

From: [Steele, Peter](#)
To: [James, Brooke](#)
Cc: [EDU ELSO Office](#)
Subject: APPROVED : URGENT CLEARANCE: Draft letter BM principals decorative sand
Date: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:27:00 AM
Attachments: [Decorative sand recall BM Principal letter.docx](#)

Approved, thank you

Pete

From: James, Brooke <Brooke.James@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:12 AM
To: Steele, Peter <Peter.Steele@act.gov.au>
Subject: URGENT CLEARANCE: Draft letter BM principals decorative sand

OFFICIAL

Hi Pete

Sorry to send during a meeting – for urgent clearance please

With thanks,

Brooke James | Senior Director
School Operations

School Improvement Branch | Education Directorate | ACT Government
Phone: 0401 805 628 or +61 02 6205 0293 | Email: Brooke.James@act.gov.au
Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
www.education.act.gov.au

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters where we live and work and pay my respects to elders past, present and future.

Please note – this email is sent at a time that is convenient for me. No expectation of action is required outside of regular working hours.

From: Walsh, Brooke <Brooke.Walsh@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:10 AM
To: James, Brooke <Brooke.James@act.gov.au>
Subject: URGENT CLEARANCE: Draft letter BM principals decorative sand

OFFICIAL

Hi Brooke for urgent clearance please.

Brooke

From: Barges, Joanne <Joanne.Barges@act.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** EDU, COMMS
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:06 AM
To: Dance, Alex <Alex.Dance@act.gov.au>; Morton, Phillip <Phillip.Morton@act.gov.au>; Walsh, Brooke <Brooke.Walsh@act.gov.au>; Van Aalst, Sally <Sally.VanAalst@act.gov.au>; Grech, Lisa <Lisa.Grech@act.gov.au>
Cc: EDU, COMMS <educomms@act.gov.au>; EDU EBMSFM <EDU.SFMEBMOffice@act.gov.au>; Bailey, Anthony <Anthony.Bailey@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Draft letter BM principals decorative sand

OFFICIAL

Update letter attached

From: Dance, Alex <Alex.Dance@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 10:46 AM
To: Morton, Phillip <Phillip.Morton@act.gov.au>; Walsh, Brooke <Brooke.Walsh@act.gov.au>; Van Aalst, Sally <Sally.VanAalst@act.gov.au>; Grech, Lisa <Lisa.Grech@act.gov.au>
Cc: EDU, COMMS <educomms@act.gov.au>; EDU EBMSFM <EDU.SFMEBMOffice@act.gov.au>; Bailey, Anthony <Anthony.Bailey@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Draft letter BM principals decorative sand

OFFICIAL

Hi all,

This looks great. Only edit is that the alert came out late yesterday.

AD

From: Morton, Phillip <Phillip.Morton@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 10:43 AM
To: Walsh, Brooke <Brooke.Walsh@act.gov.au>; Van Aalst, Sally <Sally.VanAalst@act.gov.au>; Dance, Alex <Alex.Dance@act.gov.au>; Grech, Lisa <Lisa.Grech@act.gov.au>
Cc: EDU, COMMS <educomms@act.gov.au>; EDU EBMSFM <EDU.SFMEBMOffice@act.gov.au>; Bailey, Anthony <Anthony.Bailey@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Draft letter BM principals decorative sand
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hi Jo,

I've responded to the questions.

Regards,
Phill

Phill Morton | Senior Director | Schools Facilities Management

School Infrastructure Management | Education | ACT Government

Phone: 0447 734 021 | Email: phillip.morton@act.gov.au

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Google+](#)

From: Barges, Joanne <Joanne.Barges@act.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 10:34 AM

To: Walsh, Brooke <Brooke.Walsh@act.gov.au>; Van Aalst, Sally <Sally.VanAalst@act.gov.au>; Morton, Phillip <Phillip.Morton@act.gov.au>; Dance, Alex <Alex.Dance@act.gov.au>; Grech, Lisa <Lisa.Grech@act.gov.au>

Cc: EDU, COMMS <educomms@act.gov.au>

Subject: Draft letter BM principals decorative sand

Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hi team,

Draft for your input – might be best this is popped in TRIM for ease of edits/updates.

Phil, I added in alternate names as well and some comments for you all to review.

Jo

Joanne Barges | Director Strategic Communication

Email: joanne.barges@act.gov.au | Phone: 6205 0700 / 0422 385 853

Communications and Engagement | Education | ACT Government

www.act.gov.au/education-and-training | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

Dear Principals and Business Managers,

Yesterday an alert was issued by WorkSafe ACT about asbestos contamination in a coloured sand product imported from China and sold as Kadink Decorative Sand.

The product contains chrysotile, a type of asbestos. The risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low.

We require you to determine if you have any of this decorative sand onsite at your school and Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) settings. We ask you today liaise with any onsite OSHC provider.

We also need to know if you have previously purchased or used this product in your school, including in any arts or crafts made with sand.

What this product looks like

Below is a picture of Kadink Coloured Sand however it is also sold in smaller 10g tubes. It is used for sensory play and arts and crafts. Alternate brand names are Educational Colours - Rainbow Sand (1.3kg) and Creatistics - Coloured Sand.

The recall applies to products from 1 January 2020 - 31 October 2025.



The product is sold at several places including but not limited to Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids, Officeworks and Zart Art.

What we need you to do today

Please input into this [Microsoft Form](#) by 3pm today, 13 November to let us know if you have the product onsite or have historically used this in your school. If you do not believe you have this product in your school, please also advise us by this form.

What to do if you find this product at your school or OSHC

If you find this product in your school or OSHC setting, please do not touch it. Immediately contact EDU Incidents team by phone 6205 3313 (press 1 for incidents) or

email EDUincidents@act.gov.au who will advise next steps. This will involve a HAZMAT response from Directorate.

If you have a similar product at your school you are concerned about, please contact the EDU Incidents team.

From: [EDU, School Operations Incidents](#)

To: [Mowbray, Daniel \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Cave, Wendy \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Deeker, Cindie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Cuthbertson, Ed \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Penyu, Shelley \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Coman, Lara \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Taylor, Kathryn \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Manders, John \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Minehan, Erin \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Horan, Caitlin \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Barker, Simon \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Breen, Daniel \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Wray, Priscilla \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Davies, Benjamin \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Read, Lana \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Ford, Jacqui \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Talbot, Kirrally \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Bobos, Liz \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Flynn, Kate \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Levett, Felicity \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Turner, Rebecca \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Moloney, Sharon \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Lowrey, Deborah \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Terrell, Greg \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Pearce, Rebecca \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Bartholomew, Mitch \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Edmonds, Allison \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Pearce, Scott \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Branson, Paul \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Waters, Janine \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Ison, Julia \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Croke, Kylie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Hatswell, Michael \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Murray, Karen \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Deeker, Mark \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Aschenberger, Emma \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Henman, Lyndall \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Czoban, Amy \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Copeland, Joel \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Graham, Nicole \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Kinsman, Paula \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Murtagh, Aisling \(ACTEDU\)](#); [See, Jamal \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Andrews, Belinda \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Shaddock, Christopher \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Grant, Kristy \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Thorpe, Anna \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Howard, Jennifer \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Northey, Michelle \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Rowe, Janelle \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Booker, Kelly \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Nicholson, Nicole \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Woods, Kate \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Planten, Melissa \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Bezeal, Melanie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Downton, Brian \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Chapman, Jacqueline \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Vaughan, Simon \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Barnett, James \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Rodrigues, Laurel \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Berry, Renee \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Smith, Katie-H \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Vaughan, Jackie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Harris, Sarah \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Jones, Chris \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Priest, Jenny \(ACTEDU\)](#); [McCabe, Nina \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Selems, Melanie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Motion, Bronwyn \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Courtois, Elizabeth \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Whymark, Diana \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Radford, Peter \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Kerr-Stevens, Andrew \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Altenburg, Megan \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Antram, Christopher \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Owens, Louise \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Morthorpe, Michelle \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Malone, James \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Evans, Rohan \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Bruhwiler, Lauren \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Kent, Peter \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Hawkins, Amanda \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Holmes, Jason \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Roberts, Ben \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Dixon, Julie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Walmsley, Jason \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Stretton, Katherine \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Jefferson, Jo \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Lucas, Vicki \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Corcoran, David \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Smith, Simon \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Langler, Casey-Anne \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Briggs, David \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Marton, Patricia \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Holdway, Matthew \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Richards, Gareth \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Wilson, Anna \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Francis, Linda \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Pepper, Nathan \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Fagan, Scott \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Marshall, Kate \(ACTEDU\)](#); [McCormack, Kim \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Monsma, Barbara \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Judson, Mandy \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Lourandos, Stavroula \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Jermyn, Karen \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Roberts, Nat \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Guthrie, Grace \(ACTEDU\)](#); [McCreath, Kris \(ACTEDU\)](#); [McKellar, Fiona \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Wynne, Jennifer \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Williamson, Chelsea \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Roberts, Hayley \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Lyttle, Melissa \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Hall, Grant \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Sawyer, Belinda \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Tripp, Sherrie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Herring, Jane \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Henderson, Sara \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Tranter, Adrienne \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Leighton, Natalie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Howes, Ashley \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Champion, Dianne \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Murad, Nadia \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Sharman, Kirsten \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Kang, Calvin \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Sen, Sumana \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Cooke, Susannah \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Parr, Deborah \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Edwards, Grace \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Domigan, Mike \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Psalic, Ana \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Patterson, Karrina \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Dale, Emma \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Swiridziuk, Rebecca \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Beer, Vincenza \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Beaumaris, Sharon \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Morschel, Wendy \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Weeks, Hayden \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Bray, Lisa \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Copeland, Joel \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Wallace, Diana \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Attwood, Donna \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Chapman, Samantha \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Price, Tanya \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Brockman, Briana \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Housden, Emma \(ACTEDU\)](#); [McEvoy, Adam \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Davis, Larissa \(ACTEDU\)](#); [New, Sophie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Muffet, Emma \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Harwin, Lauren \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Rankine, Leanne \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Smith, Jason \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Duffy, Patricia \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Dayhew, Alix \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Cavalier, Jenny \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Clode, Claire \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Edwards, Haylee \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Mcarthur, AJ \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Gillett, Cheryl \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Economopoulos, Linda \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Schroder, Jessica \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Elrahman, Raed \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Storm, Kelly \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Lhendup, Yeshi \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Willey, Samantha \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Morcos, Virginia \(ACTEDU\)](#); [GHamilton, Morgan \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Morrison, Kerri \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Uttley, Jade \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Hartcher, Jennifer \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Brown, Kirsty \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Richards, Tatiana \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Street, Jenny \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Stewart, Erin \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Tancheski, Marko \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Walker, Scott \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Moktan, Keshap \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Burge, Sommai \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Clark, Kerry \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Ollerhead, Jack \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Trevillian, Abby \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Davis, Helena \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Armati, Elizabeth \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Rose, Caleb \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Websdane, Haley \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Bourke, Nigel \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Parker, Mallarie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [James, Illona \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Kazias, Despina \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Cashmere, Meryn \(ACTEDU\)](#); [O'Halloran, Shauna \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Wilson, Jodi \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Slade, Kylie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Lorkovic, Michelle \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Pachika, Meghana \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Birmingham, Stephanie \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Waterson, Tracy \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Rodriguez, Rose \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Ruhan, Nardia \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Thompson, Daniel \(ACTEDU\)](#); [Barrett, Daniel \(ACTEDU\)](#)

Cc: [EDU, School Operations Incidents](#); [BM FrontDoor](#)

Subject: FOR URGENT ACTION: Contaminated coloured sand product - Kadink Decorative Sand

Date: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:42:21 AM

Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Dear Principals and Business Managers,

Yesterday an alert was issued by WorkSafe ACT about asbestos contamination in a coloured sand product imported from China and sold as Kadink Decorative Sand.

The product contains chrysotile, a type of asbestos. The risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low.

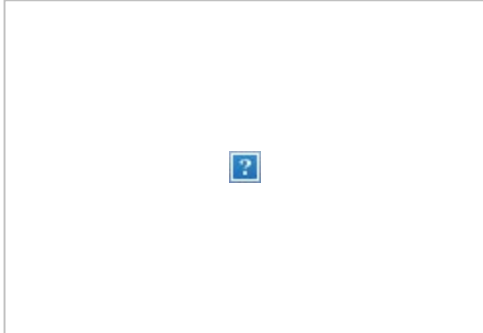
We require you to determine if you have any of this decorative sand onsite at your school and Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) settings. We ask you today liaise with any onsite OSHC provider.

We also need to know if you have previously purchased or used this product in your school, including in any arts or crafts made with sand.

What this product looks like

Below is a picture of Kadink Coloured Sand however it is also sold in smaller 10g tubes. It is used for sensory play and arts and crafts. Alternate brand names are Educational Colours - Rainbow Sand (1.3kg) and Creatistics - Coloured Sand.

The recall applies to products from 1 January 2020 - 31 October 2025.



The product is sold at several places including but not limited to Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids, Officeworks and Zart Art.

What we need you to do today

Please input into this [Microsoft Form](#) by 3pm today, 13 November to let us know if you have the product onsite or have historically used this in your school. If you do not believe you have this product in your school, please also advise us by this form.

What to do if you find this product at your school or OSHC

If you find this product in your school or OSHC setting, please do not touch it. Immediately contact EDU Incidents team by phone 6205 3313 (press 1 for incidents) or email EDUincidents@act.gov.au who will advise next steps. This will involve a HAZMAT response from Directorate.

If you have a similar product at your school you are concerned about, please contact the EDU Incidents team.

Kind regards

EDU Incidents

Email: EDUincidents@act.gov.au

School Improvement | Education | ACT Government

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Google+](#)



I acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. I acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

Incident Action Plan

Incident Name/Identifier:

Contaminated Sand

Date/Time: 13/11/2025

2000hrs

Operational Period:

From: 13/11/2025

To: 14/11/2025

Situation: (Brief description of incident, current impacts and actions)

The ACCC has published a [recall notice](#) over children's sand products that may contain asbestos and were sold at various retailers including Officeworks. The recall was issued by supplier Educational Colours for colourful children's sand products sold at Officeworks, Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids and Zart Art. The ACT Education Directorate is assessing the impact on the Education Directorate and service delivery.

School Operations and key stakeholders including School Facilities Management, Work Health and Safety and Risk, Security and Emergency Management, are utilising a 4 level triage tool to assess the impact on schools including exposure, volume and use.

As of 2000hrs:

- Level 1 – Significant concern and volume = 21 facilities – will be assessed immediately
- Level 2 – Some exposure some disruption = 20 facilities
- Level 3 – Little impact = 5 facilities
- Level 4 – No impact = 32 facilities
- Unknown = 13

The Directorate's Crisis Management team was activated to provide strategic oversight of the incident response.

CECA

Implications are being managed by School Operations with the Incident Controller in communications with CECA/Sean Moysey. Catholic Education and Independent Schools are waiting on information and update from the ACT Education Directorate to inform their own risk assessment and action plan.

Work Health and Safety

- ACCC and WorkSafe safety alerts provided information for consumers on how to manage containment and disposal of products.
- Advice did not include responsibilities of PCBUs under the WHS Act and Dangerous Substances Act.
- Once the product was identified on school site, WorkSafe ACT was notified in accordance with legislative requirements. WHS Team were advised one notification was required with a list of impacted sites to be provided once further information available.
- WorkSafe subsequently provided advice and regulatory posture towards management of the issue:
- Areas where products are located must be isolated
- Staff must not touch the products.
- Areas must remain isolated until:
 - o Licenced assessor, must remove the potentially contaminated products
 - o Testing must be conducted of exposed areas of use (air sampling, TEM Test (polarised light providing highly defined resolution) and polarised light microscopy PLM test)

Incident Action Plan

- Assessors to provide advice about site safety once removal and testing has occurred.
- Isolation requirements may include whole school, or areas within a school site.
- ACT Health has not provided advice supplemental to that included in the ACCC and WorkSafe information at this stage but are reviewing Health related components of communications.
- ACCC and WorkSafe advice is that the product is low risk for inhalation
- Based on information to date, school closures will be recommended following the risk assessment undertaken by WHS and RSEM
- Recommendation will be based on ACCC, WorkSafe and ACT Health advice as well as our internal risk assessment.
- There have been reported cases of CECA, Catholic and Independent schools advising their staff about the handling the products. That advice was based on the initial advice from the ACCC and WorkSafe ACT that contemplated home based consumer settings. They were subsequently asked to pause any action until further notice.

Media and Communications

Working on individual communications for schools. There also needs to be consideration for community users over the weekend.

Decisions:

On advice from Work Safety Commissioner, schools with the product that has been opened, need to quarantine these areas.

As of 2220hrs

- 8 Schools to be closed in full
- 11 partial closures impacting multiple cohorts
- 5 preschool closures
- 16 schools where School Operations are still seeking information to finalise a position in the morning.

This follows information provided by WorkSafe ACT and a briefing with the Minister and WorkSafe ACT Commissioner this evening.

Schools need to have the product removed, assessed, a clearance certificate issued before students and staff are allowed back into the facility.

Mission: *(Short statement on what needs to be achieved)*

Incident Action Plan

The Incident Management Team led by School Operations has been tasked to conduct a risk assessment to determine which schools are at a high risk based on the current information and will be recommended for closure.

The Crisis Management Team will support the IMT with focus on strategic outcomes for the ACT Education Directorate.

Execution: *(Actions to be taken to resolve the incident)*

Actions/Tasks:	Assigned to (name)	Completed
1. Identify Weekend activities and community hirers	BM Front door team	14/11/2025
2. Notify schools of decision and give Minister the list	Brooke James	
3. Ensure communications are drafted and approved that includes no access to site and further status prior to Monday	Sally Van Aalst	
4. Contact Catholic Education and Independent Schools on status and decisions	Brooke James	
5. Contact Unions and message representatives	Angela Spence	
6. Operationalise the school closures	Mark Huxley	
7. Talking Points to be sent through to Feedback and Complaints	Brooke James	
8. Risk assessment list to be updated following new information	Anthony Bailey and School Operations	
9. Contact Access Canberra with update and talking points	Kristen Laurent	
10. Contact Special Needs Transport area notifying them of the school closures	Peter Steele	
11. Ensure all 3 mandatory testing has been conducted ahead of clearance certificate	Anthony Bailey	
12. Confirm school cleaning operations	Anthony Bailey	
13. Consideration for health support for those who have handled the product	Jessie Atkins	
14. Schools and ESO will be notified of EAP option	Alex Dance	
15. Set up CMT/IMT channel	Kristen Laurent/Tracey Allen	

Incident Action Plan

16. Investigate NSWEDU response ?

Administration and Logistics: *(include frequency and types of meetings, resources required including learning arrangements, school closures, financial etc.)*

- Next meeting 0730hrs – 14/11/2025
- School closure is dynamic and based on information from WorkSafe and results

Command Control Communications: *(Incident Management team structure, Internal and External contacts – can add an attachment or list members below)*

CMT

- CMT Lead – Angela Spence
- Admin Support – Tracey Allen
- CMT Manager – Kristen Laurent
- Schools – Mark Huxley
- Communications – Sally Van Aalst
- Safety – Jessie Atkins, Alex Dance
- Infrastructure – Vanessa Attridge, Anthony Bailey
- School Operations – Peter Steele, Brooke Walsh, Libby Van Aalst
- IMT Lead – Brooke James
- Risk – Nathan Henderson-Smith
- DG – Jo Wood

IMT

- IMT Lead – Brooke James
- Operations – Brooke Walsh
- Planning – Peter Steele
- WHS – Alex Dance
- Risk – Nathan Henderson-Smith
- Infrastructure – Anthony Bailey, Phil Morton
- School Operations – Libby Van Aalst

Business Area Contacts

Business Area	Name	Phone Number	Role
WorkSafe			
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	Hazardous Materials Consultants (Hygienists – Assessors)
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	Hazardous Materials Consultants

Incident Action Plan

			(Hygienists – Assessors)
████████████████████	██████████	██████████	Hazardous Materials Consultants (Hygienists – Assessors)
██████████	██████████	██████████	Hazardous Materials Removal Companies
██████████	██████████	██████████	Hazardous Materials Removal Companies
████████████████████	██████████	██████████	Hazardous Materials Removal Companies
██████████	██████████	██████████	Hazardous Materials Removal Companies

CECA
Independent
Catholic Education

Safety and Risk Consideration: (safety issues and key risks)

- Follow the legislation for asbestos removal
- Actions or medical advice for those who have removed the product

Risk Considerations:

- Volume of product
- Location of product in school/facility
- Recency – when was product last used
- Re-location of staff and students
- Number of uses/times product was used
- Reputation risk
- Regulatory risk
- Psychosocial risk

Attachments:

Dynamic Triage Document – School Operations

Risk Assessment – WHS and RSEM

Incident Action Plan

Prepared by:

Tracey Allen, CMT Support

Approved by Incident Controller (IC)/Lead:

Angela Spence, DDG Education

Incident Status: Y **Open**

Y **Closed**

(13/11/2025)

From: [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
To: [Phillips, Tori](#)
Subject: Attridge, Vanessa shared "Minister Talking Points" with you
Date: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:26:49 PM
Attachments: [1f7d20b5-4ee7-4df4-b37f-a92757215485](#)
[d7000edc-d388-40c1-b56c-16c59f9a267f](#)
[f9293cc9-fa7d-4b25-896f-cb86c909c29c](#)
[e33e3d8d-9433-4dc5-8bdf-00ddeb82ce7](#)

-->



Attridge, Vanessa invited you to view a
file

-->

Hi Tori, high level TPs for any feedback, thank you.



Minister Talking Points



This invite will only work for you and people with existing access.

Open

Share



[Privacy Statement](#)

This email is generated through ACT Government's use of Microsoft 365 and may contain content that is controlled by ACT Government.

TALKING POINTS**as at 4PM, Sunday 16 November**

- The ACT Government made the decision to close or partially close a number of of its ACT public schools on Friday 14 November 2025.
- Students and staff returning to school will depend on testing and remediation advice.
- This is following national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos.
- Education Directorate worked with schools on Thursday 13 November and identified this product is used at those schools for sensory play, and arts and crafts.
- WorkSafe ACT has identified the risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low.
- The safety of students, staff and the community is our highest priority.
- The decision has been made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and the community.
- Closing impacted schools or impacted spaces/some year levels within schools will allow testing and remediation to occur as soon as possible.
- We will follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

For families

- **On Sunday afternoon, all impacted ACT public schools will provide an update to families about arrangements for learning on Monday.**
- **This information will be provided as soon as it is available, please keep an eye on your emails.**
- We will keep families updated and thank them for their understanding.
- Our [hotline](#) will not be operating over the weekend and will reopen at 7am on Monday 17 November. For urgent enquiries please contact [Access Canberra](#).
- **This situation is evolving. The latest information is on [our website](#).**

Safety

- Testing is already underway in some schools. Testing and remediation will also occur over the weekend.
- Contractors engaged to undertake this work are suitably licenced and work is carried out under Work, Health, and Safety Codes of Practice.
- Assessors will provide a clearance certificate deeming the space safe to use.

More Information

- You can read the full Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).

Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) and non-government schools

DRAFT

- The Children’s Education and Care Assurance (CECA), and Regulator for non-government schools, has provided updated advice to these sectors on the management of this product on Friday 14 November 2025.
- Families are asked to seek advice from their ECEC or school about arrangements in place for their specific location.

List of closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

Latest advice as at 1PM Friday 14 November.

Whole School Closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Black Mountain School
- Campbell Primary School
- Charles Weston School
- Charnwood-Dunlop Primary School
- Evatt Primary School
- Florey Primary School
- Lyons Early Childhood School
- Malkara School
- Namadgi School
- Latham Primary School
- Chapman Primary School
- Cranleigh School
- Miles Franklin Primary School
- Fraser Primary School
- Wanniassa Hills Primary School
- Forrest Primary School

Partial School Closures (multiple class closures) for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Charles Conder Primary School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- North Ainslie Primary School – Preschool and year 1
- Torrens Primary School – Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1
- Wanniassa School – Preschool to year 6 (junior school)
- Yarralumla Primary School – Montessori, Kindergarten, Year 1, Small Group Program
- Throsby School – Kindergarten, year 1 and year 2
- Amaroo School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- Franklin School - Preschool

Preschool Closures only Friday 14 November 2025:

- Curtin Primary School – Preschool
- Kingsford Smith School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School – Preschool including Koori Preschool

DRAFT

- Mount Rogers Preschool
- Monash Preschool

Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) and non-government schools

The Children's Education and Care Assurance (CECA), and Regulator for non-government schools, has provided updated advice to these sectors on the management of this product on Friday 14 November 2025.

