

Bondi Public School

Community Update

9 November 2022

Project overview

In May 2022, fragments of asbestos containing material were found on the lower playground at Bondi Public School. School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) engaged an independent occupational hygienist to inspect the site. The inspection involved a surface assessment and testing below ground across a series of test pits.

The hygienist confirmed there was no further asbestos containing material on the surface, however the testing below the surface found contamination was present. As a result, the area was cordoned off to students, staff and visitors. Air monitoring was undertaken during this work, with results below the detectable limit. Air monitoring is a control measure to detect whether any asbestos fibres have become airborne during works. The hygienist subsequently provided a clearance certificate.

SINSW then engaged the hygienist to develop a comprehensive Remediation Action Plan (RAP), which outlines the work needed to appropriately manage the sub surface contaminants.

The project will involve remediating the grounds on the lower playground at Bondi Public School by encapsulation. Work is planned to be completed during the summer school holidays.

Remediation works

SINSW has determined that the 6-week summer break would allow sufficient time for contractors to complete the remediation works without disrupting usual school operations.

The area to be remediated will be cordoned off and safety measures will be implemented including fencing and installing air monitors before works start. The RAP states that air monitoring is not required for work that does not involve removing friable asbestos. However, as a precaution and to ensure the health and safety of students, staff and our neighbours, air monitoring will be in place for the duration of the works.

The site will remain out of bounds to students and staff until remediation is completed.

All asbestos containing material will be encapsulated in accordance with the advice from the independent hygienist. The independent hygienist will conduct monitoring and testing once daily and access to the school will be strictly limited.

The remediation of the area will be undertaken in accordance 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.

Once the area has been fully remediated, the independent hygienist will provide a clearance certificate confirming it is safe to re-open the areas for students and staff to use from Term 1 2023.

For more information contact:

School Infrastructure NSW
Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 1300 482 651
www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au

We will provide an update to the community before the end of Term 4 and again when works are completed.

The health, safety, and wellbeing of the school and the local community is our highest priority. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this important work.

If you have any questions regarding the remediation works at Bondi Public School, please contact School Infrastructure NSW on 1300 482 651 or email schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au.

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