

Warialda High School

Works notification | 2 May 2025

Dear staff, parents and carers,

Bore water testing was recently provided by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in partnership with Gwydir Shire Council to properties in Warialda for PFAS.

PFAS (per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances) are man-made chemicals that have been widely used in industrial and consumer products since the mid-1900s.

Samples of bore water across the town and surrounding area were collected by the EPA sampling team from 8 April to 10 April 2025 and tested for the presence of PFAS.

Testing of samples collected from 2 locations returned results above the current Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. Samples were not collected from Warialda High School's bore water source.

Warialda High School uses bore water in its agricultural plot and farm. As a precaution and in consultation with the EPA, an independent hygienist completed sampling and testing of bore water at Warialda High School on Thursday 1 May 2025.

The bore water will be restricted until the test results are known and further advice will be provided at that time.

The school's drinking and handwashing facilities are connected to town water and this water can continue to be used.

The health, safety, and wellbeing of the school and the local community is our highest priority.

More information on PFAS is available through the [NSW Government PFAS webpage](#). The EPA will also host a local drop-in session for those who have questions or concerns. Details below:

Date: Tuesday 13 May

Time: 10 am-12 pm

Location: The Warialda Council Chambers, 54 Hope Street, Warialda.

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.



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