

Callaghan College Waratah Campus

Works notification | 24 July 2024

Dear staff, students, parents and carers,

During a proactive inspection in the Winter School Holidays, damage to ceiling linings that encapsulate asbestos-containing material was identified in Buildings G and L at Callaghan College, Waratah Campus.

In Building G, the damaged ceiling lining was in an internal corridor on the upper level. In Building L, the damage was to an external wall next to a ceiling cavity that encapsulates asbestos-containing material.

The material in the ceiling cavity in these buildings is listed as friable asbestos in the school's asbestos register. Friable asbestos means it can be crumbled, pulverised, or reduced to a powder by hand pressure.

An independent hygienist was engaged to conduct testing, install air monitoring and provide advice.

As a precaution, the corridor in Building G was cordoned off and isolated from students and staff until the material could be repaired accordingly. In Building L, the damage was in an external area not usually accessed by students and staff. To avoid any disruption to learning, work to secure existing encapsulation of the ceiling cavity in these buildings was completed after school hours on 23 July 2024.

Following the work, the area was inspected by an independent hygienist and clearance was provided to reopen the affected areas. All air monitoring results to date have returned results 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.

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

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.



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