

Asquith Boys High School

Works notification | 8 April 2025

Dear staff, parents and carers,

On Tuesday 1 April 2025, during a routine inspection, we identified geological samples no longer used for teaching at Asquith Boys High School.

Some of these small rock and mineral samples are assumed to contain naturally occurring bonded asbestos. NSW Health explains that 'living or working with asbestos, or just being around it, is a low risk to your health as long as the asbestos is in good condition and not damaged'.

These mineral samples were used historically as learning aids and were secured inside sample boxes in a cupboard within the science preparation storeroom in the Science Block. This locked science storeroom is only accessed by staff.

An independent hygienist was engaged who sorted through the undisturbed samples, identified asbestos items and secured them in a storage area isolated from the school community.

Asbestos resurvey program

We are undertaking proactive sampling across the state as part of a program to identify any materials that may contain asbestos material. On completion of the program, the department's asbestos registers will be updated to reflect any changes. This initiative is part of our ongoing commitment to providing safe school facilities across NSW.

We will be removing these geological samples outside of school hours on Thursday 10 April 2025.

During the removal, air monitoring will be in place and the storage area will be inspected by an independent hygienist before it is reopened for use.

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 asbestos contractors and inspected by an independent hygienist.

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

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

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.

Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au
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