

# Iona Public School

## Works notification | 5 June 2025

Dear staff, parents and carers,

We would like to update you about work happening at Iona Public School in response to the recent wet weather.

We are currently working on urgent repairs and cleaning. We aim to have the school cleared for reoccupation as soon as possible.

For the safety of students and staff, any grassed areas affected with contaminated flood water will remain fenced off and made inaccessible.

The department will remediate the affected areas with hydrated lime.

This is a common method to clean soil and grass that have been contaminated by flood water.

Hydrated lime helps raise the pH level in the ground, which aims to disinfect and neutralise pathogens in the soil.

### **What is hydrated lime?**

Hydrated lime is a powder derived from limestone that is spread over the grass and soil. It is then watered-in to incorporate the lime into the grass and soil layers.

Hydrated lime is commonly found in hardware stores and comes with clear instructions for its appropriate use.

Landscaping contractors will apply the powder and water it into the grassed areas. This work will be completed over coming weekends between 7 am to 4 pm.

The areas treated with hydrated lime will stay closed to staff and students until the lime is fully absorbed into the soil. Following this work clearance to reopen outdoor areas will be provided by an independent hygienist.

### **More information**

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

If you would like more information about health and safety during and after floods, please visit the [NSW Health](https://www.health.nsw.gov.au) website.

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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