

Hunter River High School

Works notification | 28 November 2023

Dear staff and parents/carers,

Electrical work was conducted on the top level of Building G at Hunter River High School, with the installation of two lights in the external movement area, near the stair wells. Work was finished on Monday 20 November 2023.

When the work was finished SINSW reviewed the works and identified that the contractor had installed the lights using a method different to established departmental work practice when working with ceiling sheeting that is known to contain asbestos, as identified in the school's asbestos register.

On Wednesday 22 November 2023 an independent occupational hygienist was engaged and as a precaution, the top floor stair wells were cordoned off. This means there was no access to the four teaching spaces and staff study on this floor until remediation was finished.

Air monitoring was installed and in place from Wednesday. All air monitoring results are below the minimum detectable limit, which means it is consistent with acceptable levels in ambient air (i.e. <0.01 fibres/mL) as per SafeWork NSW guidelines.

The area was remediated on Thursday 23 November 2023 in accordance with SafeWork NSW regulations and the NSW Department of Education's Asbestos Management Plan. All work was completed by licensed and accredited independent asbestos contractors and monitored by occupational hygienists in strict accordance with all applicable legislation, regulations, policies and guidelines.

On Friday 24 November 2023 the area was inspected, and the school received a clearance certificate from the independent occupational hygienist. The top floor of Building G was reopened.

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 understanding during this important work.

