

Castle Hill High School

Works notification | 25 May 2023

Dear staff and parents/carers,

Further to our notification about subsoil testing on 23 May in an entrance area to the sports oval, the results of the soil testing detected a small building fragment containing bonded asbestos and a small amount of asbestos fibres within the soil. The investigation also detected an additional small building fragment in the entrance area and an additional small building fragment underneath the nearby demountable, both containing bonded asbestos.

Bonded asbestos is attached to other materials such as cement and cannot be crumbled by light pressure. Asbestos fibres are loose or contained within material such as soil. We are following all the advice and protocols of asbestos removalists, assessors, and other experts.

As previously notified, the area has been cordoned off and remediation works will take place on Saturday 27 May. The remediation will involve removing a layer of subsoil to even the ground level and then capping the area with concrete. The ground beneath the adjacent demountables will be covered by a layer of specialist geotextile material.

On Saturday, licensed contractors will carry out the remediation work in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and will exit the school in normal clothing after following safe decontamination protocols. This involves the temporary placement of a decontamination tent where contractors will remove their PPE for safe disposal.

The work will be carried out in accordance with the advice of the independent hygienist, within Work Health and Safety legislation and the Department's Asbestos Management Plan. Please be assured that all works will be completed by licensed and accredited asbestos contractors and monitored by occupational hygienists.

The health, safety, and wellbeing of the school and the local community is our highest priority. Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.