Families are asked to seek advice from their ECEC or school about arrangements in place for their specific location.

From: [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
To: [Hobbs, Rebecca](#)
Cc: [Wood, Jo](#); [EDU, Director-General Office](#); [Spence, Angela](#)
Subject: FW: SAFETY ALERT: Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand product
Date: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:34:00 PM
Attachments: [CECA Alert Safety Alert - Contaminated Sand November 2025.msg](#)
[FW FOR AWARENESS Independent Schools Safety Alert Asbestos contaminated confirmed in coloured sand product .msg](#)

Hi Bec,

Please see attached information provided by CECA and the Association of Independent Schools today.

We expect CECA will distribute further clarified information tomorrow.

Regards,

Nessa

Vanessa Attridge

Executive Group Manager | Finance & Infrastructure

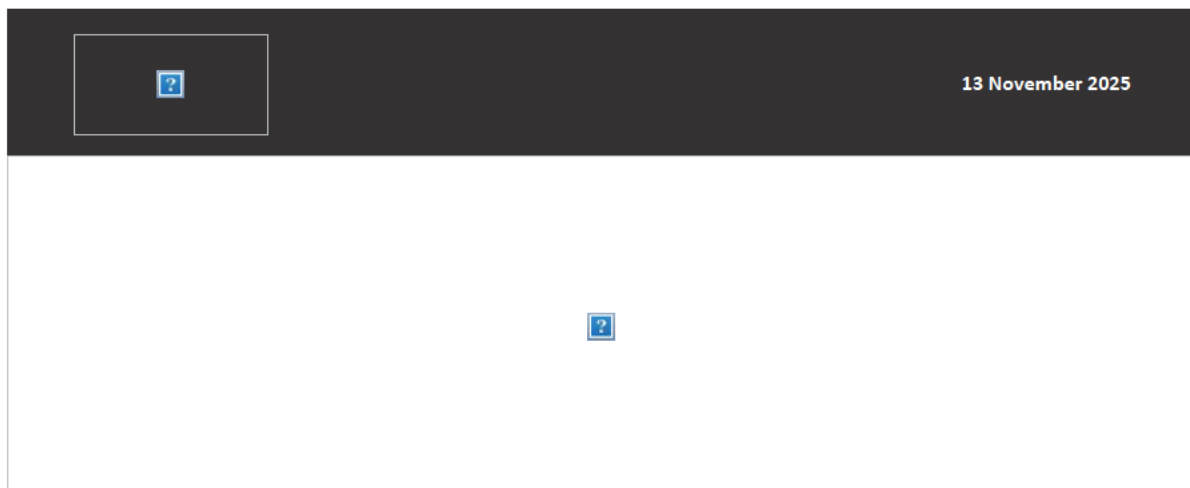
02 6205 3502 | vanessas.attridge@act.gov.au

Education | ACT Government

www.education.act.gov.au

From: [CECA EducateandInform](#)
Subject: CECA Alert: Safety Alert - Contaminated Sand November 2025
Date: Thursday, 13 November 2025 12:16:50 PM
Attachments: [image005.png](#)
[image006.jpg](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
Importance: High

OFFICIAL



Safety Alert: Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand product

WorkSafe ACT has informed CECA that decorative sand products imported from China have been found to contain chrysolite, a type of asbestos.

One product, sold as **Kadink Decorative Sand**, is present in the ACT and sold at Officeworks.

Other sand products **EC Rainbow Sand & Creatistics Coloured Sand** are sold through suppliers such as Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids and Zart Art.

For further details go to: [Educational Colours - Rainbow Sand \(1.3kg\), Creatistics - Coloured Sand \(1kg\) and Kadink - Sand \(1.3kg\) | ACCC Product Safety](#)

ECEC providers and services are advised to conduct an audit of their resources to identify if these products are used in their service/s.

What do Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) services affected need to do?

- Ensure children and staff do not come into contact with the sand products
- Read this information about how to protect yourself from exposure when handling the product:
 - Wear disposable gloves. Tuck the gloves under the elasticised cuffs of your clothing. If the cuffs are loose, tape them down to create a proper seal
 - Wear a P2 rated face mask. Do not use a standard dust mask. A P2 respirator should fit snugly and cover half your face
 - Wear protective eyewear. Use safety glasses to protect your eyes from dust and debris
- Carefully wrap the sand, in its container, and any related materials in 200-micron plastic bags and seal securely with tape

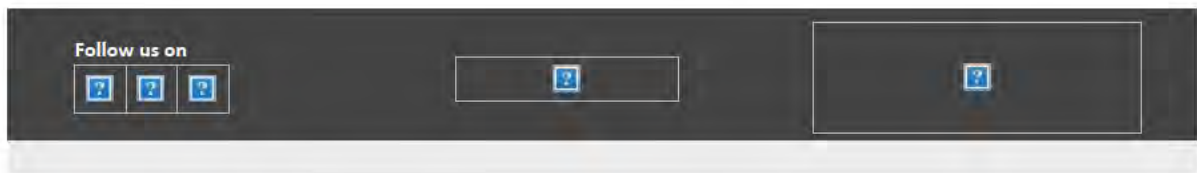
- Clearly label the package as asbestos waste.

Further advice on how to manage the products and dispose of them available here: [Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand product - WorkSafe ACT](#)

ACT services who have used these products must notify CECA via the NQAITS of a risk to children's health and safety under [Regulation 175\(2\)\(c\)](#)

If you have any questions or require assistance acquiring disposal bags, contact WorkSafe ACT via WorkSafe_Asbestos@worksafe.act.gov.au

This email has been authorised by the ACT Regulatory Authority (CECA).
CECA are responsible for administering the National Quality Framework within the ACT.



From: [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
To: [Wood, Jo](#)
Cc: [EDU, Director-General Office](#); [EDU, EGMFIG](#)
Subject: FW: FOR AWARENESS: Independent Schools: Safety Alert: Asbestos contaminated confirmed in coloured sand product
Date: Thursday, 13 November 2025 10:33:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[Outlook-ky2p2lqq.png](#)

Hi Jo,

FYI, information distributed to non-government schools from the Association of Independent Schools.

Regards,
Nessa

From: James, Brooke <Brooke.James@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 5:00 PM
To: Attridge, Vanessa <VanessaS.Attridge@act.gov.au>; Bailey, Anthony <Anthony.Bailey@act.gov.au>
Cc: Steele, Peter <Peter.Steele@act.gov.au>
Subject: FOR AWARENESS: Independent Schools: Safety Alert: Asbestos contaminated confirmed in coloured sand product

OFFICIAL

Hi All

This was the advice provided by Independent Schools

This advice aligns with that provided by CECA earlier today.

With thanks,

Brooke James | Senior Director
School Operations

School Improvement Branch | Education Directorate | ACT Government

Phone: 0401 805 628 or +61 02 6205 0293 | Email: Brooke.James@act.gov.au

Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters where we live and work and pay my respects to elders past, present and future.

Please note – this email is sent at a time that is convenient for me. No expectation of action is required outside of regular working hours.

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ais.act.edu.au>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 4:53 PM
To: James, Brooke <Brooke.James@act.gov.au>

Subject: Fw: Safety Alert: Asbestos contaminated confirmed in coloured sand product

Caution: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Brooke,

Thanks for the call. This is the email I sent below - keep scrolling down to see the message received from Non Gov Schools.

Let me know if anything eventuates and I will let you know if any schools contact me with concerns.

Warm regards,



www.ais.act.edu.au

Unit 4, 16 Thesiger Crt, Deakin ACT 2600 | PO Box 9562 Deakin West ACT 2600



Independence Choice Diversity Excellence

This email, and any attachments, may be confidential and also privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete all copies of this transmission along with any attachments immediately. You should not copy or use it for any purpose, nor disclose its contents to any other person.

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@ais.act.edu.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@ais.act.edu.au)>

Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2025 3:38 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@ais.act.edu.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@ais.act.edu.au)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@ais.act.edu.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@ais.act.edu.au)>

Subject: Fw: Safety Alert: Asbestos contaminated confirmed in coloured sand product

Dear Principals/Heads of Schools and Business Managers,

Sorry for yet another email today. Not sure if you all received this email below, but I thought I should send to be safe. If you have an Early Learning Centre on site please advise them also.

Warm regards,



www.ais.act.edu.au

Unit 4, 16 Thesiger Crt, Deakin ACT 2600 | PO Box 9562 Deakin West ACT 2600

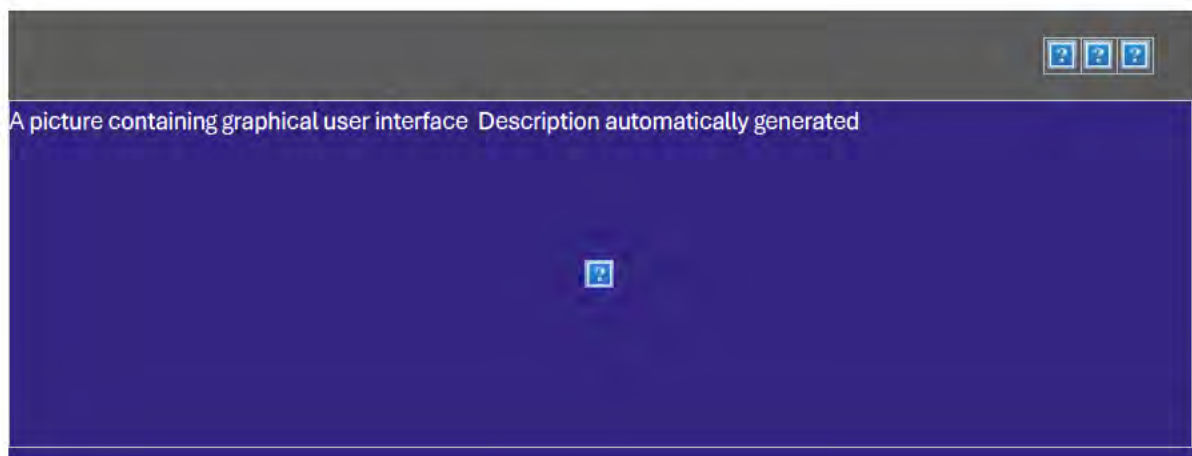


Independence Choice Diversity Excellence

This email, and any attachments, may be confidential and also privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete all copies of this transmission along with any attachments immediately. You should not copy or use it for any purpose, nor disclose its contents to any other person.

From: NonGovSchools <NonGovSchools@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2025 3:35 PM
To: NonGovSchools <NonGovSchools@act.gov.au>
Subject: Safety Alert: Asbestos contaminated confirmed in coloured sand product

OFFICIAL



13 November 2025

Safety Alert: Asbestos contaminated confirmed in coloured sand product

WorkSafe ACT has informed ECRS that decorative sand products imported from China have been found to contain chrysolite, a type of asbestos.

One product, sold as **Kadink Decorative Sand**, is present in the ACT and sold at Officeworks.

Other sand products **EC Rainbow Sand & Creatistics Coloured Sand** are sold through suppliers such as Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids and Zart Art.

For further details go to: [Educational Colours - Rainbow Sand \(1.3kg\)](#), [Creatistics - Coloured Sand \(1kg\)](#) and [Kadink - Sand \(1.3kg\) | ACCC Product Safety](#)

All Non-government Schools are encouraged to conduct an audit of their resources to identify if these products are used in their school.

What should Non-government Schools do?

- Ensure children and staff do not come into contact with the sand products
- Read this information about how to protect yourself from exposure when handling the products:
 - Wear disposable gloves. Tuck the gloves under the elasticised cuffs of your clothing. If the cuffs are loose, tape them down to create a proper seal
 - Wear a P2 rated face mask. Do not use a standard dust mask. A P2 respirator should fit snugly and cover half your face
 - Wear protective eyewear. Use safety glasses to protect your eyes from dust and debris
- Carefully wrap the sand, in its container, and any related materials in 200-micron plastic bags and seal securely with tape
- Clearly label the package as asbestos waste.

Further advice on how to manage the products and dispose of them is available here: [Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand product - WorkSafe ACT](#)

If you have any questions or require assistance acquiring disposal bags, contact WorkSafe ACT via WorkSafe_Asbestos@worksafe.act.gov.au

This email has been authorised by the ACT Registrar of Non-government Schools

NonGovSchools@act.gov.au

From: [Berry, Yvette](#)
To: [Hobbs, Rebecca](#); [Phillips, Tori](#); [Meeth, Sybilla](#)
Subject: Re: SAFETY ALERT: Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand product
Date: Friday, 14 November 2025 5:38:14 AM

So ECEC and independent schools are not required to close to remediate? So they need to report to worksafe?

I'm concerned now that our reaction is not commensurate with the low risk. Although it's confusing to unwrap the differing advice.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2025 12:03:52 AM
To: Berry, Yvette <Yvette.Berry@act.gov.au>; Phillips, Tori <Tori.Phillips@act.gov.au>; Meeth, Sybilla <Sybilla.Meeth@act.gov.au>
Subject: Fw: SAFETY ALERT: Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand product

OFFICIAL

Here's the info that's gone to ECECs and non-gov schools already.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Attridge, Vanessa <VanessaS.Attridge@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2025 11:34:15 PM
To: Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>
Cc: Wood, Jo <Jo.Wood@act.gov.au>; EDU, Director-General Office <EDUDirectorGeneralOffice@act.gov.au>; Spence, Angela <Angela.Spence@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: SAFETY ALERT: Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand product

OFFICIAL

Hi Bec,

Please see attached information provided by CECA and the Association of Independent Schools today.

We expect CECA will distribute further clarified information tomorrow.

Regards,
Nessa
Vanessa Attridge
Executive Group Manager | Finance & Infrastructure
02 6205 3502 | vanessas.attridge@act.gov.au

Education | ACT Government
www.education.act.gov.au

6:25

RECORD 7

AS



Th **Angela** pm

Just wanted to update you on sand contamination issue. 21 schools identified as higher risk that MAY result on partial of full closure tomorrow. 16 of those sites undergoing testing. 23 sites lower risk with evidence of product but contained and minimal impact. Site can continue operations with removal to occur at later stage. 36 sites have NO impact and are clear. Other sites that are unknown are generally colleges and high schools. Further advice to be provided after testing at 8pm to inform decisions on closures. Let me know when best to update you next, early morning?

Thu 13 Nov at 9:57 pm

Let me know if you have done the calls to unions. I will text them now. Do you have a uwu contact?

Sun 16 Nov at 9:33 pm

Hey Angela, I'm hearing from [redacted] that Margaret Hendry families don't have an email yet. Can you help me confirm where



iMessage



Let me make some calls.

Situation Report

Incident Name/Identifier:
Contaminated Sand

Date/Time: 14 Nov 2025 – Meeting 1 - 7.30am

Situation Update:

The ACCC has published a [recall notice](#) over children's sand products that may contain asbestos and were sold at various retailers including Officeworks. The recall was issued by supplier Educational Colours for colourful children's sand products sold at Officeworks, Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids and Zart Art. The ACT Education Directorate is assessing the impact on the Education Directorate and service delivery to ensure the safety staff, students and the community and that we exercise the PCBU Obligations under the WHS Act.

School closures

General.update – EEL's have been responding to emails from Brooke. There have been changes overnight due to the updated information which has seen 3 schools moved from partial to full closure. Staff at schools that are closed or at partial closure are supporting their families as they arrive.

IMT.Lead.Update.– no negative response from schools overnight. There are still 11 schools to be contacted, and the team is currently working on that. CECA and Catholic ED and Independents were updated last night.

Spreadsheet–numbers – this is dynamic situation as new information and assessment is confirmed. The IMT will maintain the spreadsheet in real-time and report regularly to the CMT.

Communications.- .Taymore's team has been added for extra support. Access Canberra has been notified and supporting with communications. Canberra Times have been in touch. Sally and the team will continue to support communications to schools, to DG and DDG.

Weekend.activity – Media and Comms will work with IMT and Taymore to establish communications to schools regarding weekend activities and hirer expectations.

Assessment and remediation

Clearance of air monitoring on 14 schools overnight. This means the product can be removed and further testing requirements will result in the clearance certificates.

Remediation and re-opening will be dependent on the clearance certificates. A triage system for remediation and re-opening will take place and managed by SFM through the IMT.

SFM will be standing up extra staff to ensure actions can be undertaken as a priority.

WorkSafe

WorkSafe Commissioner made it very clear to the DG and DDG what the PCBU obligations are. ACTEDU actions are following these obligations with safety being the highest priority along with regulatory requirements.

The dynamic risk assessment has been updated and based on our obligations. Can be accessed via the channel.

WHS team will contact WorkSafe as a priority to discuss notifications and to provide an update.

There was early confusion based on the messaging which will be discussed and remediated through our ongoing communications with schools and the community.

Risk Assessment

Members have been asked to review

This will be updated throughout the day as the situation changes and new information comes through.

Work to follow on residual risk which will be led by the CMT

ECEC and NGS

Situation Report

Michael Crowther will liaise with these entities to ensure the communications is aligned across the sectors.

Stakeholder management

Unions were briefed late on Thursday night with support on actions. They are requesting copy of communications and would like verbal updates on current situation. David Matthews will be the point of contact for Unions.

IMT/CMT plans for day

Finalisation of communications to include assessment for 11 schools who have not yet responded.

Drafting a schedule for remediation – IMT

Establishing clear criteria for remediation and re-opening

Contacting the 11 schools who have not yet responded

Separating the IMT – led by Brooke James and the CMT – led by Angela Spence

Streamline communication and documents to be shared on Current Teams Channel

RSEM to provide support to leads

Support to IMT/CMT members

Actions to be followed through to assigned members

Execution: (Actions.to.be.taken.to.resolve.the.incident)

Outstanding/New Actions/Tasks:	Assigned to (name)	Completed
Communications for Weekend activities and community hirers	Sally Van Aalst	Completed 14/11/2025
Ensure communications are drafted and approved that includes no access to site and further status prior to Monday	Sally Van Aalst	underway
Ensure communications are clear and describe partial closures	Sally Van Aalst	Completed 14/11/2025
Ensure communications are sent to ESO regarding school visits	Sally Van Aalst	Completed 14/11/2025
Notify schools of decision and give Minister the list through current IMT processes	Brooke James	Completed 14/11/2025
Talking Points to be sent through to Feedback and Complaints	Brooke James	Completed 14/11/2025
Contact Special Needs Transport area notifying them of the school closures	Peter Steele	Completed 13/11/2025
Operationalise school closures	Mark Huxley	
Seek formal advice from WorkSafe on management of product and obligations of the Directorate	Alex Dance	WorkSafe has published additional advice for PCBUs on their website. Threshold requirement is satisfaction of the licensed assessor and clearance certificate. Further clarification required between testing specifications advised by

Situation Report

Risk assessment to be updated following new information	WHS (lead)	WorkSafe as against advice from assessors about appropriate testing. Ongoing
Consideration for health support for those who have handled the product	Jessie Atkins	Interim health advice indicates that baseline testing is not required
Schools and ESO will be notified of EAP options	Alex Dance	Completed 14/11/2025
Ongoing risk assessments for each school – dynamic based on information	Alex Dance and Anthony Bailey	Risk is to be assessed by licensed assessor at site-based locations – see Regs. No Multi- Hazard Risk Assessment Required unless further indication.
What is the criteria for remediation and re-opening based on the legislation	Alex Dance and Anthony Bailey	Relies on clearance certificate being issued by license assessor.
Ensure all 3 mandatory testing has been conducted ahead of clearance certificate for each site	Anthony Bailey	Advice of licensed assessor (verbal only at this stage) is that three types of testing is not required. There is no legal mandate for three types of testing. Preferred approach would be air testing which occurs as part of the mandatory removal process, PLT as part of this process then environmental clean of areas of use. Environmental clean would form part of remediation activity required in event of positive finding and so represents a more pragmatic approach to resolution.
Confirm School cleaning operations	Anthony Bailey	Confirmed. Not active in isolated areas. Instruction issues to BSOs not to handle product.
Provide regular updates to Union stakeholders on current situation	David Matthews	Completed 14/11/2025 - ongoing
Set up CMT/IMT channel	Kristen Laurent / Tracey Allen	Completed 14/11/2025
Set up Key Contact List for internal and external stakeholders	Nathan Henderson-Smith	
Teams to consider rosters for today, and through the weekend to manage the situation and the fatigue	All team leads	
Liaison to Catholic Education and NGS, and CECA	Michael Crowther	Completed 14/11/2025
Activate DSST front-line staff to support the communications	Taymore Tabbah	

Situation Report

Administration and Logistics: (include frequency and types of meetings?resources required including learning arrangements?school closures?financial.etcj)
IMT to initiate schedule of reporting to CMT

CMT to convene at 3:30pm

CMT

CMT Lead – Angela Spence

Admin Support – Tracey Allen

CMT Manager – Kristen Laurent

IMT Lead – Brooke James

Schools – Mark Huxley

Communications – Sally Van Aalst

Safety – Jessie Atkins, Alex Dance

Infrastructure – Vanessa Attridge, Anthony Bailey

School Operations – Peter Steele, Brooke Walsh, Libby Van Aalst

Risk – Nathan Henderson-Smith

DG – Jo Wood

Stakeholder Manager - David

IMT

IMT Lead – Brooke James

Admin Support – Nathan Henderson-Smith

Prepared by:

Tracey Allen, Admin Support

Approved by Incident Controller/Lead (IC):

Angela Spence, DDG Education

From: [Huxley, Mark](#)
To: [James, Brooke](#); [Van Aalst, Sally](#); [Wood, Jo](#)
Cc: [Attridge, Vanessa](#); [Spence, Angela](#); [Laurent, Kristen](#); [Steele, Peter](#)
Subject: Site closure approval and comms
Date: Friday, 14 November 2025 9:18:30 AM

OFFICIAL

Hi Brooke and Sally,

Confirming the following:

1. Brooke as head of IMT will use risk assessment to recommend to DG any changes to schools operations (closure or partial closure). This will occur in the teams channel of IMT/CMT established today. (Please [@Wood, Jo](#)) in the message to ensure it pops.
2. Once Jo confirms decision, please relay information and comms to school.
3. Sally - Once Jo approves, please update the ministers office teams chat (you have been added as of this morning) and then update the necessary website information. Please cross check with Brooke on impacted year levels for partial closures.

Thanks

Mark

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [Hobbs, Rebecca](#) on behalf of [Berry, Yvette](#)
To: [BARR; BARRY; BRADDOCK; CAIN; CARRICK; CASTLEY; CHEYNE; CLAY; ED; EMERSON; HANSON; LEE; Milligan, James; MORRIS; NUTTALL; ORR; PARTON; PATERSON; PETTERSSON; RATTENBURY; STEEL; STEPHEN-SMITH; TOUGH; TAIMUS.WG; Education DLO; Wood, Jo; Spence, Angela; Meeth, Sybilla](#)
Cc: [Phillips, Tori; ODonoghue, Yersheena; Murdoch, Max](#)
Subject: MLA BRIEFING: public school closures

Members

Minister Berry is offering a briefing for MLAs regarding today's partial and full closures of some public schools. This is in response to WorkSafe ACT advice about decorative coloured sand containing chrysotile asbestos. While the risk is low, the clear advice from WorkSafe is to isolate and remediate the risk.

