

Fingal Head Public School

Works notification | 5 February 2025

Dear staff, parents and carers,

We are pleased to announce that we upgraded a walkway during the Summer School Holidays between Building A and Administration Building C at Fingal Head Public School.

Removal of hazardous material

Part of this work involved excavating a section of soil in preparation for laying concrete for the walkway. The area is known to contain bonded asbestos as listed on the school's Site-Specific Asbestos Management Plan.

After heavy rainfall, fragments of building material were found in the excavated soil.

We engaged an independent hygienist to test the fragments and inspect the area for further fragments.

Test results confirmed the fragments 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".

Specialist contractors encapsulated the asbestos-containing soil with geo-fabric in an area between Building C and the boundary fence. As an extra precaution a plastic sheet was added on top of the geo-fabric.

Access to the area, including the access gate from Letitia Road near Building C, was restricted with temporary construction fencing.

The temporary fencing will remain in place until the soil is removed. Students and staff can access the school through the gate next to Building A until work is finished.

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

The soil with asbestos-containing material will be removed from school grounds by specialist contractors.

Work on the walkway is finished and the area is reopened to students and staff.

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

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

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.



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