Hastings Public School Works notification | 11 March 2024

Dear staff and parents/carers,

On Wednesday 28 February 2024, the school community was advised about an incident that took place on the previous weekend at Hastings Public School. The incident resulted in broken windows in a Year 4 classroom in Building 3.

Students and staff were relocated to the hall for face-to-face learning and the classroom was made out of bounds.

On inspection it was observed that the windows contained a putty (a window seal material) that may contain asbestos. The windows were immediately boarded up and the room locked and made inaccessible to students and staff. We engaged an independent hygienist to inspect the putty and organise a sample for testing.

Testing results received on Thursday 7 March 2024 confirmed the putty contains asbestos.

Work to remove the windows and remediate the affected areas will take place on Saturday 16 March 2024. All work involving asbestos containing materials will take place outside of school hours.

The room will remain inaccessible with additional safety measures, including air monitoring, put in place before the work starts.

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 room will be inspected by an independent hygienist to confirm it has been fully remediated, and the school will receive a clearance certificate before the new windows are installed.

We anticipate the new windows will be installed on Monday 18 March 2024 and that students and staff will be able to return to the classroom on Tuesday 19 March 2024. Until then, the Year 4 class will continue their learning in the hall.

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.

