

# Storm damage to some Port Macquarie schools

## Works notification | 7 February 2023

Dear staff and parents/carers,

The Department is coordinating an emergency response effort following the storm over the weekend that damaged several trees at Hastings Secondary College Westport Campus, and Port Macquarie Public School. Wind damage also affected Hastings Secondary College Port Macquarie Campus, and Tacking Point Public School. There was no significant damage to the schools.

Arborists have been working on the schools over the weekend to assess the level of tree damage and ensure the safety of students and staff. Arborists have removed all tree material deemed a risk to staff, students and school infrastructure.

Most of the walkways and grounds have been cleaned and the schools remain open. Some areas of each school will remain cordoned off until all work is completed. Some windows were broken in some schools during the storm, causing minor water damage. Dehumidifiers and dryers have been running over the weekend to remove any moisture.

There was a power outage at Tacking Point Public School and a generator was installed over the weekend to maintain the canteen fridges. The power was reinstated before school started on Monday 6 February 2023.

Remediation works are expected to be finished on Tuesday 7 February 2023. Safety measures and monitoring will remain in place until maintenance is completed.

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.

