

Mary Brooksbank School

Works notification | 19 June 2026

Dear staff, parents and carers,

Thank you for your patience and understanding as Mary Brooksbank School continues to work with the NSW Department of Education to address water leaks and undertake mould remediation.

We are working with the contractors and independent hygienists to clean, repair and return your classrooms to operation. We appreciate that closing rooms and reorganising timetables can be challenging due to disruptions in routines and teaching environments.

The NSW Department of Education is guided by the expert advice of the independent hygienist and will follow the advice provided by them.

The health, safety, and wellbeing of all members of our school and the local community are always the NSW Department of Education's highest priorities.

NSW Health advises that mould spores are present virtually everywhere, both indoors and outdoors, and mould is part of a group of very common organisms called fungi that also include mushrooms and yeast.

Preventative measures advised by [NSW Health](#) can help to avoid mould growth including maximising natural ventilation by opening windows and doors where possible outside of school hours, and using mechanical ventilation such as dehumidifiers as needed.

For more information, refer to the [Mould and mildew factsheet](#) and [Mould at work](#) from SafeWork NSW.

Should you identify mould in your school, you must immediately:

- Notify the [Incident Report and Support Hotline](#) on 1800 811 523 or via the [digital WHS incident report form](#)
- Log the mould growth on [FMWeb](#).

Timeline

Below we have included a timeline of the work so far completed at Mary Brooksbank School in 2026.

Possum

On Monday 2 March 2026 mould was found on the carpet of the Possum classroom.

The carpet and underflooring were removed by Saturday 7 March 2026. This was followed by environmental cleaning and an inspection and air monitoring by the independent hygienist on Wednesday 11 March 2026. We notified the school community of this work on [11 March 2026](#).

The Possum classroom was cleared by the independent hygienist on Friday 20 March 2026 and returned to operation.



Platypus

On Monday 2 March 2026 the Platypus classroom was closed due to a mould-like smell.

Additional hygienist inspections found mould on a wall on Wednesday 11 March 2026.

Environmental cleaning and air scrubbing began on Saturday 14 March 2026 and was completed on Tuesday 17 March 2026. The school community was notified of this work on [17 March 2026](#).

The hygienist completed a final inspection on Wednesday 18 March 2026 before providing clearance and the Platypus classroom was operational on Friday 20 March 2026.

Bilby and Kangaroo

On Friday 1 May 2026 mould was found due to a leaking water heater in a Building C storeroom connected to the Bilby and Kangaroos classrooms.

The school community was notified of the mould and closure of the classrooms on [4 May 2026](#).

We provided detail on all required cleaning and repair work on [8 May 2026](#) and an update on [26 May 2026](#).

New vinyl flooring has been laid in the Kangaroo classroom and is currently being installed in the Bilby classroom. The Kangaroo classroom received a clearance certificate to reopen on Wednesday 16 June 2026.

Work in the Bilby classroom will be completed over the weekend of Saturday 20 June and Sunday 21 June 2026.

It is expected the Bilby classroom will be available to use by Monday 22 June 2026 following final tidy up and set up of the classrooms. The attached bathroom will undergo a planned upgrade during the July school holidays. The practical activities area will have new vinyl installed by Friday 26 June 2026.

Banksia and Grevillea

A mould-like odour was reported in the Banksia and Grevillea classrooms on Friday 29 May 2026. The school community was notified on [4 June 2026](#).

As a precautionary measure the classrooms were closed to students and staff to allow for carpet replacement and environmental cleaning. This work took place between Thursday 4 June 2026 and Friday 12 June 2026.

As a temporary measure to allow the rooms to return to operation, carpet tiling has been installed in both classrooms.

Both classrooms received clearance certificates from the hygienist on Wednesday 17 June 2026. They are now available for operation.

The department has committed to installing vinyl flooring in this space during the upcoming school holiday period.

Schoolwide testing

Due to the mould concerns raised dating back to March 2026, the department engaged an independent hygienist to complete testing across the entire school during the weekend of Saturday 6 June to Monday 8 June 2026 as a precautionary measure only.

Results of that testing have begun to be provided to the department by the independent hygienist.

The below rooms have been closed following the schoolwide testing results and the advice of the independent hygienist.

Melaleuca, Koala and Kookaburra

On 9 June 2026, following the results of the schoolwide testing, the Melaleuca, Koala and Kangaroo classrooms were closed as a precaution.

The installation of new flooring took place in the Melaleuca and Koala classrooms and the independent hygienist clearance was received on Wednesday 17 June 2026.

The Kookaburra classroom requires additional sub-floor work which is underway. Once this work is completed and new flooring has been installed it will be inspected by the independent hygienist.

It is expected the Kookaburra classroom will be operational by the end of June 2026.

Wattle, Waratah and Dingo

On Wednesday 17 June 2026, the independent hygienist advised that the withdrawal room in Wattle classroom, the storeroom in Waratah classroom and the laundry and teaching space in Dingo classroom were confirmed for mould. The school has restricted these spaces temporarily so that hard surface cleaning and other remediation work can be completed. This work started on Thursday 18 June 2026 and expected to be completely Friday 19 June 2026.

Additional rooms

Further results have been received following the June schoolwide testing. Following updated hygienist advice we have begun cleaning and air scrubbing six additional rooms including:

- A withdrawal space and toilet in Bottlebrush
- An electrical distribution board room
- The sports storeroom
- The laundry in Platypus
- Platypus classroom
- Possum classroom

As a result of the additional work, the hygienist will return to check on the rooms and undertake a final inspection and clearance certificate.

Ongoing work and inspections

As a precaution, the school will remain non-operational for the remainder of this week while investigations and any required works continue. The school will communicate directly with parents and carers regarding teaching and learning arrangements during this period.

The department is continuing to work with contractors and independent hygienists to return all rooms to operation by the end of June 2026.

Further testing is a routine part of the investigation process and helps ensure any required works are accurately identified and addressed.

Existing control measures remain in place, including restricted access to the affected areas and ongoing management in accordance with the hygienist's advice. The department will continue to follow the recommendations of the independent hygienist and keep the school community informed as investigations progress.

If you have any questions about this work, you can contact School Infrastructure during business hours on the contact details below. Please note our community phone and email are staffed Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm.

Thank you for your understanding and support during this important work.