The situation is evolving. Regularly updated list of impacted schools is available here: <https://www.act.gov.au/education-and-training/latest-articles/act-public-school-closures-friday-14-november-2025> <<https://www.act.gov.au/education-and-training/latest-articles/act-public-school-closures-friday-14-november-2025>>

Microsoft Teams Need help? <<https://aka.ms/JoinTeamsMeeting?omkt=en-US>>

Join the meeting now <https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_OTVjODRhNmQtMjA1Yy00MTA4LWExYzctNDBmZTBkY2FkY2Ex%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22b46c1908-0334-4236-b978-585ee88e4199%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%227d5fa868-eebf-4943-b385-083074eaf4a6%22%7d>

Meeting ID: 448 087 484 973 2

Passcode: ZE66m2P5

For organizers: Meeting options <https://teams.microsoft.com/meetingOptions/?organizerId=7d5fa868-eebf-4943-b385-083074eaf4a6&tenantId=b46c1908-0334-4236-b978-585ee88e4199&threadId=19_meeting_OTVjODRhNmQtMjA1Yy00MTA4LWExYzctNDBmZTBkY2FkY2Ex@thread.v2&messageId=0&language=en-US>

<https://www.act.gov.au/__data/assets/image/0019/2541430/ACTGov_inline_black.png>

Org help <https://actss.service-now.com/ddts?id=ddts_ls_category&sys_id=e15706fc0a0a0aa7007fc21e1ab70c2f> | Privacy and security <<https://www.act.gov.au/privacy>>

From: [BERRY](#)
To: "senator.katy.gallagher@aph.gov.au"; [Pocock, David \(Senator Office\)](#); "Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au"; "Alicia.Payne.MP@aph.gov.au"; [Smith, David \(MP\)](#)
Cc: [Hobbs, Rebecca](#)
Bcc: [Education DLO](#); [Phillips, Tori](#); [ODonoghue, Yersheena](#); [Meeth, Sybilla](#)
Subject: Full and partial closures of public schools today
Date: Friday, 14 November 2025 9:29:00 AM

Dear federal parliamentarian colleagues

A number of public schools will be fully or partially closed today in response to WorkSafe ACT advice about decorative coloured sand containing chrysotile asbestos. While the risk is low, the clear advice from WorkSafe is to isolate and remediate the risk.

A hotline has been stood up for questions about the response in public schools. Community members can call 6205 5429. As the situation evolves, the list of impacted schools is being kept updated on the Education Directorate website: [ACT public school closures Friday 14 November 2025 - ACT Government](#).

Thank you

Yvette

From: [Atkins, Jessie](#)
To: [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
Cc: [Dance, Alex](#)
Subject: Specific WHS Advice - Dangerous Goods and Substances - Asbestos
Date: Friday, 14 November 2025 10:03:36 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Good morning Nessa

Alex and I made contact with Bill Smith from WS has confirmed this morning that our approach is sound and to follow the general advice around asbestos management and removal. The relevant Worksafe ACT page is at this link:

<https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/health-and-safety-portal/safety-topics/dangerous-goods-and-hazardous-substances/asbestos>

Of note:

Health, safety and asbestos

Health and safety issues associated with the use and/or handling of asbestos is regulated in the ACT primarily through two pieces of legislation - the *Dangerous Substances Act 2004* and the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and their associated regulations.

The *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011* sets out a framework for the management of asbestos materials in workplaces including:

- training of workers at risk of encountering asbestos;
- notification to WorkSafe ACT of asbestos removals;
- health monitoring for workers;
- naturally occurring asbestos;
- stricter requirements for the removal of asbestos; and,
- national licensing and competency standards for licensed asbestos removalists and assessors.

The ACT has some specific requirements in relation to the management of asbestos to those in other states or territories including:

- requiring all asbestos removal work to be carried out by a licensed asbestos removalist (removing the exception in the national model regulations for non-friable asbestos removal not exceeding 10 square meters);
- creating an exception to the prohibition on work involving asbestos when the work is only 'minor or routine maintenance work, or other minor work';
- replacing references to 'competent person' with 'licensed asbestos assessor' to clarify that all asbestos assessment, clearance inspections and air monitoring must be provided by a licensed asbestos assessor; and
- requiring that a person with management or control of a workplace must assume asbestos is present if an approved warning sign is present (this will be the case if the premises is known to have contained loose fill asbestos).

Kind regards

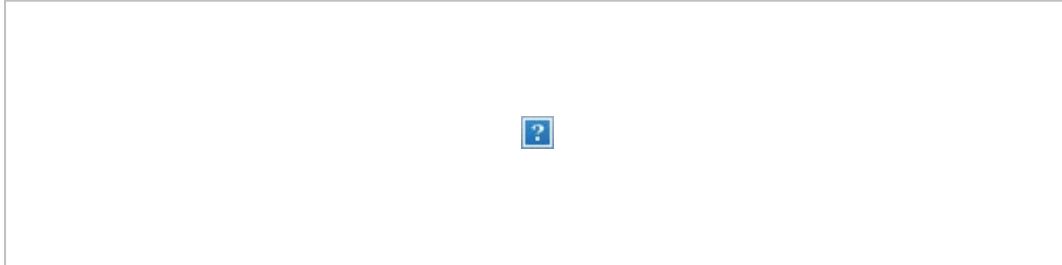
Jessie

Jessie Atkins | Executive Branch Manager, Complex Behaviour Support and WHS
Service Design and Delivery | Education Directorate | ACT Government

T: 0423 079 443 | E: jessie.atkins@act.gov.au

Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning, Fremantle Drive, Stirling | GPO Box 158

Canberra ACT 2601 | www.education.act.gov.au



I acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. I acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

From: [Hobbs, Rebecca](#)
To: [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
Cc: [Wood, Jo](#); [EDU, Director-General Office](#); [Spence, Angela](#)
Subject: Re: SAFETY ALERT: Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand product
Date: Friday, 14 November 2025 12:05:58 AM

OFFICIAL

Thanks so much Nessa. We'll need some talking points about why the advice to these entities seems inconsistent with what the worksafe commissioner has advised for public schools. A job for the morning.

Talk soon

Bec

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Attridge, Vanessa
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2025 11:34:15 PM
To: Hobbs, Rebecca
Cc: Wood, Jo ; EDU, Director-General Office ; Spence, Angela
Subject: FW: SAFETY ALERT: Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand product

OFFICIAL

Hi Bec,
Please see attached information provided by CECA and the Association of Independent Schools today.

We expect CECA will distribute further clarified information tomorrow.

Regards,

Nessa

Vanessa Attridge

Executive Group Manager | Finance & Infrastructure

02 6205 3502 | vanessas.attridge@act.gov.au

Education | ACT Government

www.education.act.gov.au

From: [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
To: [Hobbs, Rebecca](#); [Phillips, Tori](#)
Subject: Attridge, Vanessa shared "web and socials" with you
Date: Friday, 14 November 2025 12:24:49 AM
Attachments: [d7473116-3bc1-4f4f-a956-3451960805eb](#)
[1e68aed1-0961-49b4-a8fb-450790e0574f](#)
[060a6aef-6b91-4d1f-b8c9-e2ef5b1fb8d0](#)
[98312346-b652-4817-8e6c-603793473a65](#)

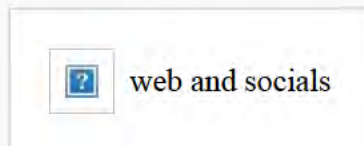
-->




Attridge, Vanessa invited you to view a file

-->

Hi,
Please see web & socials content for approval, thank you.
Nessa



 This invite will only work for you and people with existing access.

[Open](#)

[Share](#)



[Privacy Statement](#)

This email is generated through ACT Government's use of Microsoft 365 and may contain content that is controlled by ACT Government.

DRAFT

EDU WEBSITE - as at 1PM Friday 14 November 2025

ACT public school closures Friday 14 November 2025

The ACT Government is advising families of a number of ACT public school closures (full closure, partial closure) on Friday 14 November 2025.

This is following national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos. This product is used at some schools for sensory play, and arts and crafts.

While WorkSafe ACT has identified the risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low, the safety of our schools is our highest priority.

The decision to close the schools has been made in line with Education Directorate processes and on the advice of WorkSafe ACT on the safe management and remediation process required. The safety of our students, staff and the community is our highest priority.

Closing impacted schools or impacted spaces/some year levels within schools will allow testing and remediation to occur as soon as possible.

We will follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

Families will have received notification from their school about these closures. We ask families to please check their emails if they haven't already for full information.

For urgent enquiries, please contact the [Education Directorate Feedback and Complaints team](#).

Families will be kept up to date by their schools about any changes to learning next week. We thank you for your understanding.

This situation is evolving, and we will keep this page updated with the latest information.

List of closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

Latest advice as at 1PM Friday 14 November.

Whole School Closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Black Mountain School
- Campbell Primary School
- Charles Weston School
- Charnwood-Dunlop Primary School

DRAFT

- Evatt Primary School
- Florey Primary School
- Lyons Early Childhood School
- Malkara School
- Namadgi School
- Latham Primary School
- Chapman Primary School
- Cranleigh School
- Miles Franklin Primary School
- Fraser Primary School
- Wanniasa Hills Primary School
- **Forrest Primary School**

Partial School Closures (multiple class closures) for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Charles Conder Primary School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- North Ainslie Primary School – Preschool and year 1
- Torrens Primary School – Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1
- Wanniasa School – Preschool to year 6 (junior school)
- Yarralumla Primary School – Montessori, Kindergarten, Year 1, Small Group Program
- Throsby School – Kindergarten, year 1 and year 2
- Amaroo School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- **Franklin School - Preschool**

Preschool Closures only Friday 14 November 2025:

- Curtin Primary School – Preschool
- Kingsford Smith School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Mount Rogers Preschool
- Monash Preschool

Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) and non-government schools

The Children’s Education and Care Assurance (CECA), and Regulator for non-government schools, has provided updated advice to these sectors on the management of this product on Friday 14 November 2025.

Families are asked to seek advice from their ECEC or school about arrangements in place for their specific location.

DRAFT

EDU WEBSITE - as at NOON 14 November 2025

ACT public school closures Friday 14 November 2025

The ACT Government is advising families of a number of ACT public school closures (full closure, partial closure) on Friday 14 November 2025.

This is following national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos. This product is used at some schools for sensory play, and arts and crafts.

While WorkSafe ACT has identified the risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low, the safety of our schools is our highest priority.

The decision to close the schools has been made in line with Education Directorate processes and on the advice of WorkSafe ACT on the safe management and remediation process required. The safety of our students, staff and the community is our highest priority.

Closing impacted schools or impacted spaces/some year levels within schools will allow testing and remediation to occur as soon as possible.

We will follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

Families will have received notification from their school about these closures. We ask families to please check their emails if they haven't already for full information.

For urgent enquiries, please contact the [Education Directorate Feedback and Complaints team](#).

Families will be kept up to date by their schools about any changes to learning next week. We thank you for your understanding.

This situation is evolving, and we will keep this page updated with the latest information.

List of closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

Latest advice as at NOON Friday 14 November.

Whole School Closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Black Mountain School
- Campbell Primary School
- Charles Weston School

DRAFT

- Charnwood-Dunlop Primary School
- Evatt Primary School
- Florey Primary School
- Lyons Early Childhood School
- Malkara School
- Namadgi School
- Latham Primary School
- Chapman Primary School
- Cranleigh School
- Miles Franklin Primary School
- Fraser Primary School
- Wanniasa Hills Primary School

Partial School Closures (multiple class closures) for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Charles Conder Primary School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- North Ainslie Primary School – Preschool and year 1
- Torrens Primary School – Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1
- Wanniasa School – Preschool to year 6 (junior school)
- Yarralumla Primary School – Montessori, Kindergarten, Year 1, Small Group Program
- Throsby School – Kindergarten, year 1 and year 2
- Amaroo School – Preschool and Small Group Program

Preschool Closures only Friday 14 November 2025:

- Curtin Primary School – Preschool
- Kingsford Smith School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Mount Rogers Preschool
- Monash Preschool

Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) and non-government schools

The Children’s Education and Care Assurance (CECA), and Regulator for non-government schools, has provided updated advice to these sectors on the management of this product on Friday 14 November 2025.

Families are asked to seek advice from their ECEC or school about arrangements in place for their specific location.

EDU WEBSITE - as at 11.30am 14 November 2025

DRAFT

ACT public school closures Friday 14 November 2025

The ACT Government is advising families of a number of ACT public school closures (full closure, partial closure) on Friday 14 November 2025.

This is following national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos. This product is used at some schools for sensory play, and arts and crafts.

While WorkSafe ACT has identified the risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low, the safety of our schools is our highest priority.

The decision to close the schools has been made in line with Education Directorate processes and on the advice of WorkSafe ACT on the safe management and remediation process required. The safety of our students, staff and the community is our highest priority.

Closing impacted schools or impacted spaces/some year levels within schools will allow testing and remediation to occur as soon as possible.

We will follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

Families will have received notification from their school about these closures. We ask families to please check their emails if they haven't already for full information.

For urgent enquiries, please contact the [Education Directorate Feedback and Complaints team](#).

Families will be kept up to date by their schools about any changes to learning next week. We thank you for your understanding.

This situation is evolving, and we will keep this page updated with the latest information.

List of closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

Latest advice as at 11.30am Friday 14 November.

Whole School Closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Black Mountain School
- Campbell Primary School
- Charles Weston School
- Charnwood-Dunlop Primary School
- Evatt Primary School
- Florey Primary School

DRAFT

- Lyons Early Childhood School
- Malkara School
- Namadgi School
- Latham Primary School
- Chapman Primary School
- Cranleigh School
- Miles Franklin Primary School
- Fraser Primary School
- Wanniasa Hills Primary School

Partial School Closures (multiple class closures) for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Charles Conder Primary School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- North Ainslie Primary School – Preschool and year 1
- Torrens Primary School – Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1
- Wanniasa School – Preschool to year 6 (junior school)
- Yarralumla Primary School – Montessori, Kindergarten, Year 1, Small Group Program
- Throsby School – Kindergarten, year 1 and year 2
- Amaroo School – Small Group Program

Preschool Closures only Friday 14 November 2025:

- Curtin Primary School – Preschool
- Kingsford Smith School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Mount Rogers Preschool
- Monash Preschool

EDU WEBSITE - as at 10.30am 14 November 2025

ACT public school closures Friday 14 November 2025

The ACT Government is advising families of a number of ACT public school closures (full closure, partial closure) on Friday 14 November 2025.

This is following national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos. This product is used at some schools for sensory play, and arts and crafts.

DRAFT

While WorkSafe ACT has identified the risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low, the safety of our schools is our highest priority.

The decision to close the schools has been made in line with Education Directorate processes and on the advice of WorkSafe ACT on the safe management and remediation process required. The safety of our students, staff and the community is our highest priority.

Closing impacted schools or impacted spaces/some year levels within schools will allow testing and remediation to occur as soon as possible.

We will follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

Families will have received notification from their school about these closures. We ask families to please check their emails if they haven't already for full information.

For urgent enquiries, please contact the [Education Directorate Feedback and Complaints team](#).

Families will be kept up to date by their schools about any changes to learning next week. We thank you for your understanding.

This situation is evolving, and we will keep this page updated with the latest information.

List of closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

Latest advice as at 10.30am Friday 14 November.

Whole School Closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Black Mountain School
- Campbell Primary School
- Charles Weston School
- Charnwood-Dunlop Primary School
- Evatt Primary School
- Florey Primary School
- Lyons Early Childhood School
- Malkara School
- Namadgi School
- Latham Primary School
- Chapman Primary School
- Cranleigh School
- Miles Franklin Primary School
- Fraser Primary School
- Wanniasa Hills Primary School

DRAFT

Partial School Closures (multiple class closures) for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Charles Conder Primary School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- North Ainslie Primary School – Preschool and year 1
- Torrens Primary School – Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1
- Wanniasa School – Preschool to year 6
- Yarralumla Primary School – Montessori, Kindergarten, Year 1, Small Group Program
- Throsby School – Kindergarten, year 1 and year 2

Preschool Closures only Friday 14 November 2025:

- Curtin Primary School – Preschool
- Kingsford Smith School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Mount Rogers Preschool
- Monash Preschool

EDU WEBSITE - as at 9am 14 November 2025

ACT public school closures Friday 14 November 2025

The ACT Government is advising families of a number of ACT public school closures (full closure, partial closure) on Friday 14 November 2025.

This is following national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos. This product is used at some schools for sensory play, and arts and crafts.

While WorkSafe ACT has identified the risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low, the safety of our schools is our highest priority.

The decision to close the schools has been made in line with Education Directorate processes and on the advice of WorkSafe ACT on the safe management and remediation process required. The safety of our students, staff and the community is our highest priority.

Closing impacted schools or impacted spaces/some year levels within schools will allow testing and remediation to occur as soon as possible.

We will follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

DRAFT

Families will have received notification from their school about these closures. We ask families to please check their emails if they haven't already for full information.

For urgent enquiries, please contact the [Education Directorate Feedback and Complaints team](#).

Families will be kept up to date by their schools about any changes to learning next week. We thank you for your understanding.

This situation is evolving, and we will keep this page updated with the latest information.

List of closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

Latest advice as at 9am Friday 14 November.

Whole School Closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Black Mountain School
- Campbell Primary School
- Charles Weston School
- Charnwood-Dunlop Primary School
- Evatt Primary School
- Florey Primary School
- Lyons Early Childhood School
- Malkara School
- Namadgi School
- Latham Primary School
- Chapman Primary School
- Cranleigh School
- Miles Franklin Primary School
- Fraser Primary School
- Wanniasa Hills Primary School

Partial School Closures (multiple class closures) for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Charles Conder Primary School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- North Ainslie Primary School – Preschool and year 1
- Torrens Primary School – Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1
- Wanniasa School – Preschool to year 6
- Yarralumla Primary School – Montessori, Kindergarten, Year 1, Small Group Program

Preschool Closures only Friday 14 November 2025:

- Curtin Primary School – Preschool
- Kingsford Smith School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School – Preschool

DRAFT

EDU WEBSITE - as at 8am 14 November 2025

ACT public school closures Friday 14 November 2025

The ACT Government is advising families of a number of ACT public school closures (full closure, partial closure) on Friday 14 November 2025.

This is following national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos. This product is used at some schools for sensory play, and arts and crafts.

While WorkSafe ACT has identified the risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low, the safety of our schools is our highest priority.

The decision to close the schools has been made in line with Education Directorate processes and on the advice of WorkSafe ACT on the safe management and remediation process required. The safety of our students, staff and the community is our highest priority.

Closing impacted schools or impacted spaces/some year levels within schools will allow testing and remediation to occur as soon as possible.

We will follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

Families will have received notification from their school about these closures. We ask families to please check their emails if they haven't already for full information.

For urgent enquiries, please contact the [Education Directorate Feedback and Complaints team](#).

Families will be kept up to date by their schools about any changes to learning next week. We thank you for your understanding.

This situation is evolving, and we will keep this page updated with the latest information.

List of closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

Latest advice as at 8am Friday 14 November.

DRAFT

Whole School Closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Black Mountain School
- Campbell Primary School
- Charles Weston School
- Charnwood-Dunlop Primary School
- Evatt Primary School
- Florey Primary School
- Lyons Early Childhood School
- Malkara School
- Namadgi School
- Latham Primary School
- Chapman Primary School
- Cranleigh School
- Miles Franklin Primary School

Partial School Closures (multiple class closures) for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Charles Conder Primary School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- North Ainslie Primary School – Preschool and year 1
- Torrens Primary School – Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1
- Wanniasa School – Preschool to year 6
- Yarralumla Primary School – Montessori, Kindergarten, Year 1, Small Group Program

Preschool Closures only Friday 14 November 2025:

- ~~Chapman Primary School – Preschool~~
- ~~Cranleigh School – Preschool~~
- Curtin Primary School – Preschool
- Kingsford Smith School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School – Preschool

EDU WEBSITE

ACT public school closures Friday 14 November 2025

The ACT Government is advising families of a number of ACT public school closures (full closure, partial closure) on Friday 14 November 2025.

This is following national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos. This product is used at some schools for sensory play, and arts and crafts.

DRAFT

While WorkSafe ACT has identified the risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low, the safety of our schools is our highest priority.

The decision to close the schools has been made in line with Education Directorate processes and on the advice of WorkSafe ACT on the safe management and remediation process required. The safety of our students, staff and the community is our highest priority.

Closing impacted schools or impacted spaces within schools will allow testing and remediation to occur as soon as possible.

We will follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

Families will have received notification from their school about these closures. We ask families to please check their emails if they haven't already for full information.

For urgent enquiries, please contact the [Education Directorate Feedback and Complaints team](#).

Families will be kept up to date by their schools about any changes to learning next week. We thank you for your understanding.

List of closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

Whole School Closures for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Black Mountain School
- Campbell Primary School
- Charles Weston School
- Charnwood-Dunlop Primary School
- Evatt Primary School
- Florey Primary School
- Lyons Early Childhood School
- Malkara School
- Namadgi School

Partial School Closures impacting multiple classes for Friday 14 November 2025:

- Charles Conder Primary School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- North Ainslie Primary School – Preschool and year 1
- Torrens Primary School – Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1
- Wanniasa School – Preschool to year 6
- Yarralumla Primary School – Montessori, Kindergarten, Year 1, Small Group Program
- Latham Primary School – Kindergarten, year 1, year 4 and Small Group Program

DRAFT

Preschool Closures only Friday 14 November 2025:

- Chapman Primary School – Preschool
- Cranleigh School – Preschool
- Curtin Primary School – Preschool
- Kingsford Smith School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School – Preschool

EDU SOCIALS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ACT PUBLIC SCHOOL FAMILIES

A number of ACT public schools will be closed (full closure, partial closure) TODAY, Friday 14 November 2025.

This is following national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos. This product is used at some schools for sensory play, and arts and crafts.

While WorkSafe ACT has identified the risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low, the safety of our schools is our highest priority.

The decision to close the schools has been made in line with Education Directorate processes and on the advice of WorkSafe ACT on the safe management and remediation process required. The safety of our students, staff and the community is our highest priority.

Closing impacted schools or impacted spaces within schools will allow testing and remediation to occur as soon as possible. We will follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

Advice for families:

- Families will have received notification from their school about these closures. We ask families to please check their emails if they haven't already for full information.
- For urgent enquiries, please contact the [Education Directorate Feedback and Complaints team](#).
- Families will be kept up to date by their schools about any changes to learning next week. We thank you for your understanding.

The full list of schools is on our website [\(link\)](#)

From: [Matthews, David](#)
To: [Spence, Angela](#); [Huxley, Mark](#); [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
Cc: [DDGEDUoffice](#); [EDU_EGMPGC](#); [EDU_EGMFIG](#)
Subject: FW: Forrest Primary School - incident response
Date: Friday, 14 November 2025 2:25:51 PM

OFFICIAL

Just FYI.

From: Matthews, David
Sent: Friday, 14 November 2025 2:25 PM
To: Allen, Tracey
Subject: RE: Forrest Primary School - incident response

Tracey,

I advised [REDACTED] from the AEU of the below.

They acknowledged the information. They stated that the website had now listed Forrest as fully closed. I advised I would confirm that with them.

[REDACTED] passed on a question [REDACTED] had received from a principal about 'why all primary schools had not been closed'. I advised that that was not required in line with the advice from Worksafe.

[REDACTED] also asked 'would all primary schools be tested by assessors'. I confirmed it would be only schools that has reported relevant material.

[REDACTED] advised that the feedback they had received has been generally calm and understanding.

David Matthews

From: Allen, Tracey <Tracey.Allen@act.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 14 November 2025 1:40 PM
To: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Forrest Primary School - incident response
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Contaminated Sand Incident – Forrest Primary School

Good afternoon David

Please see information below from IMT Lead for information and action.

Can you please let me know the outcome for record purposes.

Regards,

Tracey

From: James, Brooke <Brooke.James@act.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 14 November 2025 12:43 PM
To: Allen, Tracey <Tracey.Allen@act.gov.au>
Subject: Forrest Primary School - incident response

OFFICIAL

Hi Tracey

Please find below a summary of incident response actions for Forrest PS

- Triaged on 13/11 as no impact due to product contained in a storeroom and removed

against EDU advice.

- SO received further information on 14/11 following further investigation at school level indicates preschool impact and SGP and wellbeing room impact.
- Preschool and SGP students will be sent home early with approved EDU comms and internal alterations have been made to isolate impacted spaces.
- Chris has been in contact with Media and Union.

