

Merewether High School

Works notification | 4 April 2024

Dear staff and parents/carers,

Following a water leak from air conditioners in the Computer Lab in Building L at Merewether High School, contractors discovered vinyl tiles suspected to contain asbestos underneath the existing carpet.

Testing confirmed the vinyl tiles, which were not listed on the school's asbestos register, contain bonded asbestos. This means they were attached to other materials such as cement or vinyl and cannot be crumbled by light pressure.

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

As the vinyl tiles were undisturbed and in good condition, the flooring was secured and the area remained operational. The school's asbestos register has been updated. Work to replace the carpet and remove the vinyl tiles has now been scheduled for Saturday 6 April 2024.

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 and accredited asbestos contractors and monitored by independent hygienists in strict accordance with all applicable legislation, regulations, policies, and guidelines.

All works involving asbestos containing materials will take place outside of school hours, with additional safety measures and monitoring in place before works start.

Following the work the classroom will be inspected by the independent hygienist to confirm it has been fully remediated, and the school will receive a clearance certificate.

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.

