

# Wilcannia Central School

## Works notification | 4 July 2024

Dear staff, parents and carers,

We wish to notify you of 2 separate asset related incidents requiring maintenance.

### **Bonded asbestos found near the COLA**

During recent plumbing repair works on 3 June 2024, suspected bonded asbestos was identified on a sewer cover on the grounds near the COLA at Wilcannia Central School.

Following the find, an independent hygienist was engaged to provide advice and the sewer lid was secured and encapsulated. The sewer cover was suspected to contain 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.

As a precautionary measure, work to remove the asbestos material was completed outside of school hours on Wednesday 3 July 2024. Work was done under the supervision of an independent hygienist with additional safety measures and air monitoring in place before the work started.

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.

### **Mould identified in the Administration Building**

Mould was identified by a staff member in the paper storeroom on 5 May 2024 and in a staff toilet on 26 June 2024 in the Administration Building. The storeroom and toilet were cordoned off, and an independent hygienist was engaged to provide advice. The areas will be environmentally cleaned, and all mould affected materials removed on 3 July 2024.

Following the work, an independent hygienist will inspect the rooms to ensure all affected areas can be re-opened.

All work involving hazardous materials will take place with additional safety measures, including air monitoring, while work is underway. All works will be conducted in accordance with recommendations from the independent hygienist.

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.