Tracey, can we please request David Matthews reach out to AEU to discuss to assure process have been followed and supports adapted to reflect the state on the ground as information was made available to School Operations

Happy to discuss

With thanks,

Brooke James | Senior Director

School Operations

School Improvement Branch | Education Directorate | ACT Government

Phone: 0401 805 628 or +61 02 6205 0293| Email: Brooke.James@act.gov.au

Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters where we live and work and pay my respects to elders past, present and future.

Please note – this email is sent at a time that is convenient for me. No expectation of action is required outside of regular working hours.

IMT Situation Report

Incident Name/Identifier: Contaminated Sand	Date/Time: 14 Nov 2025 1430Hrs
Situation Update:	
<p>The ACCC has issued a recall for children’s sand products that may contain asbestos, sold by retailers including Officeworks, Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids, and Zart Art. The recall was initiated by supplier Educational Colours. The ACT Education Directorate has assessed the impact on schools and service delivery to ensure the safety of staff, students, and the community, and to meet PCBU obligations under the WHS Act.</p> <p>School closures General Update – Friday 14 November 2025 @ 2:50 PM All schools have responded to IMT engagement. Current impacts: Whole school closures: 16 Partial closures (multiple cohorts): 7 Preschool-only closures: 8 Schools relocating students to alternative classrooms: 28 Schools confirmed with no sand on site: 33</p> <p>IMT Lead Update – The IMT has engaged with all schools to establish an accurate picture of the incident. Responses from all schools have now been received, and engagement with independent schools, early childhood services, and CECA is ongoing for information sharing and regulatory support. Special Need Transport has been engaged and is working collaborative with the IMT and altered service requirements. Schools cleaning team have been briefed and communications provided regarding possible interruptions and re assignments to alternate sites.</p> <p>Communications & Media – Templates and support have been provided to schools and ESO areas (feedback and complaints) for community inquiries. To date, 21 calls have been received, mostly positive interactions. Media presence has occurred at several school sites, with minimal or no engagement with staff or school communities.</p> <p>Weekend.activity – Priority is being given to reopening schools currently closed and those with additional needs due to their higher impact on service delivery. Considerations to Frequency of meetings and reporting have been undertaken to minimise fatigue and support effective decision making. Employee Assistance Program (EAP) support has been coordinated for staff over the weekend, with communications distributed to all employees.</p> <p>Remediation Need further information on the testing to be able to make operational decisions WorkSafe is aware of our situation with ongoing updates</p> <p>Assessment and remediation Ongoing assessments are underway which will allow remediation works to commence.</p>	

IMT Situation Report

Remediation and reopening will be contingent on clearance certificates. A triage system for prioritising sites is being managed by SFM in consultation with a licensed assessor and guided by WorkSafe advice.

SFM has additional staff identified to ensure efficacy of remaining works can be complete as soon as practicable.

WorkSafe
WHS team is in contact WorkSafe as a priority to discuss testing requirements and will provide further updates upon receipt.

Risk Assessment
Development of new risk assessment is being undertaken by WHS, SFM & RSEM to address current requirements and any changes or delays.

IMT plans for day
Review of schedule for remediation – SFM/IMT
Establishing clear criteria for remediation and re-opening
Actions to be followed through to assigned members

Execution: (Actions.to.be.taken.to.resolve.the.incident)

Outstanding/New Actions/Tasks:	Assigned to (name)	Completed
Communications for Weekend activities and community hirers	Sally Van Aalst	Complete
Ensure communications are drafted and approved that includes no access to site and further status prior to Monday including additional communications from Health	Sally Van Aalst	Underway
Ensure communications are clear and describe partial closures	Sally Van Aalst	Complete
Ensure communications are sent to ESO regarding school visits	Sally Van Aalst	Complete
Notify schools of decision and give Minister the list through current IMT processes	Brooke James	Ongoing
Talking Points to be sent through to Feedback and Complaints	Brooke James	Complete
Contact Special Needs Transport area notifying them of the school closures	Peter Steele	Complete
Operationalise school closures	Mark Huxley	Complete
Seek formal advice from WorkSafe on management of product and obligations of the Directorate	Alex Dance	Ongoing
Risk assessment to be updated following new information	WHS (lead)	Ongoing
Consideration for health support for those who have handled the product	Jessie Atkins	
Schools and ESO will be notified of EAP Options	Alex Dance	Complete

IMT Situation Report

Ongoing risk assessments for each school – dynamic based on information	Alex Dance and Anthony Bailey	Awaiting Advice WS and Assessor
What is the criteria for remediation and re-opening based on the legislation	Alex Dance and Anthony Bailey	Awaiting Advice WS and Assessor
Ensure all 3 mandatory testing has been conducted ahead of clearance certificate	Anthony Bailey	TBC
Confirm School cleaning operations	Anthony Bailey	Complete
Provide regular updates to Union stakeholders on current situation	David Matthews	ongoing
Set up CMT/IMT channel	Kristen Laurent / Tracey Allen	Completed 14/11/2025
Set up Key Contact List for internal and external stakeholders	Nathan Henderson-Smith	Ongoing
Teams to consider rosters for today, and through the weekend to manage the situation and the fatigue	All team leads	Complete
Liaison to Catholic Education and NGS, and CECA	Michael Crowther	ongoing
Activate DSST front line staff to support the communications	Taymore Tabbah	Complete
Administration and Logistics: (include.frequency.and.types.of.meetings?resources.required.including.learning.arrangements?school.closures?financial.etcj)		
IMT to convene at 09:30 Saturday 15/11/2025		
IMT IMT Lead – Brooke James Admin Support – Nathan Henderson-Smith Comms & Media- Sally Van Aalst Operations – Brooke Walsh Planning – Peter Steele Infrastructure – Anthony Bailey Infrastructure – Phil Morton WHS – Alexandra Dance		
Prepared by: Nathan Henderson-Smith, Admin Support	Approved by Incident Controller/Lead (IC): IMT Lead Brooke James	

Situation Report

Incident Name/Identifier: Contaminated Sand	Date/Time: 14 Nov 2025 – Meeting 2; 1530
Situation Update:	
<p>The ACCC has published a recall notice over children’s sand products that may contain asbestos and were sold at various retailers including Officeworks. The recall was issued by supplier Educational Colours for colourful children’s sand products sold at Officeworks, Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids and Zart Art. The ACT Education Directorate is assessing the impact on the Education Directorate and service delivery to ensure the safety staff, students and the community and that we exercise the PCBU Obligations under the WHS Act.</p> <p>Overview – CMT Lead Minister Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice re legislation requirements compared with other states – Caveat Brief - Confirm hotline hours- what time does it close this arvo, can we open at 7am on Monday? – Access Canberra over the weekend - How many calls did the hotline take today? 21 calls @1420, 2 online = 23 - Afternoon Facebook posts – updates on original post to notify them about the way forward for Monday - Florey Fair – agreement - Weekend staffing arrangements for MO and EDU execs - - What to expect on Sunday in terms of test results/decision-making – Caveat Brief - Update re Non-Govt – update from Michael - Update re ECEC & school aged care – update from Michael <p>Whole of Govt. Update</p> <p>Access Canberra have notified of having play sand in four of their libraries, but a different brand. They have also offered to take calls through the call centre over the weekend. Recommendation would be to take the offer and recommence on Monday 7am.</p> <p>ACT Health have had staff shortages due to the school closures which has resulted in cancellation of some elective surgery. They are seeking advice as soon as available if further closures are expected in order to manage business continuity.</p> <p>PICC are working with EDU and other Govt. areas for aligned communications across the ACT Govt. and community,</p> <p>Actions/Tasks</p> <p>Members to ensure they provide an update on their assigned actions</p> <p>IMT Update – Brooke James – Incident Lead</p> <p>General Update</p> <p>Notifying the bus company for the special needs students was a positive step in communications.</p> <p>Queensland is looking for factsheets on how we have managed this situation</p> <p>School closures updates</p> <p>Whole School Closures = 16 Partial School Closures = 7 Preschool Closures = 8 Schools to relocate students to alternative classrooms = 28</p>	

Situation Report

Schools have reported no sand on site = 33

Weekend Plan

Weekend work – prioritising schools that have a higher impact and need to open.

Have 2 sets of IMT over the weekend to manage work and rest

EAP support over the weekend for staff – emailed to all staff

Remediation

Need further information on the testing to be able to make operational decisions

WorkSafe is aware of our situation with ongoing updates

Clearance by an assessor – legally compliant. Other testing arrangements are currently being confirmed as required. Waiting on Caveat Brief.

Rostering/Fatigue Management/People Management

Significant impact on team today who have been able to respond effectively

Challenges/Corrective Actions

Florey Fair is still progressing however we need to make sure that we are clear on our decision as this will set a precedent. There is a current plan to manage the risk and the risk assessment is being checked with the Assessor. Alex Dance has reviewed this. Florey oval is a community space and if they don't have access to the facility then they are not able to access electricity.

There is a concern of information coming in next week from schools.

Work Health and Safety – Jessie Atkins

Caveat Brief that outlines the requirement for remediation and re-opening aligned with legislation. **URGENT ACTION – Advice, Recommendation in the brief**

WorkSafe Advice – Safety Alert has been updated

Risk Assessment – needs to be reviewed and updated by all members

People Safety – EAP offered to staff

Reporting to WorkSafe will include a list of schools.

Infrastructure & Finance – Nessa Attridge

Working with Anthony on finalising the caveat brief

Communications – Sally Van Aalst

Alignment with Whole of Govt. – working with CMTDD media to ensure there is alignment with communications

Proposed Communications – working on communications for Sunday evening to ensure community has clear information on each school and a plan for Monday

Hotline – communications will inform community on where to get information throughout in the weekend. This will also be covered on the Education Website.

It was suggested our re-opening could present a media opportunity for the Minister's Office.

Stakeholders

Unions – David has spoken to Unions and provided them with updates.

P&C – Angela has spoken with [REDACTED] who is doing media at 5.20pm.

ECEC and NGS – Michael is working with ECEC and Catholic Ed and Independent Schools who will provide update on numbers over the weekend.

Next Steps:

Situation Report

Reminder on Risk Assessment review – please ensure that all members review the risk assessment that is in the chat. Nil input will be taken as nothing further to add.

Decisions:

Florey Fair – school sites can only be used on the weekend if the site is safe and cleared by the assessor. There is to be no access to power or to the site. Florey site has not been cleared by the assessor.

Execution: (Actions to be taken to resolve the incident).

REFER to Action Register in TEAMS file for comments, and status

Administration and Logistics: (include frequency and types of meetings? resources required, including learning arrangements? school closures? financial.etcj)

IMT scheduled meetings:

Saturday 0930 and 1630

Sunday 1000

CMT scheduled meetings:

Saturday 1730

Sunday 1200

CMT

CMT Lead – Angela Spence

Admin Support – Tracey Allen

CMT Manager – Kristen Laurent

IMT Lead – Brooke James

Schools – Mark Huxley

Communications – Sally Van Aalst

Safety – Jessie Atkins

Infrastructure – Vanessa Attridge

Stakeholder – David Matthews

DG – Jo Wood

IMT

IMT Lead – Brooke James

Admin Support – Nathan Henderson-Smith

Prepared by:
Tracey Allen, Admin Support

Approved by Incident Controller/Lead (IC):
Angela Spence, DDG

From: [Education DLO](#)
To: [Hobbs, Rebecca](#); [Meeth, Sybilla](#); [Phillips, Tori](#)
Subject: Sand caveat brief
Date: Friday, 14 November 2025 4:23:52 PM

OFFICIAL

Hi everyone,

A new caveat brief on contaminated sand has just arrived. It's in Sybilla's folder [here](#).

Many thanks,
Adrienne

Adrienne White | Directorate Liaison Officer, Ministerial and Corporate Reporting

Pronouns: She/her

[You can call me directly on MS Teams](#)

Phone: 71833 | Email: Adrienne.White@act.gov.au

MCR | Education Directorate | ACT Government

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

My employer supports me working flexibly, so I may email you outside of normal office hours. I don't expect you to read or respond outside of your normal work hours.



Caveat Brief

To: Minister for Education and Early Childhood

CC:

From: A/g EGM System Policy and Reform

Subject Contaminated Sand: Non-government and ECEC Update

Cleared By: A/g EGM System Policy and Reform

Does this deal with a Child Safety issues or concern? Yes

1. On Wednesday 12 November, WorkSafe ACT issued a safety alert: "SAFETY ALERT: Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand product". This advice:
 - a. confirmed that a decorative coloured sand product had been found to contain traces of chrysotile, a type of asbestos.
 - b. confirmed that laboratory testing undertaken by WorkSafe ACT had confirmed that the contaminated product is present in the ACT and contains chrysotile.

2. On 13 November 2025 the Education Directorate and Children's Education and Care Assurance (CECA) sent advice to non-government schools and Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) providers to alert them to the product recall and provided advice on steps to be undertaken, based on information available on the WorkSafe ACT website.
 - a. At the time the information available was that this product may have been purchased for home use in the ACT but advice was sent to providers out of an abundance of caution.
 - b. Subsequent discussions with WorkSafe ACT (night of 13 November 2025) identified that the website information was targeted to households, not Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act).
 - c. The advice on steps to respond to the product recall were reasonably practicable based on the information known at the time.

3. On 14 November 2025 the following actions were taken:
 - a. Updated advice #1 send to Association of Independent Schools ACT (AISACT) and Catholic Education Canberra Goulburn (CECG), non-government schools and ECEC providers:
 - i. The actions communicated on 13 November 2025 were appropriate for households and not a PCBUs under the WHS Act.
 - ii. Directing to information available on the WorkSafe ACT website regarding asbestos.
 - iii. Further advice would be provided once available from WorkSafe ACT.
 - b. Communication materials prepared for ACT public schools shared with AISACT and CECG.
 - c. Update to website for families of non-government schools and ECECs that providers have been given advice and families should contact them about arrangements at those locations.
 - d. Updated advice #2 send to Association of Independent Schools ACT (AISACT) and Catholic Education Canberra Goulburn (CECG), non-government schools and ECEC providers providing updated WorkSafe ACT advice, which included actions for PCBUs.



Caveat Brief

4. Current advice / intelligence from sector stakeholders:

- a. AISACT – 6 of 18 schools affected, with schools following advice provided and still operating.
- b. CECG – some schools impacted (number will be confirmed with the Directorate) and triaging from 1 (affected and will cause operational disruptions) to 4 (not affected). Schools still operating.
- c. Out of School Hours Care – some providers have contacted CECA regarding potential approval to operate from alternative locations if schools continue to be impacted.
- d. ECEC providers – high volume of calls with providers seeking advice (referred to WorkSafe ACT) and 54 notifications of presence of recalled product(s).

Yvette Berry MLA /...../.....

Action Officer: Michael Crowther

Date: 14 November 2025

From: [Matthews, David](#)
To: [Laurent, Kristen](#); [Allen, Tracey](#)
Cc: [EDU_EGMFIG](#)
Subject: FW: Update on ACT public school closures on Friday 14 November 2025
Date: Friday, 14 November 2025 4:26:00 PM

From: Matthews, David

Sent: Friday, 14 November 2025 4:26 PM

To: [REDACTED]@actparents.org.au; [REDACTED]@actparents.org.au; [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]@aeuact.org.au; [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]@aeuact.org.au; [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]@cpsu.org.au; Jones, Chris (ACTEDU) <Chris.Jones@ed.act.edu.au>;
 Vaughan, Simon (ACTEDU) <Simon.Vaughan@ed.act.edu.au>; Clode, Claire (ACTEDU)
 <Claire.Clode@ed.act.edu.au>; Uttley, Jade <Jade.Uttley@act.gov.au>
Cc: Wood, Jo <Jo.Wood@act.gov.au>; Spence, Angela <Angela.Spence@act.gov.au>; EDU,
 Director-General Office <EDUDirectorGeneralOffice@act.gov.au>; DDGEDUoffice
 <DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>; EDU, EGMFIG <EGMFIG@act.gov.au>; Van Aalst, Sally
 <Sally.VanAalst@act.gov.au>

Subject: Update on ACT public school closures on Friday 14 November 2025

Update on ACT public school closures on Friday 14 November 2025

Dear all

Thank you for your support over the past 24 hours as we have worked with our schools, hirers and out of school hours care providers, to manage closures, testing and remediation at schools that have been in contact with Kanlink Decorative Sand.

As of 1pm today there were 16 schools fully closed, 7 schools impacted by partial closures, 8 preschools closed and 28 schools that have had students relocated to other parts of their schools to allow for remediation works.

We are extremely grateful for the support of our schools, staff, and community.

Families and staff will receive an update from their schools on Sunday afternoon, about learning arrangements on Monday.

The safety of students, staff and the community is our highest priority. We continue to follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

I will provide you with an update Sunday evening. If you have any questions, please do not hastate to contact me.

The latest information will be on [our website](#).

Thank you for your support.

David Matthews
Executive Group Manager
People, Governance and Communications
Education Directorate

From: [Bailey, Anthony](#)
To: [EDU, EGMFIG](#)
Cc: [Morton, Phillip](#); [EDU EBMSFM](#); [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
Subject: RE: Air Monitoring Results
Date: Friday, 14 November 2025 4:36:43 PM

OFFICIAL

All 16 schools assessed overnight have received negative tests. We are yet to start receiving results from today as Assessors have been focussed on coordinating the commencement of removal and rolling out the machines at the next cohort of schools. Recent advice is that Assessors are heading to laboratories to start assessing today's samples which will include issuing some clearances (including for Florey)

From: EDU, EGMFIG
Sent: Friday, 14 November 2025 4:32 PM
To: Bailey, Anthony
Cc: Morton, Phillip ; EDU EBMSFM ; EDU, EGMFIG ; Attridge, Vanessa
Subject: RE: Air Monitoring Results

OFFICIAL

Hi Anthony,
 Can we please get an urgent update.
 Thank you
 Christy

Christy Fox

Executive Officer to Ms Vanessa Attridge
 Phone: Teams | Email: Christy.Fox@act.gov.au
 Finance and Infrastructure Group | Education | ACT Government
 Level 4 220 London Circuit | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Pinterest](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Google+](#)

From: Bailey, Anthony <Anthony.Bailey@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 10:44 PM
To: Attridge, Vanessa <VanessaS.Attridge@act.gov.au>
Cc: Morton, Phillip <Phillip.Morton@act.gov.au>; EDU EBMSFM <EDU.SFMEBMO@act.gov.au>; EDU, EGMFIG <EGMFIG@act.gov.au>
Subject: Air Monitoring Results

OFFICIAL

Good evening Nessa
 As you are aware urgent testing for airborne particles has been prioritised across a number of schools this evening. While there are still a number of results outstanding I can confirm that there have been no positive results returned. The following schools have received testing reports indicating that there is no presence of asbestos in the collected samples:

School	Contact	Phone number	Consultant	Air monitoring results
Malkara School	Kyrie Douch	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Torrens Primary	Rohan	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	

School				
Wanniassa School	Daniel Barrett			
Florey Primary School	Karen Murray			Negative
Miles Franklin Primary School	Mark Dunn			Negative
Latham Primary School	Sam Chapman			Negative
Charnwood Dunlop School	Julia Ison			
Narrabundah Early Childhood school	Chris			Negative
Cranleigh School	Emma			Negative
Kingsford Smith	Paula Kinsman			Negative
Black Mountain	Lara Coman			Negative
Chapman Primary School	James Barnett			Negative
Campbell Primary School	Fiona Mckellar			
Charles Condor Primary School	Haley Websdane	or our BSO Josh (
Charles Weston School	AJ McArthur			
Evatt Primary School	Rebecca			

Kind regards

Anthony

Anthony Bailey | Executive Branch Manager – School Facilities Management

Phone: 6205 9543 | Email: anthony.bailey@act.gov.au

Business Services Division | Education | ACT Government

Level 4, 220 London Circuit, Canberra City, ACT 2601

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Google+](#)

JW



Fri 14 Nov at 1:19 pm

Hi Bec, further information from Forrest and I have no approved early departure for all students

Thank you for the update.

Situation Report – Form 05

Incident Name/Identifier: Contaminated Sand	Date/Time: 15/11/25 9:30am																			
Situation Update: IMT Discussion - Brooke James, Jessie Atkins, Alex Dance, Anthony Bailey, Phil Morton, Sally VanAalst																				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment and remediation work continued overnight with a full schedule of works occurring today Florey Primary School's clearance certificate was obtained through an expedited process due to the community event scheduled for 15/11 At the time of the IMT no further results had been received following works from Friday 14/11 Consultants have been provided a deadline of 12 noon Sunday 16/11 for test result return to SFM At 3pm Sunday 16/11 SFM will confirm test results obtained by the deadline to inform next steps 3 variations of school community comms are in draft for priority clearance 15/11 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Clearance obtained with school to re-open Monday 17/11 Further time is required to complete remediation works and school remains closed Works will commence in the week beginning 17/11 19 Schools will not commence assessment or remediation this weekend, with works scheduled to commence the week beginning 17/11 <table border="1" data-bbox="301 1068 954 1852"> <tr><td>Telopea Park School</td></tr> <tr><td>Hughes Primary School</td></tr> <tr><td>Ainslie School</td></tr> <tr><td>Arawang Primary School</td></tr> <tr><td>Bonython Primary School</td></tr> <tr><td>Calwell Primary School</td></tr> <tr><td>Duffy Primary School</td></tr> <tr><td>Evelyn Scott School</td></tr> <tr><td>Garran Primary School</td></tr> <tr><td>Gowrie Primary School</td></tr> <tr><td>Harrison School</td></tr> <tr><td>Hawker College</td></tr> <tr><td>Isabella Plains Early Childhood School</td></tr> <tr><td>Macgregor Primary School</td></tr> <tr><td>Maribyrnong Primary School</td></tr> <tr><td>O'Connor Cooperative School</td></tr> <tr><td>Taylor Primary School</td></tr> <tr><td>Giralang Primary School</td></tr> <tr><td>Margaret Hendry School</td></tr> </table> 		Telopea Park School	Hughes Primary School	Ainslie School	Arawang Primary School	Bonython Primary School	Calwell Primary School	Duffy Primary School	Evelyn Scott School	Garran Primary School	Gowrie Primary School	Harrison School	Hawker College	Isabella Plains Early Childhood School	Macgregor Primary School	Maribyrnong Primary School	O'Connor Cooperative School	Taylor Primary School	Giralang Primary School	Margaret Hendry School
Telopea Park School																				
Hughes Primary School																				
Ainslie School																				
Arawang Primary School																				
Bonython Primary School																				
Calwell Primary School																				
Duffy Primary School																				
Evelyn Scott School																				
Garran Primary School																				
Gowrie Primary School																				
Harrison School																				
Hawker College																				
Isabella Plains Early Childhood School																				
Macgregor Primary School																				
Maribyrnong Primary School																				
O'Connor Cooperative School																				
Taylor Primary School																				
Giralang Primary School																				
Margaret Hendry School																				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All 19 schools listed can make internal adjustments and remain operational with the contaminated product contained and spaces isolated All works will be scheduled after 6pm to mitigate the risk of interruptions to operations 																				

Situation Report – Form 05

Execution: (Actions to be taken to resolve the incident)		
Outstanding/New Actions/Tasks:	Assigned to (name)	Completed
1. Drafting and clearance of 3 iterations of comms to include health information	Sally Brooke Alex Jessie	ETA 4PM
2. Photo Op/Media - 1:30pm Campbell High School	Anthony Sal	
3. Seek endorsement of two risk assessments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13/11 RA used to inform decisions for school closure 15/11 RA used to capture risks associated with the current state of play 	Brooke to seek endorsement in CMT	
4. Delegations – Re-opening of schools – Proposal for approval of clearance certificates in shared live document or email bulk certificates, Sunday 3pm for DG approval	Brooke to test with CMT	
5. WorkSafe communication re: clearance certificates – proposal to create a word document inclusive of PDF clearance certificates shared with WorkSafe as a live document	Brooke to propose to CMT Jessie to engage with WorkSafe	Completed – email in IMT files
6. Obtain hiring commitments for the first part of the week commencing 17/11 for schools awaiting remediation works – ensure hirers who require access to space can safely do so	School Operations – to commence 8am Monday 17/11 SFM to be updated	Ongoing
7. Documents and emails to be uploaded to IMT Document folder in Teams Channel	All participants and School Operations	Ongoing
Administration and Logistics: (include frequency and types of meetings, resources required including learning arrangements, school closures, financial etc.)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next IMT scheduled for 4:30pm 15/11 		
Prepared by (name/title)	Approved by Incident Controller/Lead (IC): Brooke James	

Situation Report – Form 05

From: [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
To: [Dance, Alex](#); [Atkins, Jessie](#); [Bailey, Anthony](#)
Subject: FW: FOR APPROVAL
Date: Saturday, 15 November 2025 10:32:45 AM
Attachments: [Hazardous Materials Response – Contaminated Sand \(ACM\) – Update 1.docx](#)
Importance: High

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi,

FYI – trim totally failing at present to brief attached here. Alex, thank you for your work on this.

