

Wyong High School

Works notification | 2 June 2023

Dear staff and parents/carers,

We are completing school maintenance work at Wyong High School that involves working with asbestos containing material, under the advice of an independent occupational hygienist. This notification is to provide an update on the work underway, as well as some work in planning.

Remediation in Building H: Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 June

During a recent routine inspection at Wyong High School, we identified a small hole in the ceiling lining in a classroom in Building H.

As a precaution, we immediately cordoned off the classroom and engaged an independent occupational hygienist to conduct testing as per the Department of Education's protocols on the management of asbestos in schools.

Air monitoring was installed on 15 May 2023 as a precaution and has returned results below the minimum detection limit (i.e. <0.01 fibres/ml). Subsequent samples collected by the hygienist confirmed the ceiling lining as bonded asbestos, which means it is attached to other material such as cement or vinyl and cannot be crumbled by light pressure.

Based on recommendations from the hygienist, we isolated the remaining rooms in Building H and will conduct an environmental clean of all rooms between Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 June 2023.

We will also undertake further precautionary work to seal the hole in the ceiling lining.

Once this work is complete, the hygienist will inspect the area and issue the school with a clearance certificate so the area can be reopened to staff and students.

Window replacement: Saturday 3 June

This weekend we are replacing two damaged windows, in the staff room in Building C and in the library in Building D. This work will involve working with asbestos containing material in the window frame.

The rooms are being safely used at present as the damaged windows are covered up and the frames are undisturbed.

Remediation of covered Walkway 3 and Building F: Saturday 3 June

During due diligence inspections at Wyong High School, asbestos containing material was identified in the cladding on the covered walkway 3 between Buildings B and F and on the cladded parapet on the edge of Building F's roof.



The material is confirmed to be bonded asbestos, which means it is attached to other material such as cement or vinyl and cannot be crumbled by light pressure. The walkway is being safely used at present as the cladding sheets are undisturbed. It will be cordoned off before the work starts.

As an added precaution, monitoring is currently in place in both areas.

Following recommendations from the independent hygienist, the cladding will be encapsulated on Saturday 3 June 2023. It will be removed from site during the upcoming July school holidays to minimise disruption to teaching and learning.

Additional testing in the Library

A fragment found on the floor of the library was inspected and tested negative for asbestos containing material. However, we engaged an independent occupational hygienist to conduct additional testing in other areas of the library as an added precaution.

This testing has confirmed no asbestos containing material is present in the sampled areas.

Preparation for Building A roof replacement work

In preparation for roof replacement work in Building A, the roof cavity is being tested by the independent hygienist. If required, remediation work will take place during the July school holidays to prevent any disruptions to learning.

Managing work involving asbestos containing materials

All work detailed above involving asbestos containing materials will take place outside of school hours, with additional safety measures and monitoring in place before the work starts.

Work will be done in accordance with 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.

If remediation is required, following work all areas will be inspected by the independent hygienist to confirm they have been fully remediated. The school will receive a clearance certificate before they are reopened, or maintenance work continues.

The health, safety, and wellbeing of the school and the local community is our highest priority, and we will continue to keep the community informed.

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.

