

Lucas Heights Community School

Community Update

12 December 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

Works to remove and safely dispose of contaminated soil at Lucas Heights Community School will start on 19 December 2022 and are expected to finish before 27 January 2023. The two staff development days on 19 and 20 December have been arranged to be off the school site, and the summer school holiday period means there will not be any students or staff on site during the works.

The works are part of a comprehensive Remediation Action Plan (RAP), developed between School Infrastructure NSW, an independent hygienist, and the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

The project will involve remediating the grounds at Lucas Heights Community School adjacent to New Illawarra Road and the areas between the primary and secondary school (between Block Q and Block A in the primary school and Block M in the secondary school).

The area to be remediated will be cordoned off and safety measures will be implemented including dust suppression, truck washing, fencing, and installing air monitors before works start. Air monitoring is a control measure to detect whether any asbestos fibres have become airborne during the remediation works. The site will remain out of bounds to students and staff until remediation is completed.

All asbestos containing material will be removed in accordance with the advice of the independent hygienist and in accordance SafeWork NSW regulations and the NSW Department of Education's Asbestos Management Plan. The independent hygienist will conduct monitoring and testing twice daily and access to the school will be strictly limited.

All work will be completed by licensed and accredited asbestos contractors between 7am and 5pm Monday to Friday, and 7am to 1pm on Saturdays. No work will be carried out on Sundays.

Once the area has been fully remediated, the independent hygienist will provide a clearance certificate confirming the site can be reopened for normal operations, in time for the start of Term 1 2023. This clearance will allow works on a new landscaped playground to start, which is expected to be in Term 1 2023.

We thank students and staff for their work on developing the scope and design of the new playground. School Infrastructure NSW will work with the contractor to finalise the design.

What else is happening at the school?

Separate to this important work, we are pleased to advise that the **basketball resurfacing project** is progressing well. Concrete has been poured and the final surface will be completed once clearance has been provided for the above works, allowing the contractor to return to site. As the most popular outdoor play space at the school, we know how important the basketball courts are to students and can't wait to see them enjoying this area again soon.

We thank you for your patience and cooperation during these works and look forward to sharing regular updates with you as the above works progress.

For more information contact:

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