Fennell Bay Public School Works notification | 19 February 2025

Dear staff, parents and carers,

Since our last update in <u>November 2024</u>, works are progressing to schedule for the remediation of outdoor areas at Fennell Bay Public School.

This remediation relates to residual lead-containing material and in-ground asbestos.

The department is working with the independent environmental specialist on managing the ongoing requirements for the school, including landscaping, to provide ground cover of the soil.

Tender update

The tender for landscaping works was awarded last year, and we are currently completing the final stages of the Remediation Action Plan (RAP). We are aiming for the final stages of landscaping and remediation to be completed by mid 2025.

Recent works

Landscaping and remediation were undertaken in the recent Summer Holiday period and included in-ground asbestos remediation on the eastern side of the school near Boomerang Mountain. This area will remain fenced off within the construction zone until all landscaping is completed by mid 2025.

The western playing field was temporarily reopened with interim turfing in place at the beginning of 2024. This area has been fenced off again from Term 1 2025, to allow for the permanent remediation to occur. Alternative open play spaces are available in the central quadrangle and southeastern playing field.

Current safety measures

New silt barriers have been installed within the construction areas on the western and eastern playing fields to prevent erosion and water runoff.

Works are being supervised by the environmental specialist with dust mitigation and air monitoring in place.

Next steps

Ongoing work includes:

- · remediation works in the western playing field
- capping and adding a layer of geofabric to secure the soil across the eastern and western fields.





Once this happens, fresh topsoil and natural turf will be laid in the western playing field and the eastern playing field area near Boomerang Mountain.

Please see below map for locations:



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

If you have any questions about the work, please contact us on the details below.

More information

For information on environmental and health impacts of lead, see the <u>webpage from the</u> Australian Government Department of Climate Change, the Environment and Water.

For more information about managing lead in the Lake Macquarie region <u>please visit the EPA</u> website.



