

# Irrawang Public School

Works notification | 12 May 2023

Dear staff and parents/carers,

Last year, School Infrastructure NSW successfully completed remediation work at Irrawang Public School due to fire damage, including work addressing asbestos containing materials.

Maintenance and repair work included a full internal environmental clean of all damaged buildings, which included Buildings O and K. The Thou Walla Community Centre demountable unit was also replaced.

Extensive testing and monitoring were put in place by an independent occupational hygienist at the time, and the school received a clearance certificate confirming all areas were safe for reuse.

As part of regular maintenance activities at the school, we have identified further work within the shipping container used as storage and the garden shed next to the Community Centre. We will be conducting this work under asbestos management conditions as an added precaution.

The area has been cordoned off and air monitoring is in place. Work to remediate the shipping container and the garden shed will take place over two consecutive Saturdays, starting on **Saturday 13 May** and expected to be completed by **Saturday 20 May 2023**.

Most of the remediation work will be done by hand by workers who will enter and exit the work areas wearing Personal Protective Equipment. A decontamination structure will be put in place on Saturday 13 May. All work involving asbestos containing materials will take place outside of school hours, with additional safety measures and monitoring in place before work starts.

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

All air monitoring conducted to date continues to return results below the minimum detection limit (i.e. <0.01fibres/mL). These results are consistent with air monitoring conducted in the same area of the school during last year's remediation work.

As an added precaution, the water tank next to the Thou Community Centre demountable, which is not part of the school's drinking water supply and used to water the garden, will be unavailable for use until the remediation work is complete. The water in the tank will be drained and tested for contaminants. The independent occupational hygienist will provide further recommendations on whether any further remediation measures are needed.

All areas will be inspected by an independent hygienist to confirm they have been fully remediated, and the school will receive a clearance certificate before the areas are reopened and the water tank used.

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.