Nessa

From: Attridge, Vanessa
Sent: Saturday, 15 November 2025 10:32 AM
To: Spence, Angela <Angela.Spence@act.gov.au>
Cc: Wood, Jo <Jo.Wood@act.gov.au>; EDU, Director-General Office <EDUDirectorGeneralOffice@act.gov.au>; DDGEDUoffice <DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>; EDU, EGMFIG <EGMFIG@act.gov.au>; Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>; Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>
Subject: FOR APPROVAL
Importance: High

Dear Ang,

Please see Min Brief for approval and clearance through to DG. I have included relevant excerpts of the WHS Regs. I have also included a summary of the advice from the WorkSafe Commissioner to EDU on Thursday evening to isolate these areas immediately.

TRIM is not working unfortunately, so please use the word version attached.

This replaces the Caveat Brief being developed by Alex Dance & Anthony yesterday

Regards,
Nessa

Vanessa Attridge
Executive Group Manager | Finance & Infrastructure
02 6205 3502 | vanessas.attridge@act.gov.au
Education | ACT Government
www.education.act.gov.au



Education Directorate

Ministerial Brief

To:	Minister for Education and Early Childhood	Tracking No.: Click here to enter text.
Date:	15/11/2025	
CC:	Click here to enter text.	
From:	Incident Controller – Contaminated Sand (ACM)	
Subject:	Hazardous Materials Response – Contaminated Sand (ACM) – Update 1	
Critical Date:	17/11/2025	
Critical Reason:	Hazardous Materials Response - ACM in Sand - 2025	

- DG .../.../...
- DDG .../.../...

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information in this brief outlining action taken by the Education Directorate to respond to advice of Asbestos contamination in sand products, following confirmation these products are present in ACT public schools;

Noted / Please Discuss

Yvette Berry MLA/...../.....

Minister’s Feedback

Background

1. On 12 November 2025 the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission published a [recall notice](#) and [media release](#) for a decorative coloured sand product sold as Kadink Decorative Sand, stating it may contain tremolite asbestos.

2. On the same day WorkSafe ACT issued a [safety alert](#) *Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand products*, after WorkSafe laboratory testing of samples confirmed that some product lines contain traces of Chrysotile, another type of asbestos, is present in the ACT.

Issues

3. At 11:40am on 13 November 2025, School Operations issued urgent communications to all schools requesting priority stocktake to identify if the product was present and/or used at ACT public schools.
4. School responses confirmed presence of the product, and informed triaging levels of hazard/risk across sites, from sites that actively use the sand recently and frequently, compared to schools that have unused sealed product in storerooms.
5. Education Directorate notification was made to WorkSafe ACT as per ss35-38 of the *Work Health and Safety 2011 (WHS Act 2011)*, on the basis Directorate, is aware, through information provided by the ACCC and WorkSafe ACT, that products in schools contain asbestos/may contain asbestos.
6. In accordance with legislative requirements under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and Regulations (Part 8), and alignment with the Directorate's usual methods of addressing suspected asbestos containing material (ACM), School Facilities Management engaged licensed asbestos assessors to assess risk at each site.
7. Assessors provided verbal advice that these spaces must not be accessed until testing and any remediation was completed.
8. At a Teams meeting in the evening of 14 November, also attended by other Chiefs of Staff and the WorkSafe ACT Commissioner, Directorate officials provided you with advice and an update on the responses to address this risk.
9. At that meeting, the Directorate noted advice from the Commissioner including:
 - a. Concern about risk of exposure to asbestos fibres;
 - b. From the perspective of WHS Act, regardless of the Directorate's determination of the level of risk, the risk requires the same treatment and the expectation in relation to risk is isolation and then elimination, in line with the hierarchy of controls;
 - c. The Directorate is aware of the risk and legislatively obligated to take immediate action, and the need to balance psychosocial risk;
 - d. Risk of exposure to traces of asbestos is low;
 - e. In addition to air monitoring, TEM (polarised light providing defined resolution) and Polarized Light Microscopy (PLM) tests should occur;
 - f. Assessors should be the only people attending these sites from tonight. If contained to one building in a big school, isolate that building. If its over multiple classrooms then consider is it the whole school.
 - g. Remediation of areas is required to eliminate asbestos and receive certificate of clearance.

Legislative Obligations

10. A range of legal duties arise from the identification of Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) or suspected ACM, particularly with respect to the due diligence of officers under the WHS Act and the requirement to minimise the exposure of workers and others to identified risks. This is further refined through the WHS Regulations, particularly clause 419 which provides that a PCBU must not knowingly expose a worker to asbestos (including handling and removal).
11. In the evening of 13 November 2025, the WorkSafe ACT Commissioner advised the Directorate that impacted spaces should be isolated and advised testing requirements should include air testing, TEM testing (polarised light providing highly defined resolution) and Polarized Light Microscopy (PLM) testing.
12. The advice from the WorkSafe ACT Commissioner and subsequent advice for PCBUs published on the WorkSafe ACT website on 14 November 2025 accords with Part 8 of the WHS Regulations 2011:
 - a. Clauses 422 and 423 provide that asbestos or ACM must be treated as asbestos until it is determined that it is not asbestos or ACM.
 - b. Part 8 also steps out the requirements for assessment and identification of asbestos and removal of it requiring these activities to be conducted by licensed professionals.
 - c. None of the exemptions (clause 419) appear to apply to Education Directorate workers in the context of this product recall.
 - d. Further requirements apply to the removal of asbestos requiring a licensed remover to conduct that activity, including isolation of location of material (clause 470) and provision of a clearance certificate by a licensed professional (clauses 473 and 474).
13. Key Regulation excerpts are provided at Attachment A.
14. Note while Chrysotile is a naturally occurring type of asbestos and there are specific requirements under the WHS Act for treatment of naturally occurring asbestos. However the Directorate considers these do not apply given the product is a manufactured product no longer in its natural form.

Decision to Close or Partly Close Schools

15. The Directorate commenced decisions and implementation for full and partial closure of these schools, due to:
 - a. Legal obligations under the *WHS Act 2011* and WHS Regulations 2011;
 - b. Advice from assessors which stated these spaces must not be accessed;
 - c. Verbal advice from the WorkSafe ACT Commissioner on 14 November;
 - d. School impact triaging and a risk assessment, which considered operational impacts of isolation of spaces where the product was stored or used.
16. Prioritisation is being given to sites that have been closed and/or have higher risk based on opened containers of product, frequency, prevalence and recency of use.

Testing, Remediation and Clearance

17. Air monitoring is being undertaken at impacted sites in areas of use/storage.
18. Assessors have provided air monitoring results, all results received for 16 schools to date are negative to the presence of airborne asbestos fibres.
19. As air monitoring results are obtained, the assessors, based on the known risks, are providing guidance to inform removal by a licensed asbestos removalist. A licensed removalist, in conjunction with the assessor, will safely remove identified product from schools in accordance with legal requirements/Codes of Practice.
20. In accordance with the Directorate's usual methods of managing ACM (or suspected ACM), assessors will conduct air monitoring during the removal and disposal process, identify the location of the product on a school map and conduct a further inspection of remediated spaces following the removal. Should the assessor deem it required, they will undertake cleaning of impacted spaces.
21. Assessors are expected to issue clearance advice stating the impacted spaces are safe to occupy, based on the information currently available and subject to further testing. One clearance certificate has already been provided for Florey Primary School.
22. One engaged provider has indicated readiness to provide clearance certificates for one or more sites without requiring TEM testing results noting that environmental cleaning has been conducted and that test would not provide any variation in requirement to the remediation work undertaken.
23. Regulations only require that a clearance certificate is provided by a licensed assessor.
24. Advice from Licensed Assessors is that the timing of TEM testing means that it is not a valuable tool in determining the clearance of an isolated space, and it is understood to be the view of assessors that the TEM test is not reasonably practicable.
25. The Directorate is taking a risk based approach and further measures:
 - a. for assessors to collect and test product samples representing around 10% of products, to provide further information; and
 - b. Some TEM testing to occur, noting clearance certificates are expected to be provided prior to those results being available in approximately 10 days.
26. Assessment and remediation is being prioritised at closed schools and Specialist Schools, to ensure these sites are able to reopen on Monday, 17 November 2025.
27. Current advice is that this will be achievable. Addressing the needs of schools with partial closure remains at risk and is dependent upon the capacity of assessors and removalists working over the weekend of 15 and 16 November.
28. Given the evolving nature of this situation it is reasonable to expect further product may be identified in schools in future. This may include schools that have been remediated through the current process. Further advice will be provided on responses should this occur, informed by outcomes of 13-17 November.
29. On 14 November WorkSafe published an updated safety alert including information for PCBUs that accords with the above approach, as a licensed assessor will assess the risk

and determine the appropriate remediation action and, if necessary, the class of licensed asbestos removalist required to conduct the removal work.

30. Directed to consumers and acknowledges working with regulator

Further information will be provided regarding other action taken, including in relation to early childhood education and care services by Children's Education and Care Authority.

Financial Implications

31. Asbestos assessment, remediation and removal costs are expected to be in the range of approximately \$50,000 - \$100,000 – further advice will be provided.

Consultation

Internal

32. School Facilities Management, Work Health and Safety, School Operations.
33. Incident Management Team and Crisis Management Team.

Cross Directorate

34. Engagement has occurred with CMTEDD and Health.

External

35. Unions (AEU, CPSU UWU) and ACT Parents are being regularly informed on this matter.
36. Engagement and information sharing is occurring with the Association of Independent Schools and Catholic Education.

Work Health and Safety

37. The safety of students, staff and the community is our highest priority.
38. The Directorate continues to follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

Benefits/Sensitivities

39. As of 12.15pm on 14 November 2025, 43 schools have been identified as having this product on site.
40. The Directorate acknowledges significant disruption for students, staff and the community associated with schools being closed or partially closed on 14 November, and has provided regular communication to ensure transparency, awareness and mitigate negative impacts as much as possible.
41. The Directorate has taken a risk based approach to uphold legislative obligations and respond to the risk. Closing and partly closing impacted schools has enabled more rapid testing and remediation, outside of school hours, which will also enable risk elimination and clearance certificates more rapidly.

Communications, media and engagement implications

42. There has been extensive media coverage locally and nationally.

Signatory Name: Deputy Director-General Phone: Teams
Action Officer: Executive Group Manager, Finance & Infrastructure Phone: Teams

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	WHS Act Regulations: Key Regulation Excerpts
Attachment B	
Attachment C	

Attachment A**Key Regulation Excerpts**

The following are key excerpts of the [Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011](#) relevant to Education Directorate obligations and action taken to address contaminated sand in ACT public schools, provided for information.

PCBU must not direct or allow worker involvement with asbestos
Chapter 8 Part 8.1 419 (1), (2), page 340

Chapter 8 Asbestos

Part 8.1 Prohibitions and authorised conduct

419 **Work involving asbestos or ACM—prohibitions and exceptions**

- (1) A person conducting a business or undertaking must not carry out, direct or allow a worker to carry out, work involving asbestos.

Maximum penalty: tier E monetary penalty.

Note Strict liability applies to each physical element of each offence under this regulation, unless otherwise stated (see s 6A).

- (2) In this section, work *involves* asbestos if the work involves manufacturing, supplying, transporting, importing, storing, removing, using, installing, **handling**, treating, disposing of or disturbing asbestos or ACM.

Identification by a licenced assessor
Chapter 8 Part 8.3 422 (1), (2)(a), page 344

422 **Asbestos to be identified or assumed at workplace**

- (1) A person with management or control of a workplace must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that all asbestos or ACM at the workplace is identified by a licensed asbestos assessor.

Maximum penalty: tier E monetary penalty.

Note Strict liability applies to each physical element of each offence under this regulation, unless otherwise stated (see s 6A).

- (2) A person with management or control of a workplace must—
- (a) if material at the workplace cannot be identified but a licensed asbestos assessor reasonably believes that the material is asbestos or ACM—assume that the material is asbestos; and

Analysis of a sample

Chapter 8 Part 8.3 423 (1) (2), Page 36

423 Analysis of sample

- (1) A person with management or control of a workplace may identify asbestos or ACM by arranging for a sample of material at the workplace to be analysed for the presence of asbestos or ACM.
- (2) If a person with management or control of a workplace arranges for an analysis, the person must ensure that the sample is analysed only by—
 - (a) a NATA-accredited laboratory accredited for the relevant test method; or

Note NATA—see the dictionary.
 - (b) a laboratory approved by the regulator in accordance with guidelines published by Safe Work Australia; or

Removal of asbestos by a licensed removalist

470 (1), (2), page 384

470 Limiting access to asbestos removal area

- (1) This section applies to—
 - (a) a person conducting a business or undertaking at a workplace who commissions a person to carry out licensed asbestos removal work at the workplace; and
 - (b) a person with management or control of a workplace who is aware that licensed asbestos removal work is being carried out at the workplace.
- (2) Subject to subsection (4), the person must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that no-one other than the following has access to an asbestos removal area:
 - (a) workers engaged in the asbestos removal work;
 - (b) other persons associated with the asbestos removal work;
 - (c) anyone allowed under this regulation or another law to be in the asbestos removal area.

Clearance certificate

473 (1),(2),(3), page 388 & 389

474 (1), (2), page 389

473 Clearance inspection

- (1) This section applies if a person commissions licensed asbestos removal work at a workplace.
- (2) The person or, if the workplace is residential premises, the licensed asbestos removalist must ensure that, when the licensed asbestos removal work is completed, an independent licensed asbestos assessor carries out a clearance inspection of—
 - (a) the asbestos removal area; and
 - (b) the area surrounding the asbestos removal area, including access and egress pathways.

Maximum penalty: tier E monetary penalty.

Note Strict liability applies to each physical element of each offence under this regulation, unless otherwise stated (see s 6A).

- (3) In this part:

clearance inspection means an inspection of an asbestos removal area after asbestos removal work has been completed to verify that the area is safe for normal use, that—

- (a) includes a visual inspection; and
- (b) may include air monitoring.

Note If it is not reasonably practicable for the licensed asbestos assessor to be independent, the person or licensed asbestos removalist may apply to the regulator for an exemption under pt 11.2 from the requirement that the assessor be independent.

474 Clearance certificates

- (1) This section applies if a clearance inspection has been made in accordance with section 473.
- (2) The licensed asbestos assessor who carried out the clearance inspection must issue a clearance certificate, in accordance with this section, before the asbestos removal area at the workplace is re-occupied.

Maximum penalty: tier E monetary penalty.

Note Strict liability applies to each physical element of each offence under this regulation, unless otherwise stated (see s 6A).

- (3) The licensed asbestos assessor must ensure that the asbestos removal area does not pose a risk to health and safety from exposure to asbestos.

Situation Report

Incident Name/Identifier: Contaminated Sand	Date/Time: 15 Nov 2025 – Meeting 3; 1715
Situation Update:	
<p>The ACCC has published a recall notice over children’s sand products that may contain asbestos and were sold at various retailers including Officeworks. The recall was issued by supplier Educational Colours for colourful children’s sand products sold at Officeworks, Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids and Zart Art. The ACT Education Directorate is assessing the impact on the Education Directorate and service delivery to ensure the safety staff, students and the community and that we exercise the PCBU Obligations under the WHS Act. Efforts include the remediation and re-opening requirements to ensure regulatory compliance has been achieved.</p> <p>Overview – CMT Lead Minister Questions</p> <p>Throughout this event, the Minister seeks clarification on actions. We have been able to answer and report back with most questions being addressed in a Brief (REC25 490352) which outlines the regulatory requirements and legislative obligations for the ACT, the advice received from the WorkSafe Commissioner, the response of the Directorate based on legislation, the testing remediation and clearances.</p> <p>The Brief will support annual report hearings scheduled on Monday 17/11/2025</p> <p>Another product has been identified at K-Mart and known to be in 3 schools at this stage. CMT discussed appropriate way to manage this and opportunity to have assessors remove these products from the schools known to have this product and to remove any other coloured sand products they find while at the school. They discussed importance of ensuring critical path for reopening of schools was not, however, compromised, should this approach create any potential delays.</p> <p>Decision: In principle approval to do additional two tests (beyond airborne testing) of samples pending advice on costs.</p> <p>Decision: Assessors to remove all like products from our schools if this does not delay certification and opening.</p> <p>Discussion Points <u>Risk Assessment</u></p> <p>To support decision-making and to understand our current risks, we need to update the risk assessment. Members are tasked to review the Risk Assessment ahead of the next CMT meeting. Topics for consideration for the CMT include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> high risks identified on the risk assessment and if there are any further treatments for consideration. The role and responsibilities of the Education Directorate to the regulator and Statutory Authorities Recovery <p>The following topics have been identified for further CMT discussion:</p>	

Situation Report

Education Directorate responsibilities: Are we clear on what our role and responsibilities are to the regulator (ECEC particularly in preparation, response), Statutory Authorities?
Recovery: Although the focus has been on remediation, are we clear on our responsibilities in relation to recovery? What will be our plan moving forward to further support the opening of schools and the current impact?

IMT Update – Brooke James – Incident Lead

*COP (common operating picture) has been developed in a spreadsheet that gives a full picture of the status of schools, and assessments.

*19 schools scheduled for removal of isolated products from Monday after school hours – these are the schools that were able to isolate the product and remain operational.

*Good feedback on approach from WorkSafe – further notification of school name and clearance certification is required on Sunday.

*No lab results of air monitoring today as priority has been on the groundwork such as collection of decorative sand.

*Contingency planning for schools not opened on Monday will be progressed

*Prioritising air monitoring testing

Communications – Paul Short

Communications are ready for approval to DDG and DG.

Paul to check if Minister wants to go to a school tomorrow for potential media

Stakeholders Update - David

No further updates however there may be lessons to be learnt from Union feedback ([REDACTED] email) – for later discussion

Process for seeking DG clearance for reopening schools needs to be documented for our records.

Execution: (Actions.to.be.taken.to.resolve.the.incident).

REFER to Action Register in TEAMS file for comments, and status

[Action Register CMT.xlsx](#)

Administration and Logistics: (include.frequency.and.types.of.meetings?resources.required.including.learning.arrangements?school.closures?financial.etcj)

IMT scheduled meetings:

Sunday 1000

CMT scheduled meetings:

Sunday 1200

CMT

CMT Lead – Angela Spence

Admin Support – Tracey Allen

CMT Manager – Kristen Laurent

IMT Lead – Brooke James

Situation Report

Schools – Mark Huxley
Communications – Sally Van Aalst/Paul Short
Infrastructure – Vanessa Attridge
Stakeholder – David Matthews
DG – Jo Wood
Mark Stirling

IMT
IMT Lead – Brooke James
Admin Support – Nathan Henderson-Smith

Prepared by:
Tracey Allen, Admin Support

Approved by Incident Controller/Lead (IC):
Angela Spence, DDG

From: [Phillips, Tori](#)
To: [Berry, Yvette](#); [Hobbs, Rebecca](#)
Subject: FOR APPROVAL - Sunday comms package
Date: Saturday, 15 November 2025 7:51:59 PM
Attachments: [Comms action plan - sand.docx](#)
[Full school reopening.docx](#)
[Partial school reopening.docx](#)
[Remediation works continuing.docx](#)
[Website 10am Sunday.docx](#)
[Website and socials 4pm Sunday.docx](#)
Importance: High

Hey team – this all looks good to me and is consistent with what we have put out so far. Can you let me know of any feedback?

If we need to tweak things tomorrow as more information comes up I'm sure we will be able to.

Thanks,

Tori Phillips

Media Adviser | Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister

M: 047 878 7065

From: Van Aalst, Sally <Sally.VanAalst@act.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, 15 November 2025 7:30 PM
To: Phillips, Tori <Tori.Phillips@act.gov.au>
Cc: Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>
Subject: FOR APPROVAL - Sunday comms package
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hi Tori

Please find attached for approval please:

- Proposed comms action plan
- Full school re-opening comms – various
- Partial school re-opening – various
- Remediation works at open schools continue – various
- Website update for approx. 10am (includes Health advice, Florey update + any other schools that are cleared in time)
- Website update and social media for approx. 4pm (assuming all schools open)

Noting we will be flexible tomorrow and can adjust timings for our updates as information is confirmed. These are the base comms only and additional comms will be drafted for OSHC, hirers, stakeholders and EDU staff based on the approved pack.

Health advice has been cleared by the Deputy CHO, Sally Singleton.

You may like to make updates to only one of the docs (in track) for time, we can flow edits through the rest of the materials after that.

Thanks Tori.

Sal

Sally van Aalst | Senior Director

Phone: 0416 239 266 or via Teams | Email: sally.vanaalst@act.gov.au

Communications and Engagement | Education | ACT Government

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

Communications Action Plan

When	What	Who	Status
Sat 15 Nov AM	<u>Key messages – health advice</u> For students, staff For inclusion in Sunday comms package	Sally (in consultation with Health media)	Approved by on call CHO
Sat 15 Nov PM	<u>Prepare base comms for Sunday</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full closure – reopening • Partial closure – reopening • Relocations – work to continue over the week • Social media update • Website update (incl web banner) • Media talking points 	Sally	Ready for approval
Sat 15 Nov EVENING	<u>Approval of base comms</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMT • MO <p><i>** comms for OSHC, hirers, stakeholders, EDU staff will flow from already approved materials</i></p>	Sally/Paul	In approval
Sat 15 Nov EVENING	<u>Minister Berry social post</u>	Sally	With office
Sun 16 Nov 10AM	<u>School communications + web update</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Florey to reopen (incl OSHC, hirers) • 19 schools that have relocated, will see disruption over the week while works are complete. 	Sally	
Sun 16 Nov 4PM	<u>School communications + web and social media update</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on arrangements for all closures/part closures schools 	Sally	
Sun 16 Nov 4PM	<u>Provide media Talking Points to MO</u> <u>Provide copy to Access CBR and Feedback and Complaints</u>	Sally	
Sun 16 Nov 4PM	<u>Email update to EDU stakeholders</u> <u>Phone call to TC (Special Needs Transport)</u>	Sally/David Matthews	
Mon 17 Nov AM	<u>Media (various)</u>	Tori lead, EDU support	
Mon 17 Nov AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDU Comms on deck from 6am to monitor social media and respond to enquiries as needed 	Jo/Lizzy/Charlotte/Ja nette	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web updates (if req) 		
MON 17 Nov 9am	<u>Email update to all Principals</u> <u>Email update to ESO staff</u> ** Mark Huxley letterhead	EDU Comms	
WC Mon 17 Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate updates on arrangements as required 	EDU Comms	

Full school reopening TEXT MESSAGE TO FAMILIES

IMPORTANT UPDATE: XXXXXXX School will be open Monday 17 November 2025 for all students. Please check your email for details.

LETTER TO FAMILIES

Important update: XXXXXXX School open Monday 17 November 2025

Dear parents and carers

I'm pleased to let you know the Education Directorate has cleared our school to re-open tomorrow, Monday 17 November 2025.

This follows our closure last Friday due to the discovery of chrysotile asbestos in craft sand used in our classrooms. Testing and remediation works were carried out over the weekend, in line with Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice, and a clearance certificate has been provided deeming our school safe to open.

I want to thank families for their support and understanding on Friday.

The decision to close our school was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.

Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors. I can confirm that this product will no longer be used in our school.

Health advice

- enHealth have issued [interim health advice](#) regarding the recall of imported coloured/kinetic sand products on Friday 14 November 2025.
- enHealth reiterate that the recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- Regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk. This includes advice to stop using any identified products and to follow recall and disposal instructions.
- Based on currently available information, the risk to human health from exposure to these products is assessed as low.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- More information can be found [online](#).

