

Cawdor Public School

Works notification | 9 February 2026

Dear staff, parents and carers,

Access to the school's water supply outlet has been restored and can now be safely used by students and staff.

The health, safety, and wellbeing of all members of our school and local community remain our highest priorities.

On Saturday 18 October 2025, Cawdor Public School replaced its existing potable water tanks with a larger in-ground tank system. In late December 2025, concerns were reported regarding the smell and colour of the potable water tank.

Investigations were undertaken and it was identified that the most likely cause was related to nearby trees causing the smell and colour in the potable water tank. Further investigations and remediation works were then scheduled.

During this investigation, recent water testing was conducted on Thursday 22 January 2026, during the summer school holidays and identified the presence of E. coli in the following locations:

- water system in Building B.
- water tank system.

As a precaution, the drinking water supply was immediately isolated. Bottled water was delivered to the school on Thursday 22 January 2026 in preparation for staff and students to return on Day 1 Term 1 2026.

Licensed and qualified contractors attended site on Friday 23 January 2026 and Monday 26 January 2026 to carry out remediation works. This work included draining, cleaning, treating and thoroughly flushing the water tank.

Once completed, fresh water was delivered to the school site on Tuesday 27 January 2026. Re-testing of the affected water supply was done by our independent hygienist to ensure the water is safe and meets [Australian Drinking Water Guidelines](#).

Access to the school's water supply outlet has now been restored and can be safely used by students and staff.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact the NSW Department of Education.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding during this important work.



Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 1300 482 651
schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au