

Fairfield Public School

Works notification | 30 April 2025

Dear staff, parents and carers,

The school holidays are the ideal time to complete maintenance and project work across the state without disrupting learning.

During planned work on the stormwater drainage at Fairfield Public School on Thursday 24 April, suspected asbestos-containing fragments were found near 2 trenches and a stockpile of dirt as part of the excavation.

Work immediately stopped and we engaged an independent hygienist to collect the fragment for testing, undertake air monitoring and advise on remediation. The stockpile was covered with geofabric. All areas were fenced off when works started during the school holidays and remains out of bounds.

Testing results

Testing has confirmed that the fragment contained bonded asbestos.

NSW Health explains that "living or working with asbestos, or just being around it, is a low risk to your health as long as the asbestos is in good condition and not damaged".

Air monitoring across the site has returned results below the minimum detectable limit, which means it is consistent with acceptable levels in ambient air (i.e. <0.01 fibres/mL) as per SafeWork NSW guidelines. These results show that there is not a detectable level of asbestos fibres in the air in this area.

This location is not in an area identified on the school's site-specific asbestos management plan (SSAMP). The SSAMP will be updated to include this recent find as required.

The hygienist returned to inspect the site on Monday 28 April and collected further samples for testing. We are awaiting the results of the testing and advice from the hygienist on next steps.

We will keep the community updated.

All work will be done in accordance with work health and safety laws and the NSW Department of Education's Asbestos Management Plan. Safety measures will be in place while work is being done. All work will be completed by licensed asbestos contractors and inspected by independent hygienists.

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

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.



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