

Dear staff and parents/carers,

On Monday 8 April, following recent heavy rain, a fragment of cement material suspected to contain asbestos was found in the grass in the car park extension at Oatlands Public School. The area was fenced off and made out of bounds.

Oatlands Public School has a site-specific asbestos management plan for known asbestos in-ground. As part of ongoing management under this plan, inspections are required following heavy rain events. The fragment was found in an area listed on this plan.

The material was removed for testing during the Autumn School Holidays.

Testing confirmed that the fragment contained bonded asbestos, which means it was attached to other materials such as cement or vinyl 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.

The area has now been inspected by an independent hygienist to ensure that there are no more fragments remaining. The school received a clearance certificate and the area has been reopened.

All work involving asbestos containing materials took place during the Autumn School Holidays.

Work was done in accordance with work, health and safety laws and the NSW Department of Education's Asbestos Management Plan. All work was completed by licensed and accredited asbestos contractors and monitored by occupational hygienists in strict accordance with all applicable legislation, regulations, policies, and guidelines.

The health, safety and wellbeing of the school and the local community are our highest priority.

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

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.

**NSW Department of Education, School Infrastructure**

Email: [schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au)

Phone: 1300 482 651

[www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au](http://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au)