

Wilberforce Public School

Works notification | 17 September 2025

Dear staff, parents, and carers,

The NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) is monitoring PFAS levels at Wilberforce Public School. PFAS (per-and poly-fluoroalkyl substances) are man-made chemicals that have been widely used in firefighting, industrial and consumer products since the mid-1900s.

Soil sampling and testing conducted at the school by the RFS in July 2025 has shown that PFAS has washed from the nearby RFS site to some neighbouring properties.

Soil from the outdoor area behind Building B was identified as having elevated levels of PFAS.

This area is not used by the school community as it is out of bounds, however as a precaution, has been fenced off until remediation of the soil can be completed in late 2025 and early 2026.

Soil in other areas across school have also been tested and no elevated levels of PFAS were found. All other areas at the school have been cleared to remain open for normal school use.

In coming months, the RFS will conduct further testing in the area behind Building B and will be making changes to their site to prevent the issue from reoccurring.

The management and remediation of PFAS at the school will occur in strict accordance with work, health and safety laws, and NSW Health guidance.

If you would like further information on PFAS visit the EPA website: [PFAS in NSW | EPA](https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/Your-environment/Chemicals/PFAS-in-NSW) via the URL: <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/Your-environment/Chemicals/PFAS-in-NSW>

You can also contact the NSW EPA on 131 555 if you have questions.

We will continue to provide you with updates on PFAS remediation work at the school as more information becomes available.

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.

