

Dear staff and parents/carers,

This notification is to inform you of works taking place in the Drama Hall and Building G at Callaghan College Waratah Campus.

Drama Hall floor repair

We are planning to repair a section of damaged timber flooring in the Drama Hall kitchen at Callaghan College Waratah Campus. To replace this section of floor we will need to work with known asbestos-containing material in the sub-floor of this building.

The sub-floor contains bonded asbestos as listed in the school's asbestos register which means it is attached to other materials such as tiles or cement and cannot be crumbled by light pressure.

NSW Health explains that if bonded asbestos is mixed with cement or other hard bonding materials, and in good condition, it is likely to be low-risk.

With the exception of a small area within the Drama Hall kitchen, which is currently blocked off due to the damaged flooring, the rest of the hall can be used until the works are completed. This is due to the sub-floor material being undisturbed and in an inaccessible location.

Work to remediate this area has been planned for Saturday 15 June 2024. The area will be isolated, cleared, and the material encapsulated with air monitoring in place.

The Drama Hall will be inspected by an independent hygienist to confirm it has been fully remediated, and a clearance certificate will be issued before the area is reopened.

Building G wall repair

A damaged wall lining was reported on 30 May 2024 in a walkway on the top floor of Building G. The wall lining in this area encapsulates an adjoining wall cavity and ceiling which contains friable asbestos as listed on the school's asbestos register. Friable asbestos can be crumbled, pulverised, or reduced to a powder by hand pressure.

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The area was immediately cordoned off, an independent hygienist was engaged, and the wall lining was repaired to secure the encapsulation outside of school hours on 31 May 2024. Following these repairs, clearance was provided by the independent hygienist on Monday 3 June to reopen the walkway for use.

Work was done under the supervision of an independent hygienist with additional safety measures and air monitoring in place before the work started.

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.

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.