

Ettalong Public School

Works notification | 10 September 2024

Dear staff, parents, and carers,

On 2 September 2024, 2 fragments of material suspected to contain asbestos were found near the Out of School Hours Care (OOSHC) demountable (Building K) and the western oval at Ettalong Public School.

The area where the fragments were found was immediately fenced off and made inaccessible to students and staff. An independent hygienist was engaged to undertake testing, provide advice and inspect the site for any other visible fragments.

Testing has confirmed the fragments contained bonded asbestos which means it was attached to other materials such as tiles or cement and cannot be crumbled by light pressure.

NSW Health explains that if bonded asbestos is mixed with cement or other hard bonding materials, and in good condition, it is likely to be low-risk.

The school has a site-specific asbestos management plan for asbestos found in-ground. The fragments were found in an area not listed on this plan. The school's site-specific asbestos management plan will be updated to include this find.

On 2 September 2024, the hygienist removed several other fragments. The area was cleared of debris and inspected by the independent hygienist to ensure no other fragments remained present.

The hygienist has recommended new turf be laid to ensure good ground cover to encapsulate the area. The area will remain fenced off until this work is completed, and a clearance certificate is received.

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

The health, safety and wellbeing of the school and the local community is our highest priority.

If you have any questions about this work, please contact the NSW Department of Education on the details below.

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.



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