More information

- You can learn more about asbestos and management of hazardous materials in ACT public schools on the [Directorate's website](#).
- You can read the full Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).

Wellbeing support for students

We appreciate that this may have been upsetting for students and families.

There are several community-based supports that are readily available and can be accessed at any time:

- eHeadspace 1800 650 890 - open 9am-1am daily (AEST).
- Mindmap 1800 862 111 phone support all day, every day from 11am to 10pm www.mindmap@act.gov.au
- Lifeline 13 11 14 - phone support all day, every day and online support 7pm to 4am daily (AEST).
- Beyondblue 1300 22 4636 - phone support all day, every day and online support 3pm to midnight every day.
- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 - phone support all day, every day and online support from 8am to midnight every day (AEST).

If you have any questions, please contact our Front Office on **XX**.

Thank you for your support.

Regards
Principal

School TPs

- **The Education Directorate has cleared our school to open.**
- Testing and remediation of our school for asbestos is complete.
- Licenced asbestos contractors have given us the clearance to reopen our school.
- They carried out work under Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice, and a clearance certificate was provided deeming our school safe to use.
- Friday's closure followed a recall of decorative, coloured sand which has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos.
- The decision to close our school was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.
- Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors.
- I can confirm that this product will no longer be used in our school.

Health advice

- Current advice from enHealth (the National body for health protection) is that any impacts as a result of exposure to this product is low risk to human health.

- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- The recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- More information can be found [online](#).

MESSAGE TO STAFF

Important information: XXXXXXX School open Monday 17 November 2025

Dear colleagues

I'm pleased to let you know the Education Directorate has cleared our school to re-open tomorrow, Monday 17 November 2025.

This follows our closure last Friday due to the discovery of chrysotile asbestos in craft sand used in our classrooms. Testing and remediation works were carried out over the weekend, in line with Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice, and a clearance certificate has been provided deeming our school safe to open.

I want to thank staff for their support and understanding on Friday.

The decision to close our school was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.

Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors. I can confirm that this product will no longer be used in our school.

Health advice

I appreciate that staff may have concerns about exposure to this product.

Current advice from enHealth (the National body for health protection) is that any impacts as a result of exposure to this product is low risk to human health.

- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- The recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- More information can be found [online](#).

More information

- You can learn more about asbestos and management of hazardous materials in ACT public schools on the [Directorate's website](#).
- You can read the full Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).

- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).

Wellbeing supports for staff

Staff are reminded that telephone wellbeing supports are available for you free of charge through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at Converge by calling **1300 687 327**. I encourage you to make use of this service if you need.

I am extremely grateful for your support. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Regards
Principal

Reopening of partial school closure TEXT MESSAGE TO FAMILIES

IMPORTANT UPDATE: all classes at XXXXXXXX School open Monday 17 November 2025. Please check your email for details.

LETTER TO FAMILIES

Important information: XXXXXXXX School open for all classes Monday 17 November 2025

Dear parents and carers

I am pleased to let you know the Education Directorate has cleared all impacted learning spaces at our school to re-open tomorrow, Monday 17 November 2025.

This follows our closure last Friday due to the discovery of chrysotile asbestos in craft sand used in our classrooms. Testing and remediation works were carried out over the weekend, in line with Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice, and a clearance certificate has been provided deeming these spaces safe to open.

I want to thank families for their support and understanding on Friday.

The decision to close parts of our school was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.

Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors. I can confirm that this product will no longer be used in our school.

Health advice

- enHealth have issued [interim health advice](#) regarding the recall of imported coloured/kinetic sand products on Friday 14 November 2025.
- enHealth reiterate that the recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- Regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk. This includes advice to stop using any identified products and to follow recall and disposal instructions.
- Based on currently available information, the risk to human health from exposure to these products is assessed as low.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- More information can be found [online](#).

More information

- You can learn more about asbestos and management of hazardous materials in ACT public schools on the [Directorate's website](#).
- You can read the full Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).

Wellbeing support for students

We appreciate that this may have been upsetting for students and families.

There are several community-based supports that are readily available and can be accessed at any time:

- eHeadspace 1800 650 890 - open 9am-1am daily (AEST).
- Mindmap 1800 862 111 phone support all day, every day from 11am to 10pm www.mindmap@act.gov.au
- Lifeline 13 11 14 - phone support all day, every day and online support 7pm to 4am daily (AEST).
- Beyondblue 1300 22 4636 - phone support all day, every day and online support 3pm to midnight every day.
- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 - phone support all day, every day and online support from 8am to midnight every day (AEST).

If you have any questions, please contact our Front Office on **XX**.

Thank you for your support.

Regards
Principal

School TPs

- **The Education Directorate has cleared all impacted learning spaces.**
- Testing and remediation of the impacted learning spaces is complete.
- Licenced contractors have given us the clearance to reopen these spaces.
- They carried out work under the Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice, and a clearance certificate was provided deeming the space safe to use.
- The decision to close these spaces was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.
- Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors.
- I can confirm that this product will no longer be used in our school.

Health advice

- Current advice from enHealth (the National body for health protection) is that any impacts as a result of exposure to this product is low risk to human health.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- The recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.

- More information can be found [online](#).

MESSAGE TO STAFF

Important information: XXXXXXXX School open for all classes Monday 17 November 2025

Dear colleagues

I am pleased to let you know the Education Directorate has cleared all impacted learning spaces at our school to re-open tomorrow, Monday 17 November 2025.

This follows our closure last Friday due to the discovery of chrysotile asbestos in craft sand used in our classrooms. Testing and remediation works were carried out over the weekend, in line with Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice, and a clearance certificate has been provided deeming these spaces safe to open.

I want to thank staff for their support and understanding on Friday.

The decision to close parts of our school was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.

Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors. I can confirm that this product will no longer be used in our school.

Health advice

We appreciate that staff may have concerns about exposure to this product.

Current advice from enHealth (the National body for health protection) is that any impacts as a result of exposure to this product is low risk to human health.

- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- The recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- More information can be found [online](#).

More information

- You can learn more about asbestos and management of hazardous materials in ACT public schools on the [Directorate's website](#).
- You can read the full Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).

Wellbeing supports for staff

Staff are reminded that telephone wellbeing supports are available for you free of charge through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at Converge by calling **1300 687 327**. I encourage you to make use of this service if you need.

I am extremely grateful for your support. If you have any questions, please contact let me know.

Regards
Principal

Remediation works continuing

LETTER TO FAMILIES

Important information: Changes to learning arrangements at XXXXXXXX School for years XX this week

Dear parents and carers

As you are aware on Friday the Education Directorate made the decision to close some parts of our school to allow for asbestos remediation works.

Testing and remediation works are underway and will continue this week. All students can continue attending school while this work is being completed, though XX classes will be temporarily relocated to learning areas in other parts of the school.

All works will be carried out outside of school hours and in line with Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice. A clearance certificate will be provided deeming these spaces safe to open once complete.

Students and staff will not have access to impacted spaces during this time. I want to thank families for their support and understanding.

The decision to close parts of our school was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.

Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors. I can confirm that this product will no longer be used in our school.

Health advice

- enHealth have issued [interim health advice](#) regarding the recall of imported coloured/kinetic sand products on Friday 14 November 2025.
- enHealth reiterate that the recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- Regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk. This includes advice to stop using any identified products and to follow recall and disposal instructions.
- Based on currently available information, the risk to human health from exposure to these products is assessed as low.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- More information can be found [online](#).

More information

- You can learn more about asbestos and management of hazardous materials in ACT public schools on the [Directorate's website](#).
- You can read the full Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).

Wellbeing support for students

We appreciate that this may have been upsetting for students and families.

There are several community-based supports that are readily available and can be accessed at any time:

- eHeadspace 1800 650 890 - open 9am-1am daily (AEST).
- Mindmap 1800 862 111 phone support all day, every day from 11am to 10pm www.mindmap@act.gov.au
- Lifeline 13 11 14 - phone support all day, every day and online support 7pm to 4am daily (AEST).
- Beyondblue 1300 22 4636 - phone support all day, every day and online support 3pm to midnight every day.
- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 - phone support all day, every day and online support from 8am to midnight every day (AEST).

I will keep families updated this week. If you have any questions, please contact our Front Office on **XX**.

Thank you for your support.

Regards
Principal

School TPs

- **Work to remediate impacted learning spaces at our school will continue this week. All works will be conducted outside of school hours.**
- All students should continue attending school as normal.
- Students in **XX** classes will continue to be relocated to learning areas in other parts of the school while this occurs.
- All works will be carried out outside of school hours and in line with Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice. A clearance certificate will be provided deeming these spaces safe to reoccupy once complete.
- Students and staff will not have access to impacted spaces during this time.
- The decision to close these spaces was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.
- Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors.
- I can confirm that this product will no longer be used in our school.
- I will keep families updated this week.

Health advice

- Current advice from enHealth (the National body for health protection) is that any impacts as a result of exposure to this product is low risk to human health.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- The recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- More information can be found [online](#).

MESSAGE TO STAFF**Important information: Changes to learning arrangements at XXXXXXXX School for years XX this week**

Dear colleagues

As you are aware on Friday the Education Directorate made the decision to close some parts of our school to allow for asbestos remediation works.

Testing and remediation works are underway and will continue this week. Students in XX classes will continue to be relocated to learning areas in other parts of the school while this occurs.

Students and staff will not have access to impacted spaces during this time. All remediation works will occur outside of school hours.

All works will be carried out outside of school hours and in line with Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice. A clearance certificate will be provided deeming these spaces safe to reoccupy once complete.

I want to thank staff for their support and understanding.

The decision to close parts of our school was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.

Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors. I can confirm that this product will no longer be used in our school.

Health advice

I appreciate that staff may have concerns about exposure to this product.

Current advice from enHealth (the National body for health protection) is that any impacts as a result of exposure to this product is low risk to human health.

- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.

- The recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- More information can be found [online](#).

More information

- You can learn more about asbestos and management of hazardous materials in ACT public schools on the [Directorate's website](#).
- You can read the full Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).

Wellbeing supports for staff

Staff are reminded that telephone wellbeing supports are available for you free of charge through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at Converge by calling **1300 687 327**. I encourage you to make use of this service if you need.

I am extremely grateful for your support. If you have any questions, please contact let me know.

Regards
Principal

WEBSITE BANNERS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Latest updates on ACT public school closures

WEBSITE UPDATE

10AM Sunday 16 November 2025

ACT public school closures Friday 14 November 2025

On this page

- **[Advice for ACT public school families](#)**
- **[Health advice](#)**
- **[List of schools cleared to open on Monday 17 November 2025](#)**
- **[List of closures as of Friday 14 November 2025](#)**
- **[Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care and non-government schools](#)**

Advice for ACT public school families

On Sunday afternoon, all impacted ACT public schools will provide an update to families about arrangements for learning on Monday. This information will be provided as soon as it is available, please keep an eye on your emails.

Thank you to our school communities for their support.

ACT public school closures (full closure, partial closure) as of Friday 14 November 2025

- A number of ACT public schools were closed (full closure, partial closure) on Friday 14 November 2025.
- This followed national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos. This product is used at some schools for sensory play, and arts and crafts.
- While WorkSafe ACT has identified the risk of exposure to traces of chrysotile is low, the safety of our schools is our highest priority.
- The decision to close schools was made in line with Education Directorate processes and on the advice of WorkSafe ACT on the safe management and remediation process required.
- We continue to follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

ACT public school hotline

Our [hotline](#) will not be operating over the weekend and will reopen at 7am on Monday 17 November. For urgent enquiries please contact [Access Canberra](#).

We will keep this page updated with the latest information.

Health advice

- enHealth have issued [interim health advice](#) regarding the recall of imported coloured/kinetic sand products on Friday 14 November 2025.
- enHealth reiterate that the recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- Regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk. This includes advice to stop using any identified products and to follow recall and disposal instructions.
- Based on currently available information, the risk to human health from exposure to these products is assessed as low.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- More information can be found [online](#).

List of schools cleared to re-open on Monday 17 November 2025

Last updated 10am Sunday 16 November 2025.

Whole school open:

- Florey Primary School

More schools will be added to this list throughout Sunday afternoon.

All impacted schools will email staff, parents and carers on Sunday afternoon with an update about arrangements for Monday.

List of schools closed on Friday 14 November 2025 – clearance to re-open pending

Last updated 10am Sunday 16 November 2025.

Whole school closures:

- Black Mountain School
- Campbell Primary School
- Charles Weston School
- Charnwood-Dunlop Primary School
- Evatt Primary School
- Latham Primary School

- Lyons Early Childhood School
- Malkara School
- Namadgi School
- Chapman Primary School
- Cranleigh School
- Miles Franklin Primary School
- Fraser Primary School
- Wanniassa Hills Primary School
- Forrest Primary School

Partial school closures (multiple class closures):

- Charles Conder Primary School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- North Ainslie Primary School – Preschool and year 1
- Torrens Primary School – Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1
- Wanniassa School – Preschool to year 6 (junior school)
- Yarralumla Primary School – Montessori, Kindergarten, Year 1, Small Group Program
- Throsby School – Kindergarten, year 1 and year 2
- Amaroo School – Small Group Program
- Franklin School - Preschool

Preschool closures:

- Curtin Primary School – Preschool
- Kingsford Smith School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Mount Rogers Preschool
- Monash Preschool
- Duffy Preschool

Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care and non-government schools

The Children’s Education and Care Assurance (CECA), and Regulator for non-government schools, has provided updated advice to these sectors on the management of this product on Friday 14 November 2025.

Families are asked to seek advice from their ECEC or school about arrangements in place for their specific location.

WEBSITE BANNERS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Advice for ACT public schools, Monday 17 November

WEBSITE UPDATE

4PM Sunday 16 November 2025

Latest advice for ACT public schools impacted by closures on Friday 14 November 2025

On this page

- [Advice for ACT public school families](#)
- [Health advice](#)
- [List of schools cleared to open on Monday 17 November 2025](#)
- [Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care and non-government schools](#)

Advice for ACT public school families

All impacted ACT public schools closed, partially closed on Friday 14 November will re-open on Monday 17 November 2025.

Families should check their emails for more information. Thank you to our school communities for their support.

- A number of ACT public schools were closed (full closure, partial closure) on Friday 14 November 2025.
- This followed national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) was found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos. This product is used at some schools for sensory play, and arts and crafts.
- Testing and remediation works were carried out over the weekend, in line with Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice, and a clearance certificate has been provided deeming all schools safe to reoccupy.
- The decision to close, partially close some schools was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.
- We continue to follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors.

ACT public school hotline

Our [hotline](#) will reopen at 7am on Monday 17 November. For urgent enquiries please contact [Access Canberra](#).

We will keep this page updated with the latest information.

Health advice

- enHealth have issued [interim health advice](#) regarding the recall of imported coloured/kinetic sand products on Friday 14 November 2025.
- enHealth reiterate that the recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- Regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk. This includes advice to stop using any identified products and to follow recall and disposal instructions.
- Based on currently available information, the risk to human health from exposure to these products is assessed as low.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- More information can be found [online](#).

List of schools cleared to re-open on Monday 17 November 2025

Latest advice as at 4PM Sunday 16 November 2025.

Whole school to re-open:

- Florey Primary School
- Black Mountain School
- Campbell Primary School
- Charles Weston School
- Charnwood-Dunlop Primary School
- Evatt Primary School
- Latham Primary School
- Lyons Early Childhood School
- Malkara School
- Namadgi School
- Chapman Primary School
- Cranleigh School
- Miles Franklin Primary School
- Fraser Primary School
- Wanniasa Hills Primary School
- Forrest Primary School

Partial closures – re-open:

- Charles Conder Primary School – Preschool and Small Group Program
- North Ainslie Primary School – Preschool and year 1
- Torrens Primary School – Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 1
- Wanniasa School – Preschool to year 6 (junior school)

- Yarralumla Primary School – Montessori, Kindergarten, Year 1, Small Group Program
- Throsby School – Kindergarten, year 1 and year 2
- Amaroo School – Small Group Program
- Franklin School - Preschool

Preschools to reopen:

- Curtin Primary School – Preschool
- Kingsford Smith School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School – Preschool including Koori Preschool
- Mount Rogers Preschool
- Monash Preschool
- Duffy Preschool

Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care and non-government schools

The Children’s Education and Care Assurance (CECA), and Regulator for non-government schools, has provided updated advice to these sectors on the management of this product on Friday 14 November 2025.

Families are asked to seek advice from their ECEC or school about arrangements in place for their specific location.

EDU SOCIAL MEDIA

UPDATE FOR ACT PUBLIC SCHOOL FAMILIES

Great news Canberra families! All ACT public schools will be OPEN tomorrow, Monday 17 November. Information has been sent by schools to families this afternoon.

Thank you to our wonderful families, staff and community for their patience and support.

You can read more on our website [XX](#)

From: [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
To: [James, Brooke](#); [Spence, Angela](#)
Cc: [Bailey, Anthony](#); [Henderson-Smith, N](#); [Dance, Alex](#)
Subject: Re: FOR CONSIDERATION: Proposal - additional coloured sand products in schools
Date: Saturday, 15 November 2025 9:21:15 PM

Hi all,

Thank you for this and noting Ang will respond, I support the proposal, except further consideration and decision would be needed early tomorrow before actual site inspection could occur re this part, happy to discuss further -

- Can you arrange someone to meet a consultant onsite after 12pm today (Sunday) to facilitate the removal

Nessa

Vanessa Attridge

Executive Group Manager

Finance & Infrastructure | Education Directorate

From: James, Brooke

Sent: Saturday, November 15, 2025 9:02 pm

To: Spence, Angela

Cc: Attridge, Vanessa ; Bailey, Anthony ; Henderson-Smith, N ; Dance, Alex

Subject: FOR CONSIDERATION: Proposal - additional coloured sand products in schools

OFFICIAL

Hi Ange

The IMT have met to consider the request for walk throughs of every school tomorrow to identify possible sand products.

In consideration of:

- Resourcing pressures
- Risk of exposure
- Costs
- Additional pressures on already stretched IMT staff

We propose to:

- Stand up all EEL's from 7:30am tomorrow to call all principals within their network
- EEL's will ask the following questions
 - In your search for the recalled product, did you identify any other coloured sand brands/products that were not disposed of in the remediation works over the weekend ?
 - Do you know where they are located?
 - Do you know where they were recently used?
 - Can you mark up your SAIL document to reflect this?
 - Can you isolate the products without impact on learning spaces?

If not, what cohorts are impacted?

- Can you arrange someone to meet a consultant onsite after 12pm today (Sunday) to facilitate the removal

- We will ask all EEL's to provide outcomes of discussions by 11 am
- Anthony can then stand up resources, as appropriate, to visit impacted schools

We also have a Microsoft form we can send out in the morning to support this work if appropriate

Happy to discuss further at any time.

With thanks,

Brooke James | Senior Director

School Operations

School Improvement Branch | Education Directorate | ACT Government

Phone: 0401 805 628 or +61 02 6205 0293| Email: Brooke.James@act.gov.au

Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters where we live and work and pay my respects to elders past, present and future.

Please note – this email is sent at a time that is convenient for me. No expectation of action is required outside of regular working hours.

Safety Alert - asbestos contamination confirmed in Kadink Decorative Sand

Laboratory testing of samples taken by WorkSafe ACT has confirmed that the contaminated product, sold as, Kadink Decorative Sand (for sale between 2020-2025), is present in the ACT.

Please urgently complete this short survey to assist ESO to determine if you have the product in your school and next steps.

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

1. School name *

Enter your answer

2. Your name and role, including best contact phone number *

Enter your answer

3. Does your school have Kadink Decorative Sand 2020-2025 on site? *

Yes

No

Not sure

4. Has your school had Kadink Decorative Sand 2020-2025 on site historically? *

Yes

No

Not sure

5. If yes to either of the above, please specify which areas the product is currently and/or has historically been used in

Preschool

Primary School

High School

College

Out of School Hours Care

6. Please specify areas

Classrooms

Common areas

Hall/Gymnasium

Offices

Outdoors - e.g. playgrounds, sand pits

Storage areas

Other

7. If other, please specify

Enter your answer

Never give out your password. [Report abuse](#)

This content is created by the owner of the form. The data you submit will be sent to the form owner. Microsoft is not responsible for the privacy or security practices of its customers, including those of this form owner. Never give out your password.

Microsoft Forms | AI-Powered surveys, quizzes and polls [Create my own form](#)

[Privacy and cookies](#) | [Terms of use](#)

ID	Start time	Completion time	Email	Name	Last modified time	School name	Your name and role, incl	Does your school have K	Has your school had Kad	If yes to either of the ab	Please specify areas	If other, please specify
1	11/13/25 11:43:59	11/13/25 11:44:23	anonymous			mawson primary school	elizabeth courtois	No	No			
2	11/13/25 12:06:53	11/13/25 12:08:32	anonymous			Narrabundah Early Childf	Christopher AntramPrinc	Yes	Yes	Preschool;Out of School	Classrooms;Other;Storag	It has been used in preschool and is now located in a storage area and can be removed from here by the appropriate personnel.
3	11/13/25 12:20:44	11/13/25 12:22:09	anonymous			Gold Creek School	Leighton MannFacilities &N> Business Manager	No				
4	11/13/25 12:18:39	11/13/25 12:22:23	anonymous			Hughes Primary School	Nina McCabePrincipal20	Yes	No	Primary School;	Classrooms;	We had a container donated by a community member used in a sensory break out space. We don't believe the containers to have been opened (It has recently been given to us) but the green bag of sand has broken open.
5	11/13/25 12:34:53	11/13/25 12:36:18	anonymous			UCSSC Lake Ginninderra	Jason Smith, Business M	No	No			
6	11/13/25 12:33:11	11/13/25 12:36:52	anonymous			Isabella Plains Early Child	Shauna O'Halloran Busin	Yes	Not sure	Primary School;	Classrooms;	
7	11/13/25 12:38:19	11/13/25 12:40:18	anonymous			Pearce Preschool Unit	Early Childhood Teacher	Yes	Yes	Preschool;	Classrooms;Storage areas;	
8	11/13/25 12:41:10	11/13/25 12:44:42	anonymous			Black Mountain School	Lara Coman Principal 04	Not sure	Not sure	High School ;College;	Classrooms;Offices;Stora	I said not sure to question 3 and 4 as the questions state Kadink Decorative Sand, the brand we have located was also listed in the email. We have Educational Colours Rainbow Sand (1.3kg)
9	11/13/25 12:49:38	11/13/25 12:50:30	anonymous			Shirley Smith High Schoo	Rebecca Pearce Principal	No	No			
10	11/13/25 12:42:33	11/13/25 12:51:44	anonymous			Yarralumla Primary Scho	Kerry ClarkBusiness Man	Not sure	Not sure	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;	I have found POs with Magic Sand 2kg, sensory Cotton Sand 6kg and Magic Sand dating back 2020-2022 all purchased from Modern Teaching Aids. I have also informed EDU Incidents that we have another brand of sensory sand on site and are waiting for further instructions.
11	11/13/25 12:21:58	11/13/25 12:55:57	anonymous			Hawker College	Katrina Dempsey a/g Bus	Yes	Yes	College;	Classrooms;Storage areas;	
12	11/13/25 12:57:01	11/13/25 13:01:53	anonymous			Chapman PS	James Barnett Principal	Not sure	Not sure	Preschool;		Product found in tubs in a store-room in the Preschool and also in one Preschool classroom in trays
13	11/13/25 13:00:10	11/13/25 13:03:10	anonymous			Franklin School	Hayley Roberts - Busines	Not sure	Not sure	Primary School;	Classrooms;	We have done an audit and we do not have Kadnik Coloured Sand or Creatisitics - Coloured Sand. We do have Educational Colours Brand Sand but not specifically the Rainbow Sand (1.3kg).
14	11/13/25 13:01:11	11/13/25 13:03:55	anonymous			Charnwood-Dunlop Scho	Acting Principal - 6142 2	No	Not sure			
15	11/13/25 13:02:30	11/13/25 13:06:08	anonymous			Wanniassa School	Daniel Barrett	primary contact	Not sure	High School ;Primary Sch	Classrooms;Storage area	Preschool & primary is classroom. High is science labs.
16	11/13/25 13:02:26	11/13/25 13:09:37	anonymous			Lanyon High School	Kylie Slade Business Man	No	No			
17	11/13/25 12:58:30	11/13/25 13:09:45	anonymous			Gilmore PS	Vicki Lucas, Principal,	No	No			OOSH Care provider (YWCA) has confirmed none on site.
18	11/13/25 13:15:50	11/13/25 13:17:49	anonymous			Macgregor Primary Scho	Chris Shaddock	Yes	Yes	Primary School;	Classrooms;Storage areas;	
19	11/13/25 12:55:40	11/13/25 13:20:23	anonymous			Lyons Early Childhood Sc	Virginia Morcos - Busine	Yes	Yes	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;Storage area	Also we have on site Kinetic Sand which we are not sure if this is also included or not

