing contaminated soils (ongoing weekend work)

Weekend work causing disturbance to contaminated material will continue to take place during the upgrade of the playground. The hours of work for the next two weekends include:

- Saturday 12 September 2020 and Sunday 13 September 2020 between 8.00am to 5.00pm
- Saturday 19 September 2020 and Sunday 20 September 2020 between 8.00am to 5.00pm

This coming weekend work will continue on the remediation of existing garden beds around the school and stormwater activities. The remediation of the existing gardens beds around the school will require **a temporary closure of the adjacent footpaths on Brown Street and Tyrrell Street** to enable an exclusion zone to be established around the work area. An independent hygienist will be on site during any remediation activities including excavation of contaminated materials.

Air monitors will continue to be in place during the work. The carting of material off site will be done over weekends and during school holidays as required. At times, the material will also need to be temporarily stockpiled within the construction site and encapsulated with plastic sheeting bound down by weights.

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

Refurbishment of block A (heritage building)

Work is now underway on the additional refurbishment to block A. The contractor will continue internal painting, carpentry and electrical work. These works will not impact on the operations of the school.

Access to the school during weekend works

It is Department of Education Policy that only essential personnel are onsite during any remediation works. We remind the community that no access to the school is permitted during the weekend remediation work. This includes the new basketball court.

Hours of work

In line with the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment (COVID-19 Development – _Construction Work Days) Order 2020, School Infrastructure NSW construction sites can now operate on weekends and public holidays during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is to allow workers to maintain social distancing while on construction sites by distributing building work across the entire week.

Works will typically take place from 7:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday and from 8:00am to 5:00pm Saturdays and Sundays, unless otherwise notified.

Keeping you updated

The health, safety, and well-being of the school and the local community is our highest priority. Please be assured that the removal of this material will not pose a risk to the local community. We will continue to provide further information as this work progresses. We look forward to delivering this exciting upgrade for the school community.

For more information contact:

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

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11 September 2020

Dear parents/carers,

Further to our works notification dated 7 September 2020, works to remediate the material beneath the subfloor of Block A at Newcastle East Public School were scheduled to be complete by Thursday 10 September 2020 however the work was not able to be completed during this time.

The area will continue to be remediated during the evening on Friday 11 September 2020 and this weekend on Saturday 12 September and Sunday 13 September 2020. All asbestos containing material will be removed outside of school hours.

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

Testing will be completed to ensure the area has been fully remediated. The school will receive a clearance certificate before the area is open to students and staff. We will keep you informed if further material is found which requires removal.

All air monitoring continues to return results below the minimum detection limit (i.e. <0.01 fibres/mL) and a clearance certificate has been given by an independent hygienist confirming students and staff can safely occupy the rooms. Air monitoring will remain in place for the duration of work.

The health, safety, and well-being of the school and the local community is our highest priority. Please be assured that the removal of this material will not pose a risk to the local community.

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work. We will continue to keep the community updated.

For more information contact:

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