

Belmont High School

Works notification | 27 February 2024

Dear staff and parents/carers,

This update is to outline action taken at Belmont High School since Friday 16 February 2024, when following heavy rain, fragments of suspected asbestos containing material were identified on the ground near the southwest school boundary.

This school has a site-specific asbestos management plan in place due to known asbestos containing material in the ground. Following the find the area was immediately fenced off. Air monitoring was installed on Saturday 17 February 2024. An independent hygienist was engaged, who removed fragments for testing, inspected the area and cleared the ground.

Testing confirmed the fragments contained asbestos which means it was attached to other materials such as tiles or cement and cannot be crumbled by light pressure. NSW Health explains that if bonded asbestos is mixed with cement or other hard bonding materials, and in good condition, it is likely to be low risk.

The fencing and air monitoring will remain in place until the area has been cleared to be reopened by the independent hygienist, who will also be reviewing the site-specific management plan for the school.

All work involving asbestos containing materials took place outside of school hours, with additional safety measures and monitoring in place.

Work was done in accordance with work, health and safety laws and the NSW Department of Education's Asbestos Management Plan. All work has been completed by licensed and accredited asbestos contractors and monitored by occupational hygienists in strict accordance with all applicable legislation, regulations, policies, and guidelines.

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

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.

