Riverstone High School Works notification | 29 August 2024

Dear staff, parents and carers,

The NSW Department of Education regularly inspects and maintains its assets to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our school communities.

On Tuesday 20 August 2024, during a routine inspection, ceiling damage was found in 6 classrooms, a staffroom and a storeroom in Building A and Building B at Riverstone High School.

The ceilings in these rooms were previously tested and found not to contain asbestos. However, the ceiling voids above these rooms are known to have asbestos containing material as listed on the school's asbestos register.

As a precautionary measure an independent hygienist was engaged to conduct tests, including air monitoring, and provide recommendations for the repair work.

One classroom was closed while we waited for test results and recommendations. Students and staff were temporarily relocated to other classrooms to continue their face-to-face learning.

Results confirmed the ceiling material tested did not contain asbestos.

Air monitoring returned results below the minimum detectable limit, which means it is consistent with acceptable levels in ambient air as per SafeWork NSW guidelines.

Work to repair the ceiling damage was completed out of school hours, between Tuesday 20 August and Sunday 25 August 2024.

All work was done in accordance with work, health and safety laws and the NSW Department of Education's Asbestos Management Plan.

Safety measures were in place while work was done.

All work was completed by licensed and accredited asbestos contractors and monitored by independent hygienists in strict accordance with all application legislation, regulations, policies, and guidelines.

Once work was finished, the area was inspected by the independent hygienist and a clearance certificate was issued before reopening on Monday 26 August 2024.

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

We will keep the community updated.



