

Dear staff and parents/carers,

During a routine inspection at Belmont High School, damage to ceiling linings in 2 locked storerooms in Building E were identified.

The material in the storeroom ceiling linings was suspected to contain bonded asbestos. Following the inspection these rooms were isolated from students and staff, and an independent hygienist was engaged.

Testing occurred on 24 May 2024 and confirmed the material in the ceiling linings contained bonded asbestos, which means it is 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.

Work to remove the material has been scheduled to take place outside of school hours on Saturday 22 June 2024.

Work will be done under the supervision of an independent hygienist with additional safety measures and air monitoring in place before the work starts.

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

The storerooms will be inspected by the independent hygienist to confirm they have been fully remediated, and a clearance certificate will be issued before the rooms are reopened.

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

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.

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