

Asbestos Management



Rationale:

Asbestos is a potentially lethal material often contained in construction materials found in existing school buildings. Due to the potentially hazardous nature of asbestos, it needs to be effectively managed.

Aims:

- To provide a school environment safe from the potentially harmful effects of asbestos.
- That asbestos contained in construction materials in existing buildings is safely managed.

Implementation:

- All state school buildings have been audited for asbestos. This audit is known as the Asbestos Audit Report and identifies the presence of asbestos or any other hazardous materials.
- The school principal or delegated School Asbestos Program Manager can access their school's individual Asbestos Audit Reports at: <http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/PRMSaudit>
- Relocatable buildings moved on site since the school's Asbestos Audit Report was completed are also assessed for the presence of asbestos, and asbestos removed before being placed on site.
- Asbestos classified as a result of the Audit as Category 0 or 1 has been removed from school buildings. Any remaining asbestos in schools (ie: Categories 2 and 3) represent no danger to students or staff if properly maintained, and properly treated during the conduct of works.
- The Asbestos Audit Report is available to the school's Occupational Health and Safety representative, interested community members, employees and contractors – especially when a building or structure containing asbestos is being demolished, refurbished or altered before any action is taken to assess or control the asbestos risk.
- All staff will be made aware of, and act in accordance with, the school's Asbestos Management Plan available from the principal or the School Asbestos Program Manager.
- The School Asbestos Program Manager will be the main contact person for all asbestos matters and will assume responsibility as detailed in the school's Asbestos Management Plan.
- Prior to carrying out any construction or maintenance works, contractors are required to be provided with a copy of the Asbestos Audit Report related to that part of the building in which work is to be undertaken. If asbestos is present in the areas to be disturbed, the principal will ensure the contractor provides a Part 6 Audit prior to the commencement of work outlining procedures and controls to be implemented while working in that area in accordance with Victorian Work Cover OHS Regulations 1992 (Asbestos). At the same time a 'Hazardous Building Materials Audit' is required to be undertaken to determine levels of risk associated with lead paint PCBs etc.
- Appropriate training and record keeping will be maintained at all times.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Occupational Health & Safety representative and School Asbestos Coordinator for school council as part of the school's regular review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in October 2010