

South Sydney High School

Works notification | 2 December 2024

Dear staff, parents and carers

Following the notifications on [22 October 2024](#) and [11 November 2024](#), we would like to provide an update on the ongoing management of inground bonded asbestos at South Sydney High School.

We engaged an independent hygienist to perform weekly site-wide inspections and conduct air monitoring. Inspections started on 4 November 2024 and will continue until the end of Term 4 2024.

Since inspections started, further fragments have been discovered, removed from the site and samples taken for testing.

In each instance where fragments were found on the ground, the areas were marked with witches hats and access restricted. This did not disrupt school operations.

Some fragments have returned positive results for bonded asbestos in areas not listed on the school's Site-Specific Asbestos Management Plan (SSAMP). When this is the case, the SSAMP is updated with the new information.

NSW Health explains that "living or working with asbestos, or just being around it, is a low risk to your health as long as the asbestos is in good condition and not damaged".

All air monitoring to date across the site 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. These results represent a consistent finding that there is not a detectable level of asbestos fibres in the air in this area. Asbestos fibres pose a risk to health if airborne. In this case the evidence and advice from our hygienist is that there is not airborne asbestos in this area.

After each inspection to date, the independent hygienist was satisfied that all visible fragments from that day were removed and issued a clearance certificate to reopen the areas.

Two garden beds north east of Building H and a mound of soil north east of Building C were sprayed with a binding agent before 2 layers of geofabric material was laid to contain soil particles. In these areas, access will remain restricted until larger remediation work is complete.

If any additional fragments are found between now and the end of Term 4, we will follow the recommendations of the independent hygienist. This may include removing samples for testing and restricting access to the area until a clearance certificate is issued.

During the **Summer School Holidays**, we will conduct a detailed soil analysis to inform any future remediation requirements.



The health, safety, and wellbeing of the school and the local community is our highest priority. We will continue to keep the community updated.

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.