

Kahibah Public School

Works notification | 7 August 2024

Dear staff, parents, carers, and neighbours,

On Friday 2 August 2024, fragments of suspected asbestos-containing material were identified on the playground near Building A at Kahibah Public School.

The affected area was taped off and made out of bounds for students and staff. An independent hygienist was engaged, and the fragments were removed for testing. This area is identified on the school's Site-Specific Asbestos Management Plan (SSAMP).

Testing results confirmed the presence of 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 if bonded asbestos is mixed with cement or other hard bonding materials, and in good condition, it is likely to be low-risk.

Air monitoring was installed on 2 August. Fencing was put up on 5 August and will remain in place until the area is cleared to be reopened.

All air monitoring to date 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.

The hygienist will clear the ground, inspect the playground and surrounding areas outside of school hours on Saturday 10 August 2024. A clearance certificate will be issued before the affected area is reopened for use.

The ongoing use of the area will continue to be managed and monitored, including regular inspections after heavy rain.

All work involving asbestos-containing materials will take place outside of school hours, with additional safety measures and monitoring in place.

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.

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.

