Dear staff and parents/carers,

On Wednesday 15 May 2024, during a routine inspection at Marks Point Public School, damage to walls in a classroom and 4 storerooms in Building E was identified.

The material in these walls contains bonded asbestos, as per the school's asbestos register, which means it is 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.

Following the inspection, the rooms were immediately vacated, locked, and made out of bounds from students and staff. An independent hygienist was engaged to provide advice.

Based on the hygienist's recommendations, work to repair and secure the wall material has been planned for Saturday 25 May 2024. An alternative classroom space has been arranged until the repair works are completed.

Work will be done under the supervision of an independent hygienist with additional safety measures and air monitoring in place before the work starts.

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.

Following the repair work, the rooms will be inspected by the independent hygienist and the school will receive a clearance certificate before the rooms are reopened for use.

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

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.

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