20	11/13/25 12:39:27	11/13/25 13:21:29	anonymous	Red Hill School	Marko Tancheski - Busint	Yes	Yes	Out of School Hours Care Storage areas;Classrooms;	This was found in our double Year 1 class room (now relocated students/staff to the library) also our DEPAD all relocated to the library as well. YMCA is checking their space for this product and I am going through all invoices for past 5 years to double check.
21	11/13/25 13:22:28	11/13/25 13:26:19	anonymous	Latham Primary School	Samantha Chapman 614:	Yes	Not sure	Primary School; Classrooms;	Just found in our Kindergarten class teacher Nicole Harvey - students and staff relocated
22	11/13/25 13:29:02	11/13/25 13:30:05	anonymous	Latham Primary School	Samantha Chapman 614:	Yes	Not sure	Primary School; Classrooms;	
23	11/13/25 13:35:27	11/13/25 13:36:57	anonymous	Melba Copland Secondar	Jennifer Howard 614234:	No	No		
24	11/13/25 13:37:37	11/13/25 13:38:28	anonymous	Telopea Park School	Scott Walker, Business M	No	Not sure		We have kinetic sand which we believe to be different and not under this category
25	11/13/25 13:39:56	11/13/25 13:41:17	anonymous	Ngunnawal Primary Scho	Rebecca Turner, Principa	No	No		We've confirmed with our school, preschool, onsite childcare and OOSHC.
26	11/13/25 13:42:00	11/13/25 13:42:50	anonymous	The Woden School	Principal -	No	Not sure		
27	11/13/25 13:43:59	11/13/25 13:45:23	anonymous	Calwell Primary School	Lizzie ArmatiBusiness Ma	Yes	Yes	Out of School Hours Care Hall/Gymnasium;Storage building	Talbingo demountable preschool and primary school - current & named brand. High school is possible in science labs and chem
28	11/13/25 13:51:04	11/13/25 13:55:24	anonymous	Wanniassa School	Daniel Barrett -	BM	Not sure	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;Offices;Stora prep area
29	11/13/25 13:43:34	11/13/25 14:07:53	anonymous	Miles Franklin PS	Mark Dunn (BSO)	Yes	Not sure	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Storage areas;Other; OSHC
30	11/13/25 14:07:57	11/13/25 14:08:48	anonymous	Malkara	Principal Kyrie Douch 04:	Yes	Yes	Primary School; Classrooms;	
31	11/13/25 14:11:13	11/13/25 14:11:50	anonymous	Arawang Primary School	Alicia Frewin - A/g Busine	Yes	Not sure	Out of School Hours Care Hall/Gymnasium;Storage areas;	
32	11/13/25 14:11:24	11/13/25 14:16:50	anonymous	Harrison School	Ben Davies	Yes	Not sure	Primary School; Classrooms;Storage areas;Common areas;	
33	11/13/25 14:18:10	11/13/25 14:19:26	anonymous	Campbell Primary School	Fiona McKellar, Business	Yes	Yes	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;Common areas;Outdoors - e.g. playgrounds, sand pits;Storage areas;
34	11/13/25 13:43:20	11/13/25 14:21:53	anonymous	Evatt Primary School	Rebecca Swiridziuk Busin	No	Yes	Out of School Hours Care Classrooms;Hall/Gymnas	WCS are unsure of where the items would have been played with/used/stored. it is presumed that the locations would include the Old health building and main campus, in all hirer's areas, and potentially the following classrooms Room 9, room 10, library, room 24 and Room 23. Time and dates of use cannot be verified, only that they believe that they have bought and used this product at Evatt During the last 5 years. There is none currently on site
35	11/13/25 14:28:31	11/13/25 14:31:21	anonymous	O'Connor Cooperative Sc	Kirsten Sharman, Busine	Yes	Yes	Primary School; Classrooms;Storage area:	We have 2 tubs of Educational Colours Rainbow Sand of indeterminable age, plus coloured sand of unknown origin that has been decanted into various containers and bags.
36	11/13/25 14:31:59	11/13/25 14:33:01	anonymous	Duffy Primary School	Linda Economopoulos Ac	Yes	Yes	Primary School; Storage areas;	

37	11/13/25 14:34:58	11/13/25 14:37:09	anonymous	Caroline Chisholm School	Julie Dixon, Principal,	No	No	We have checked purchasing records back to 2020 and we are fairly certain we have not had this specific kinetic sand at CCS. I cannot guarantee that teachers in the past haven't personally purchased the resource.	
38	11/13/25 14:40:45	11/13/25 14:43:32	anonymous	Namadgi School	Meghana Pachika	Business Yes	Not sure	Preschool;Primary School Classrooms;Storage area	All the sand is now stored in the BSO store room. I understand that you had specified for us not to touch it. We however had a Asbestos awareness trained BSO who collected it all and has now stored it in the BSO storage.
39	11/13/25 14:28:55	11/13/25 14:44:56	anonymous	Aranda Primary School	Grace Edwards	61423030	No	Not sure	No Kadink sand at primary school, preschool or OSHC. We use anko
40	11/13/25 14:17:03	11/13/25 14:45:55	anonymous	Theodore Primary School	Rose Rodriguez	, Business	No	No	
41	11/13/25 14:46:08	11/13/25 14:47:07	anonymous	Aunty Agnes Shea High S	Mandy Judson	, Business	No	No	
42	11/13/25 14:47:31	11/13/25 14:49:59	anonymous	Fadden Primary School	Mallarie Parker	, Business	Not sure	Not sure	We have located a couple of tubs of coloured sand, they are decanted so can not confirm the brand. We have some in the OSHC store room and in a
43	11/13/25 14:57:40	11/13/25 14:58:29	anonymous	Charles Weston School -	AJ McArthur	6142 0408 c	Yes	Yes	Primary School;Preschool Classrooms;Offices;Storage areas;
44	11/13/25 14:59:18	11/13/25 15:01:03	anonymous	Forrest Primary	Kelly Storm	Business Ma	No	Not sure	
45	11/13/25 14:59:48	11/13/25 15:01:15	anonymous	Palmerston District Prim	Calvin Kang	, Business Ma	No	No	
46	11/13/25 15:05:31	11/13/25 15:07:10	anonymous	Ainslie School	Eve Smith	Business Supp	Yes	Not sure	Primary School; Classrooms;
47	11/13/25 15:01:23	11/13/25 15:09:26	anonymous	Kingsford Smith School	Paula Kinsman	Principal	Yes	Yes	Preschool; Classrooms;Common are
48	11/13/25 15:10:28	11/13/25 15:11:04	anonymous	the Woden School	Business manager	No	Not sure		Please be aware that Creatistics Coloured Sand has been identified as being used in all preschool classrooms as recently as yesterday. It is also currently located in the storage cupboard area and the staff office. We believe this sand has been in use in the past. Additionally, in some other areas of the school, there is unlabelled coloured sand (perceived to be a Kmart brand) that cannot be confirmed for its exact origin.
49	11/13/25 15:12:56	11/13/25 15:14:42	anonymous	Mount Rogers Primary S	Sophie New	Business Ma	Not sure	Not sure	Some areas of the school have confirmed that they do not have this brand of kinetic sand. OSHC has confirmed they do not have this brand of kinetic sand. With such a short turnaround to complete this form, unfortunately we were unable to confirm with all teachers/LSAs

50	11/13/25 15:20:08	11/13/25 15:21:00	anonymous	Richardson PS	Anna Wilson Principal 04	No	No		
51	11/13/25 13:47:58	11/13/25 15:25:54	anonymous	Monash Primary School	Michelle Lorkovic 614211	Yes	Yes	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;
52	11/13/25 15:35:26	11/13/25 15:36:25	anonymous	Erindale College	Nigel Bourke - Business N	No	Not sure		
53	11/13/25 15:12:09	11/13/25 15:37:34	anonymous	Farrer primary School	Raed El Rahman Business: No	No	No		Storerooms: Preschool Storeroom, Kindergarten Storeroom, Art room cupboard, Year 1 Cupboard, Hackett preschool storage basket in the room, Small group locked
54	11/13/25 15:23:26	11/13/25 15:39:46	anonymous	North Ainslie Primary	Nadia Murad- 61420766	Yes	Yes	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Storage areas;Classroom: cupboard
55	11/13/25 15:47:34	11/13/25 15:48:58	anonymous	Belconnen High School	Mike Domigan - Business No	No	No		I have forwarded the information on to staff and the YWCA. I have not heard that we have any onsite.
56	11/13/25 15:47:25	11/13/25 15:49:04	anonymous	Hawker Primary	Business Manager	Not sure	No		
57	11/13/25 15:48:31	11/13/25 15:49:16	anonymous	Macquarie Primary Scho	Bri Brockman, Business N	No	Not sure		
58	11/13/25 15:51:44	11/13/25 15:52:56	anonymous	Wanniassa Hills Primary	Nardia Ruhan BM 614201	Yes	Not sure	Primary School;	Classrooms;
59	11/13/25 15:58:18	11/13/25 15:59:50	anonymous	Majura Primary School	Liz Bobos Principal 61423	No	No		
60	11/13/25 16:07:55	11/13/25 16:09:16	anonymous	Garran Primary School	Business Manager	Yes	Yes	Primary School;	Classrooms; not used to our knowledge we have not ordered or used this in our school. The after school has confirmed the same.
61	11/13/25 16:13:26	11/13/25 16:15:03	anonymous	Lyneham Primary Schoo	Business manager 61421	No	No		
62	11/13/25 16:14:13	11/13/25 16:15:37	anonymous	Gordon Primary School	Jodi Grundy - A/G Busine	No	Not sure		
63	11/13/25 16:17:54	11/13/25 16:19:42	anonymous	Maribyrnong Primary Sc	Emma Housden	Yes	Yes	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;Common areas;Outdoors - e.g. playgrounds, sand pits;Storage areas;
64	11/13/25 16:42:32	11/13/25 16:43:03	anonymous	UCHSK	Principal, Kate Woods, 0	No	No		
65	11/13/25 16:45:09	11/13/25 16:46:39	anonymous	giralang	emma, principal	No	No		we have checked store rooms etc and have not located any
66	11/13/25 16:46:09	11/13/25 16:47:47	anonymous	Neville Bonner Primary S	Felicity LevettPrincipa	o	Not sure		
67	11/13/25 16:47:06	11/13/25 16:48:10	anonymous	Duffy	Katie Smith Principal 614	No	No		
68	11/13/25 16:45:39	11/13/25 16:49:25	anonymous	Margaret Hendry School	Natalie Leighton - Busine	Not sure	Not sure		We do not currently have Kadink Coloured Sand onsite. We do have EC Educational, Colours Sand onsite in our Preschool storeroom.
69	11/13/25 16:51:06	11/13/25 16:51:56	anonymous	Curtin Primary School	Principal	Yes	Yes	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;Hall/Gymnas prior to 3:00pm
70	11/13/25 16:49:43	11/13/25 16:52:15	anonymous	Latham Primary School	Samantha Chapman Busi	Yes	Yes	Primary School;	Classrooms; We have now recorded - sand in Year 1 - DEPAD - Kindy NH and it was used in Kindy KN, Double Year 4, Double Year 3 and DEPLP.
71	11/13/25 16:50:49	11/13/25 16:53:40	anonymous	Florey Primary	Karen Murray - Principal	Yes	Yes	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;Storage area: do the form - sorry! We have the Creatistics coloured sand - have already spoken to School Ops but forgot to
72	11/13/25 17:11:28	11/13/25 17:14:14	anonymous	Lyneham Primary School	Kirrally TalbotPrincipal61	No	Not sure		YMCA (OSHC) have confirmed none in their resources onsite.
73	11/14/25 5:57:43	11/14/25 6:12:09	anonymous	Calwell High School	Helena Davis, Business N	No	Not sure		
74	11/14/25 7:37:29	11/14/25 7:38:06	anonymous	Aranda	Grace Edwards - Busines: No	No	Not sure		
75	11/14/25 7:56:16	11/14/25 7:58:09	anonymous	Lyneham High School	Jane Herring-Business M: No	No	No		

76	11/14/25 7:35:31	11/14/25 8:17:59	anonymous	Taylor Primary School	Tracy Waterson, Busines:	Yes	Yes	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;Storage area:	I did call yesterday and gave verbal responses to Heather. I was told that my responses would be recorded but as i haven't received any generic response, i though i would submit the form myself
77	11/14/25 8:35:02	11/14/25 8:39:30	anonymous	Fraser	Mark DeekerPrincipal	Not sure	Not sure	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;Offices;Stora	We are unsure of the origin of the sand. It is topped up with the Kmart brand. The original could be Kadink
78	11/14/25 8:42:22	11/14/25 8:43:25	anonymous	Jervis Bay	Lana Read	Yes	Yes	Primary School;	Other;	Dedicated Art Room
79	11/14/25 8:39:58	11/14/25 8:47:23	anonymous	Charnwood-Dunlop Scho	Julia Ison - Acting Princip	Not sure	Not sure	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;Storage area:	We submitted the form yesterday and then staff remembered items that they did not originally disclose so we got in touch and our school was tested last night. Traces were found across the school and we are closed today. Yesterday, i sent an email to staff so that anyone that was not at school yesterday was aware of the situation and could inform me if they had any sand that we may not be aware about. A preschool teacher has read the email this morning and let me know she has some sand in her storage cupboard, but she is not sure what brand it is. It is kinetic sand.
80	11/14/25 8:44:07	11/14/25 8:50:18	anonymous	Kaleen Primary School	Nic Graham - Principal	Not sure	Not sure	Preschool;Primary Schoo	Classrooms;Common are	The pre-school has Creatistics Magic Sand and there are other unlabelled coloured sand (teacher purchased from Kmart) in a small open container in one of our primary school classrooms
81	11/14/25 9:06:19	11/14/25 9:11:15	anonymous	Aranda Primary School -	Business Manager 61423	Yes	Yes	Primary School;	Classrooms;	Located Friday 14 November 8am. Kindergarten - Classroom 1, in a cupboard, container had been opened, not been in use this year. Classroom closed and students moved to alternate space. Principal (Csott Pearce) has reported to School Ops and EEL.
82	11/14/25 9:35:57	11/14/25 9:37:33	anonymous	Tharwa Preschool	Jason Walmsley Principal	Yes	Yes	Preschool;	Storage areas;	
83	11/14/25 9:38:19	11/14/25 9:38:47	anonymous	Canberra High School	Principal 61420800	No	Not sure			
84	11/14/25 9:38:41	11/14/25 9:44:40	anonymous	Gungahlin College	Business Manager	No	No			

85	11/14/25 9:30:44	11/14/25 9:51:23	anonymous	Alfred Deakin High Schoc	Alix Dayhew - Business N	No	No	Purchased kinetic sand from Big W end of 2024 with additional purchased start of 2025. One student uses in Diversity. None currently onsite.
86	11/14/25 9:54:55	11/14/25 9:58:15	anonymous	Turner School	Deborah Parr, Business N	Yes	Not sure	Preschool is not in session today (no students/staff in area) as told to Madeleine Wynne yesterday. Classroom and storeroom signed 'no access' and staff asked not to visit area
87	11/14/25 10:13:21	11/14/25 10:14:33	anonymous	Torrens Primary School	Rohan Evans - Principal	Yes	Yes	Updating our response as it has been located in more areas around the school since thursday.
88	11/14/25 10:11:24	11/14/25 10:17:50	anonymous	Fadden Primary School	Jo Jefferson - Principal - C	Yes	Yes	Currently two areas with open sand being stored, and historically we believe all teaching blocks would have used this, except for Preschool.
89	11/14/25 11:09:09	11/14/25 11:09:45	anonymous	Belconnen High School	Paul Branson, Principal, E	No	No	
90	11/14/25 12:51:54	11/14/25 12:54:14	anonymous	Throsby School	Susie Cooke - Business M	Yes	Not sure	Primary School; Classrooms;
91	11/14/25 12:58:45	11/14/25 13:00:46	anonymous	Cranleigh School	Emma Dale Business and	Yes	Not sure	Primary School; Classrooms;
92	11/14/25 14:27:46	11/14/25 14:29:17	anonymous	Amaroo School	Cindie Deeker Executive	Not sure	Not sure	Preschool;Primary Schoo Classrooms;
93	11/14/25 15:34:25	11/14/25 15:34:55	anonymous	UC High School Kaleen	Business Manager - Lean	No	No	
94	11/16/25 7:46:53	11/16/25 7:48:43	anonymous	Maribyrnong Primary	Anna Thorpe- Principal- C	Yes	Yes	Learning Support Unit classrooms HIGH RISK
95	11/16/25 9:38:42	11/16/25 9:46:34	anonymous	Margaret HEndry	Kate Flynn	Yes	Yes	Sensory terrace- off a classroom in kindy, cupboards in the front preschool classes, on the table in one SGP, in the cupboard of another SGP, over the last 12 months all teachers were given the sand for their sensory tubs- alot seems to have been used up now. Executive boardroom had another brand of sand being used in that space last week.

From: [Dance, Alex](#)
To: [Bailey, Anthony](#); [Henderson-Smith, N](#)
Cc: [Atkins, Jessie](#)
Subject: For review: DRAFT work instruction for visual inspection
Date: Sunday, 16 November 2025 11:23:00 AM
Attachments: [DRAFT work instruction for visual inspection.docx](#)

Hi gents,

Please see attached draft work instruction for visual inspection. Likely to require revision but thought that may assist in our discussion.

Note I envisage this will be supported by face to face briefing (depending on who is conducting the visual inspection). An activity risk assessment will need to be conducted.

AD

Work Instruction: Visual Inspection ONLY Product Identification TYPE A and TYPE B

Purpose

To guide workers in performing a visual inspection of the site to identify colored sand products, apply appropriate labeling, and record and communicate findings accurately.

There are two types of products:

- 1) TYPE A – Kadink (Education Colours) and Anko - subject to consumer recalls due samples containing asbestos (see attachment A). It also includes any unmarked product that appears to be coloured sand.
- 2) TYPE B – all other coloured sand products – not subject to consumer recall.

Scope

This instruction applies to all workers conducting visual inspections on the designated site.

Responsibilities

- - Workers must follow this procedure during inspections and report findings of Type A product immediately.
- Report findings immediately as per the steps below.

Definitions

Type A Product: Requires Warning and Isolation Notice to be attached to support isolation of product/area of use.

Type B Product: Requires Collection Notice to be attached to cupboard/room door to support later collection and disposal of product in accordance with relevant guidance.

Procedure

Step	Description
1. Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify teams. • Travel in pairs.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ site map ○ red and yellow markers ○ Warning and Isolation Notices, ○ Collection Notices. • Ensure mobile phone is charged. • Ensure appropriate PPE is available: P2 mask, gloves, glasses, boots.
2. Visual Inspection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk through school site and systematically conduct visual inspection. • Information provided from ESO Survey will support enhanced scrutiny of particular areas. • Look for products matching Type A or Type B descriptions.
3. Actions for Type A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do NOT handle this product nor move it. • Apply Warning and Isolation Notice. Mark location on site map in RED. • Immediately phone through to designated contact where Type A product is visually confirmed.
4. Actions for Type B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply Collection Notice. Mark location on site map in YELLOW. • Review map for completeness and provide to supervisor at end of inspection. • Do NOT handle this product.
5. Completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review site map for accuracy and submit to supervisor at end of inspection.


Checklist

- Site map obtained
- Red and yellow markers ready
- Warning and Isolation Notices available
- Collection Notices available
- Phone charged and ready
- PPE available
- All identified products marked on map

- Type A products reported immediately
- Completed map submitted


TYPE A Product – Recall information

ACCC – Education Colours (Kadink)



Product safety recall

Educational Colours - Rainbow Sand (1.3kg), Creatistics - Coloured Sand (1kg) and Kadink - Sand (1.3kg)



Educational Colours Pty Ltd

Decorative coloured sand, supplied in various colours, to be used for open-ended art and craft activities or sensory play.

Reason the product is recalled

The products are being recalled because they may include asbestos, which is a prohibited substance in Australia.

The hazards to consumers

The products may cause a risk to health as tremolite asbestos (a naturally occurring asbestos) has been detected in some samples after laboratory testing.

Importantly, respiratory asbestos has not been detected in any of the tested samples. The release of respiratory asbestos fibres from the sand is unlikely to occur in its current state, unless the sand is processed by mechanical means such as crushing or pulverising.

While the risk that any asbestos found is likely to be airborne or fine enough for inhalation is low, this may still pose a risk.

What consumers should do

1. Stop using the products immediately.
2. Place the sand in a heavy-duty plastic bag and double tape it securely and keep it out of reach of children.
3. Do not dispose of the products in general waste. Information on the disposal of asbestos waste, including disposal facilities in your state or territory can be found on [The Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency](#) website.
4. Contact recalls@educationalvantage.com for guidance around disposal and seeking a full refund.

See productsafety.gov.au for Australian product recall information

**Important message from the ACCC to consumers:**

The ACCC continues to work with health and safety, and other relevant agencies at the state, territory and Commonwealth levels as this issue evolves.

In an abundance of caution, the ACCC refers to the following advice below from WorkSafe ACT on the safe disposal of products that may contain asbestos.

If you believe you may have the product in your home, including any arts or crafts made with the sand, to prevent dust or fibres from becoming airborne do not disturb or use it and isolate the product. Carefully double wrap the sand, its container, and any related materials in 200-micron plastic bags, seal securely with tape, and clearly label the package as asbestos waste. When disposing of asbestos, always take precautions to protect yourself from exposure:

- Wear disposable gloves. Tuck the gloves under the elasticised cuffs of your clothing. If the cuffs are loose, tape them down to create a proper seal.
- Wear a P2 rated face mask. Do not use a standard dust mask. A P2 respirator should fit snugly and cover half your face.
- Wear protective eyewear. Use safety glasses to protect your eyes from dust and debris.

200-micron disposal bags are available from hardware and safety supply shops.

Contact

Educational Colours Pty Ltd

Email: recalls@educationalvantage.com

Who sold the product: Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids, Officeworks and Zart Art

Dates available for sale: 1 January 2020 to 31 October 2025

PRA 2025/20691

See [productsafety.gov.au](https://www.productsafety.gov.au) for Australian product recall information

Kmart and Target Products – Anko



Product safety recall

14 piece Sand Castle Building Set, Blue, Green and Pink Magic Sand

Sold at Kmart & Target

Kmart	Colour	Target
42975724	n/a	69581984
42304364	Blue	Not ranged
42919650	Green	Not ranged
42304371	Pink	Not ranged



Reason the product is recalled

The product is being recalled because the sand may include asbestos, which is a prohibited substance in Australia.

The hazards to consumers

The product may cause a risk to health as asbestos has been detected in some samples after laboratory testing.

Importantly, respirable asbestos has not been detected in any of the tested samples. The release of respirable asbestos fibres is unlikely to occur in its current state, unless the sand is processed by mechanical means such as crushing or pulverising. The risk that any asbestos found, that is likely to be airborne or fine enough for inhalation, is low.

What consumers should do

Stop using the products immediately.

- Wear disposable gloves and a mask and either return in the original tub or place the sand in a heavy-duty plastic bag and double tape it securely and keep it out of reach of children.
- Do not dispose of the products in general waste. Information on the disposal of asbestos waste, including disposal facilities in your state or territory can be found on [The Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency website](#).

