

Cessnock High School

Works notification | 18 December 2025

Dear staff, parents, and carers,

In January 2025, Cessnock High School was severely damaged during a major storm. Since then, we have been working hard to repair the damage and return full functionality to the school. We thank the school community for their patience and support during this time.

Following on from our last notification issued in [July 2025](#) we are providing an update on the work we have delivered to date and the upcoming enhancements to address the storm damage.

Progress summary

The January 2025 storm created significant damage to blocks C and H. Most notably the roof of the hall was blown off.

We worked throughout January to ensure the school was operational for Day 1 Term 1. The works included removing the damaged hall roof and covered outdoor learning area (COLA), replacing the damaged ceilings and partially replacing the roof in Block C. We also established a temporary canteen, relocated the Physical Education (PE) staffroom, and cleared trees and debris from the grounds.

Since then, we have made more permanent improvements throughout the year:

- Term 1
 - replaced the support unit shade sails
 - installed air conditioning in the temporary PE staff room in Block D.
- Term 2
 - replaced the hall roof which was ready for the start of Term 2
 - remediated mould in Block H.
- Term 3
 - replaced damaged windows in Block C
 - refurbished the canteen in Block H
 - repaired the mechanical services in the hall.

Upcoming hall, canteen and walkway repairs

The next stage of works to repair the internal school hall and other elements of Building H started on Friday 5 December 2025 and will continue over the summer holidays.

These works include:

- Internal repair and wall cleaning
- Replacing the internal ceiling lining featuring red cedar panelling
- Replacing the wooden sports flooring featuring spotted gum floorboards
- Installing underfloor ventilation systems

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- Replacing the damaged audio and visual assets and electrical equipment
- Structural and pier repairs to ensure the building's stability
- Repairing the external awnings and eave linings
- Replacing the awning on the eastern perimeter
- Repairing and installing adjacent walkway awnings
- Replacing the adjacent canteen eave linings

Temporary fencing will be in place while works are underway. As a precaution the hall will remain closed during Term 1 2026 until repairs are finished.

We are working closely with school leadership to ensure these projects are carried out efficiently with minimal disruption to the school community.

Repairs to the hall, canteen and nearby walkways are expected to be finished by late April 2026, subject to weather and other conditions.

Design and construction of the covered outdoor learning area (COLA) will start in 2026.

Construction impacts

There may be some noise while work is taking place. We are committed to managing noise in line with regulatory requirements and will make every effort to ensure works are carried out safely and efficiently with minimal disruption to the community.



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Work hours

Work hours are 7 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday. No work will take place on Sundays or public holidays. The project may require the occasional Saturday for additional works to be completed.

If you have any questions about this work, please contact the NSW Department of Education on the details below.

The health, safety and wellbeing of all members of our school and the local community are our highest priorities.

Thank you for your understanding during this important work.