Contact

Kmart

Call: 1800 124 125, Monday to Friday, 7:00am to 6:00pm (AEST)

Online: <https://www.kmart.com.au/contact-us/>

Target

Call: 1300 753 567, Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 6:00pm (AEST)

Online: <https://www.target.com.au/help/contact-us>

Who sold the product:

Kmart store and online, Target stores, online or via the App.

See productsafety.gov.au for Australian product recall information

Situation Report

Incident Name/Identifier: Contaminated Sand	Date/Time: 16 Nov 2025 – Meeting 4; 1200
Situation Update:	
<p>The ACCC has published a recall notice over children’s sand products that may contain asbestos and were sold at various retailers including Officeworks. The recall was issued by supplier Educational Colours for colourful children’s sand products sold at Officeworks, Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids and Zart Art.</p> <p>There are reports that the recall list may be expanded to include other decorative sand products. The ACT Education Directorate is assessing this new information to ensure the continued safety and regulatory requirements are maintained.</p> <p>The ACT Education Directorate is continuing to assess the impact on the Education Directorate and service delivery to ensure the safety staff, students and the community and that we exercise the PCBU Obligations under the WHS Act for all decorative sand products. Efforts include the remediation and re-opening requirements to ensure regulatory compliance and appropriate approvals have been achieved.</p> <p>Overview – CMT Lead Current Update The current situation with the K-Mart sand has seen IMT work in arrangement to manage this requirement. The Directorate will maintain the current processes as per the management of decorative sand recall products to ensure regulatory compliance and safety of our staff, students and the community.</p> <p>Risk Assessment It is important that we continually review the risk assessment. Tracey has sent you an email about risk assessments and using the matrix as well.</p> <p>IMT Update – Brooke James – Incident Lead Due to the new information on decorative sand from K-Mart the IMT is working on a new operational plan. Priorities are to survey schools and undertake visual inspection Engage ESA to support the visual inspection process QR code set up by SFM to upload real-time information for triage Information will support triage and next steps Assessors can’t be utilised at this point in time to remove the decorative sand Purpose of the visual inspections is to identify any decorative sand products, and follow advice for the following: *K-mart brand, sealed and isolated *unsealed Threshold for timeline for IMT is 6pm Current.situation *68 have decorative sand *57 confirmed they have K-Mart product – requires visual inspection *13 unknown – need visual inspection</p>	

Situation Report

ACTION: IMT to seek written confirmation of previous verbal advice from the assessors in relation to handling decorative sand products such K-Mart, recall products (noting we are currently acting on clear verbal advice)

Communications – Paul Short

Consideration for early communications on current situation to prepare families ahead of time for final decision.

Need to be clear on thresholds so families can make considered arrangements

Keep the communications clear particularly with the advice and given and following the legislation requirements

We need to be clear on our critical pathway which will be communicated to the community

Consider media options for this afternoon.

ACTION: Kristen, Mark, Nessa and David to develop clear critical pathway to support IMT.

Stakeholders Update – David Matthews and Jo Wood

Communications channel is being maintained through updates to necessary Union representative by Jo and David. Jo has briefed Unions on current situation and mentioned the support of volunteers to carry out the visual inspections. Future briefings need to include new impacts to schools and formal communications ahead of any press.

Catholic Education; AIS and CECA – Michael Crowther

CE – looking to remove all decorative sand products from sites. Not expecting school closures at this point in time

CECA – drafting updated advice based on health advice to their clients to assist in considered decision-making

AIS (NGS) – email communications have been sent by EDU explaining the current state and impact for their consideration.

Safety – People Management

Teams are required to do a welfare check on staff and make sure people are taking breaks and are consuming water and eating well. Some teams have already made arrangements for alternative staff transition into roles.

DECISION: Maintain focus on critical pathway of keeping as many schools open as possible. No consideration of alternate arrangements for students at this point in time.

For NOTING: Jo Wood unavailable between 1900hrs and 2130hrs 16/11/2025. Jo has delegated decision-making to the Deputy Director-General for this period if any further decisions are required.

Execution: (Actions.to.be.taken.to.resolve.the.incident).

REFER to Action Register in TEAMS file for comments, and status

[Action Register CMT.xlsx](#)

Situation Report

Administration and Logistics: (include.frequency.and.types.of.meetings?resources.required.including.learning.arrangements?school.closures?financial.etcj)	
<p>IMT scheduled meetings: TBC</p> <p>CMT scheduled meetings: TBC</p> <p>CMT CMT Lead – Angela Spence Admin Support – Tracey Allen CMT Manager – Kristen Laurent IMT Lead – Brooke James/Peter Steele Schools – Mark Huxley Communications – Sally Van Aalst/Paul Short Infrastructure – Vanessa Attridge Stakeholder – David Matthews DG – Jo Wood Mark Stirling</p> <p>IMT IMT Lead – Brooke James Admin Support – Nathan Henderson-Smith</p>	
Prepared by: Tracey Allen, Admin Support	Approved by Incident Controller/Lead (IC):

From: [Dance, Alex](#)
To: [Bailey, Anthony](#)
Subject: DO NOT ENTER SPACE - POSTER
Date: Sunday, 16 November 2025 3:02:00 PM
Attachments: [DO NOT ENTER SPACE - POSTER.docx](#)
[PRODUCT FOR REMOVAL TYPE B.docx](#)

Hi Anthony,

Please see attached to go with our work instruction.

AD

WARNING!

ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS

DO NOT ENTER SPACE

DO NOT OPEN CUPBOARD

ACCESS ONLY BY LICENSED ASSESSORS AND REMOVERS

Information: Select coloured sand products are subject to recall by the ACCC, manufacturers and retailers as they may contain asbestos.

Products impacted:

14 piece Sand Castle Building Set, Blue, Green and Pink Magic Sand

Sold at Kmart & Target

Kmart	Colour	Target
42975724	n/a	69581984
42304364	Blue	Not ranged
42919650	Green	Not ranged

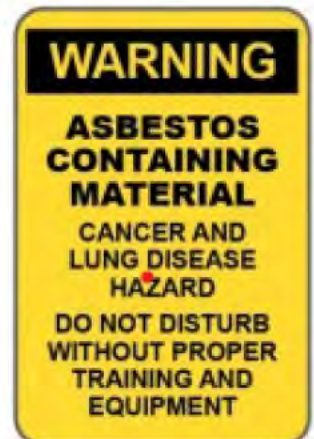


Kadink Sand (1.3kg)

Educational Colours - Rainbow Sand (1.3kg)

Creatistics - Coloured Sand (1kg).

Kadink – Decorative Sand (6x10g tubes)



For further information, please contact Richard Hooper, Education Support Office on (02) 6205 3954.

Further information is available on the WorkSafe ACT website:

WorkSafe@act.gov.au

PRODUCT FOR REMOVAL

**THIS BAG CONTAINS COLOURED SAND PRODUCT
FOR DISPOSAL – DO NOT OPEN**

**The products contained in this bag are not
subject to any product recall and are not known
to contain hazardous materials.**

**Products are being removed from school sites as
a precautionary measure.**

From: [Dance, Alex](#)
To: [Atkins, Jessie](#)
Subject: FW: DRAFT work instruction for visual inspection
Date: Sunday, 16 November 2025 4:29:00 PM
Attachments: [DRAFT work instruction for visual inspection.docx](#)

From: Dance, Alex

Sent: Sunday, 16 November 2025 1:06 PM

To: Bailey, Anthony <Anthony.Bailey@act.gov.au>; Henderson-Smith, N <N.Henderson-Smith@act.gov.au>; Attridge, Vanessa <VanessaS.Attridge@act.gov.au>; Coffey, Patrick <Patrick.Coffey@act.gov.au>

Cc: Lapinskie, Craig <Craig.Lapinskie@act.gov.au>

Subject: DRAFT work instruction for visual inspection

Hi all,

Some revisions in track. We need to identify a supervisor line to contact when/if TYPE A product is located.

Kind regards,

Alex

Work Instruction: Coloured Sand Products – Visual Inspection and associated action

NB: Product Identification TYPE A and TYPE B require different action to be taken under this work instruction

Purpose

To guide workers in performing a visual inspection of the site to identify colored sand products, apply appropriate labeling, and record and communicate findings accurately. Associated actions may be required for Product TYPE B.

There are two types of products:

- 1) TYPE A – Kadink (Education Colours) and Anko - subject to consumer recalls due samples containing asbestos (see attachment A). It also includes any unmarked product that appears to be coloured sand (including white sand).
- 2) TYPE B – all other coloured sand products (including white sand) – not subject to consumer recall.

Scope

This instruction applies to all workers conducting visual inspections and associated actions on the designated site.

Responsibilities

- Workers must follow this procedure during inspections and report findings of Type A product immediately.
- Report findings immediately as per the steps below.


Definitions

Type A Product: Requires Warning Notice to be attached to support isolation of product/area of use.

Type B Product: Requires Collection Notice to be attached to cupboard/room door to support later collection and disposal of product in accordance with relevant guidance.

Procedure

Step	Description
1. Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify teams. • Travel in pairs. • Obtain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ site map ○ red and yellow markers ○ QR Code for evidence sharing (see below) ○ Warning Notices, ○ Collection Notices. • Ensure mobile phone is charged and with you at all times. • Ensure appropriate PPE is available: P2 mask, gloves, glasses, boots. • Ensure you have access to bags for bagging of product TYPE B if required.
2. Visual Inspection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk through school site and systematically conduct visual inspection. • Information provided from ESO Survey will support enhanced scrutiny of particular areas. • Look for products matching Type A or Type B descriptions.
3. Actions for Type A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do NOT handle this product nor move it. • Using the supplied QR Code capture an image of the product and provide requested data via the application (this will provide real time information to the Incident Management Team). • Apply Warning Notice to areas that product is contained within i.e. room etc. • Mark location of Product TYPE A on site map in RED.


<p style="text-align: center;">Kadink Decorative Sand</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Powered by SafetyCulture</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ACCC Recall Notice</p> <p style="text-align: center;">K-Mart Recall Notice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately phone through to designated contact where TYPE A product is visually confirmed.
<p>4. Actions for Type B</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kadink Decorative Sand</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Powered by SafetyCulture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using the supplied QR Code capture an image of the product and provide requested data via the application (this will provide real time information to the Incident Management Team). • Wear disposable gloves and a mask and place the tub or the sand in a heavy-duty plastic bag. Place that bag in a second heavy-duty plastic bag and double tape it securely. Place the bag in a secure location that cannot be accessed by children. • Do not dispose of the products in general waste. • Clearly identify the location by applying a Collection Notice. Mark location on site map in YELLOW. • Review map for completeness and provide to supervisor at end of inspection.
<p>5. Completion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review site map for accuracy and submit to supervisor at end of inspection.

Checklist

- Site map obtained
- Red and yellow markers ready
- Warning Notices available
- Collection Notices available
- Phone charged and ready
- PPE available
- Bags for bagging of TYPE B product.
- All identified products marked on map
- Type A products reported immediately
- Completed map submitted


TYPE A Product – Recall information

ACCC – Education Colours (Kadink)



Product safety recall

Educational Colours - Rainbow Sand (1.3kg), Creatistics - Coloured Sand (1kg) and Kadink - Sand (1.3kg)



Educational Colours Pty Ltd

Decorative coloured sand, supplied in various colours, to be used for open-ended art and craft activities or sensory play.

Reason the product is recalled

The products are being recalled because they may include asbestos, which is a prohibited substance in Australia.

The hazards to consumers

The products may cause a risk to health as tremolite asbestos (a naturally occurring asbestos) has been detected in some samples after laboratory testing.

Importantly, respiratory asbestos has not been detected in any of the tested samples. The release of respiratory asbestos fibres from the sand is unlikely to occur in its current state, unless the sand is processed by mechanical means such as crushing or pulverising.

While the risk that any asbestos found is likely to be airborne or fine enough for inhalation is low, this may still pose a risk.

What consumers should do

1. Stop using the products immediately.
2. Place the sand in a heavy-duty plastic bag and double tape it securely and keep it out of reach of children.
3. Do not dispose of the products in general waste. Information on the disposal of asbestos waste, including disposal facilities in your state or territory can be found on [The Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency](#) website.
4. Contact recalls@educationalvantage.com for guidance around disposal and seeking a full refund.

See productsafety.gov.au for Australian product recall information

**Important message from the ACCC to consumers:**

The ACCC continues to work with health and safety, and other relevant agencies at the state, territory and Commonwealth levels as this issue evolves.

In an abundance of caution, the ACCC refers to the following advice below from WorkSafe ACT on the safe disposal of products that may contain asbestos.

If you believe you may have the product in your home, including any arts or crafts made with the sand, to prevent dust or fibres from becoming airborne do not disturb or use it and isolate the product. Carefully double wrap the sand, its container, and any related materials in 200-micron plastic bags, seal securely with tape, and clearly label the package as asbestos waste. When disposing of asbestos, always take precautions to protect yourself from exposure:

- Wear disposable gloves. Tuck the gloves under the elasticised cuffs of your clothing. If the cuffs are loose, tape them down to create a proper seal.
- Wear a P2 rated face mask. Do not use a standard dust mask. A P2 respirator should fit snugly and cover half your face.
- Wear protective eyewear. Use safety glasses to protect your eyes from dust and debris.

200-micron disposal bags are available from hardware and safety supply shops.

Contact

Educational Colours Pty Ltd

Email: recalls@educationalvantage.com

Who sold the product: Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids, Officeworks and Zart Art

Dates available for sale: 1 January 2020 to 31 October 2025

PRA 2025/20691

See [productsafety.gov.au](https://www.productsafety.gov.au) for Australian product recall information

Kmart and Target Products – Anko



Product safety recall

14 piece Sand Castle Building Set, Blue, Green and Pink Magic Sand

Sold at Kmart & Target

Kmart	Colour	Target
42975724	n/a	69581984
42304364	Blue	Not ranged
42919650	Green	Not ranged
42304371	Pink	Not ranged



Reason the product is recalled

The product is being recalled because the sand may include asbestos, which is a prohibited substance in Australia.

The hazards to consumers

The product may cause a risk to health as asbestos has been detected in some samples after laboratory testing.

Importantly, respirable asbestos has not been detected in any of the tested samples. The release of respirable asbestos fibres is unlikely to occur in its current state, unless the sand is processed by mechanical means such as crushing or pulverising. The risk that any asbestos found, that is likely to be airborne or fine enough for inhalation, is low.

What consumers should do

Stop using the products immediately.

- Wear disposable gloves and a mask and either return in the original tub or place the sand in a heavy-duty plastic bag and double tape it securely and keep it out of reach of children.
- Do not dispose of the products in general waste. Information on the disposal of asbestos waste, including disposal facilities in your state or territory can be found on [The Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency website](#).

Contact

Kmart

Call: 1800 124 125, Monday to Friday, 7:00am to 6:00pm (AEST)

Online: <https://www.kmart.com.au/contact-us/>

Target

Call: 1300 753 567, Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 6:00pm (AEST)

Online: <https://www.target.com.au/help/contact-us>

Who sold the product:

Kmart store and online, Target stores, online or via the App.

See productsafety.gov.au for Australian product recall information

From: [Dance, Alex](#)
To: [Nakkan, John](#)
Subject: FW: DO NOT ENTER SPACE - POSTER
Date: Sunday, 16 November 2025 5:32:06 PM
Attachments: [Do not open poster.docx](#)
[image001.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Hi John,

Seems that people already have the poster, but if we need more this one looks much better than original.

AD

From: Atkins, Jessie <Jessie.Atkins@act.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 16 November 2025 4:58 PM
To: Dance, Alex <Alex.Dance@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: DO NOT ENTER SPACE - POSTER

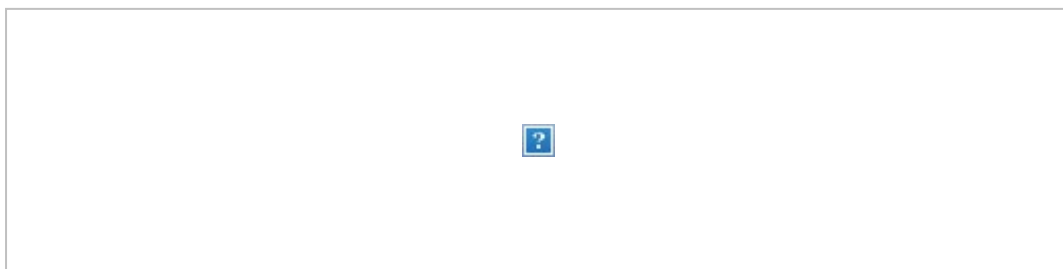
OFFICIAL

Jessie Atkins | Executive Branch Manager, Complex Behaviour Support and WHS

Service Design and Delivery | Education Directorate | ACT Government

T: 0423 079 443 | E: jessie.atkins@act.gov.au

Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning, Fremantle Drive, Stirling | GPO Box 158 Canberra
ACT 2601 | www.education.act.gov.au



I acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. I acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

From: Dance, Alex <Alex.Dance@act.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 16 November 2025 4:29 PM
To: Atkins, Jessie <Jessie.Atkins@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: DO NOT ENTER SPACE - POSTER

OFFICIAL

From: Dance, Alex
Sent: Sunday, 16 November 2025 3:02 PM
To: Bailey, Anthony <Anthony.Bailey@act.gov.au>
Subject: DO NOT ENTER SPACE - POSTER

Hi Anthony,

Please see attached to go with our work instruction.

AD

WARNING!

ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS

DO NOT OPEN

**ACCESS ONLY BY LICENSED ASSESSORS
AND REMOVERS**

INFORMATION: Select coloured sand products are subject to recall by the ACCC, manufacturers and retailers as they may contain asbestos.

IMPACTED PRODUCTS:

- Kadink Sand (1.3kg)
- Educational Colours – Rainbow Sand (1.3kg)
- Creatistics – Coloured Sand (1kg)
- Kadink – Decorative Sand (6 x 10g tubes)
- 14 piece Sand Castle Building Set, Blue, Green and Pink Magic Sand (sold at Kmart and Target)

From: [Spence, Angela](#)
To: [Laurent, Kristen](#)
Cc: [Allen, Tracey](#); [DDGEDUoffice](#)
Subject: RE: Record of meetings, decisions and actions
Date: Sunday, 16 November 2025 5:55:48 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

OFFICIAL

Approved.

Thanks

Angela Spence

Deputy Director General

Education Directorate

Email: angela.spence@act.gov.au

Education Directorate| ACT Government

Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning|GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Google+](#)



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters where we live and work, the Ngunnawal people, and pay my respects to elders past, present and future.

From: Laurent, Kristen

Sent: Sunday, 16 November 2025 10:01 AM

To: Spence, Angela

Cc: Allen, Tracey ; DDGEDUoffice

Subject: Record of meetings, decisions and actions

Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Good morning Angela

Here is my capture of activities, decisions and actions last night following the Minister's 6pm briefing. Please let me know if I have missed anything otherwise we'll keep this as a formal record:

- It became apparent that asking the assessor to remove other products was not viable as the assessors had already finalised work at approximately 80% of schools
- Initial meeting with Angela Spence, Vanessa Attridge, Anthony Bailey and Jo Wood to discuss alternate approach. Subsequent meeting with Angela Spence, Jo Wood, Anthony Bailey and Brooke James.
 - Agreed Kmart sand would need to be treated in the same manner as Kadink products given testing in Australia has identified asbestos.
 - A small number of schools known to have the Kmart products through information captured in the original survey. But there is a need for through sweep of all schools to identify and isolate Kmart product. Sensible to identify and isolate all other coloured sand products found in case these are later identified as containing asbestos.
 - Executive Education Leaders (EELs) tasked with phoning all schools to collect

information about other sand products (including KMart brand) using a short survey.

- IMT modify the existing risk assessment as basis for triaging risk for all schools as information comes through from the EELs
- Assessors taking the Kmart product from the ¾ schools known to have this product on-site
- Agreed we would take up ESA offer of assistance by requesting them to mobilise a volunteer workforce to conduct site sweeps of all schools on Sunday to:
 - Identify and quarantine any Kmart products for assessor assessment and removal
 - identify any other coloured sand products and stores these safely in cupboards for now
 - map all products they find
- Schools will need a staff member on site to orient and induct the volunteers
- Agreed actions:
 - Jo to contact stakeholders to inform them of our approach and rationale
 - Jo to document and formalise rationale and proposed approach
 - Nessa to contacts comms to discuss social media ,messaging in relation to activity in schools on Sunday
 - Brooke to enact EELs survey and get the risk assessment for triaging (overlying with information coming through re clearances from assessors)
 - Anthony Bailey to work with Nathan Henderson-Smith to get ESA workforce mobilised.
- 6.30am meeting on Sunday with Angela Spence, Vanessa Attridge. Jo Wood and Alex Dance followed by a meeting with the Minister's Office at 7am attended by Minister Berry, Bec Hobbs, Angela Spence, Jo Wood and Vanessa Attridge

Regards

Kristen

Kristen Laurent | **Executive Branch Manager Governance (and SERBIR)**

Phone: 6205 6749 | Mobile: 0466 244 203 | Email: kristen.laurent@act.gov.au

Education Directorate | ACT Government

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au

From: [Grbic, Darko](#)
To: [Nakkan, John](#)
Cc: [EDU, EBM AMD](#)
Subject: Re: School closures 17 November
Date: Sunday, 16 November 2025 6:48:16 PM

Thanks John, greatly appreciated.

Darko

Darko Grbic (he/him)

Head of Property Services & Operations | Delivery – Places and Spaces

Infrastructure Canberra | ACT Government

Phone: 0431 000 606 | Email: darko.grbic@act.gov.au

image

GPO Box 158 Canberra City ACT 2601 | Home - Infrastructure Canberra

From: Nakkan, John <John.Nakkan@act.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, November 16, 2025 6:47:47 PM
To: Grbic, Darko <Darko.Grbic@act.gov.au>
Cc: EDU, EBM AMD <EBM.AMD@act.gov.au>
Subject: School closures 17 November

Hey Darko,

Please see latest list in the below attachment. This will be the best place for reference as it is changing continually:

<https://www.act.gov.au/education-and-training/latest-articles/act-public-school-closures-friday-14-november-2025>

Regards,

John Nakkam | Executive Branch Manager

Phone: +61 2 6205 1289 | Mobile: 0466 015 922 | Email: john.nakkam@act.gov.au

Asset Management and Delivery | Education | ACT Government

Level 4, 220 London Circuit | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

Ngunnawal Country

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

act.gov.au

Craft sand products in schools

On this page

[Advice for ACT public school families](#)

[Our asbestos safety measures](#)

[Out of hours access to schools](#)

[Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care and non-government schools](#)



[Child Care Subsidy Fee Waivers for OSHC providers](#)

[Safe disposal at home](#)

[Health advice](#)

Advice for ACT public school families

Authorities have issued safety warnings about 2 brands of craft sand found to include traces of asbestos:

- Kadink Decorative Sand – [WorkSafe ACT safety notice 12 November 2025](#) 
- Anko magic sand – [ACCC product recall 16 November 2025](#) 

These products have been used in many ACT public schools.

While personal health risks are very low, under ACT work health and safety laws, any products containing asbestos must be removed by a licensed asbestos assessor.

This has required us to close some schools, or close off spaces in some schools, where the products are present.

All ACT public schools are now open to all student cohorts.

Call centre numbers

The Education Directorate feedback and complaints line is available 9:00am to 5:00pm weekdays – call 02 6205 5429. For all enquiries outside these hours please contact Access Canberra 13 22 81 [↗](#).

Our asbestos safety measures

Why did schools need to close?

- Under ACT work health and safety laws, any products containing asbestos must be removed by a licensed asbestos assessor.
- The use of craft sand is widespread in educational settings and was found at most of our schools.
- Spaces and rooms where the craft sand was located needed to be closed off from access until the product could be safely removed and cleared for use by a licensed asbestos assessor.
- In some schools this meant the closure of multiple rooms and learning spaces. This loss of available space for learning lead to the closure of some schools.
- Sand products have now been safely removed and these schools have been cleared by a licensed assessor so all students can return.

What is the process for clearing schools?

- When a contaminated sand product is found the area is isolated from use and the product contained. In some cases this may mean safely leaving the product in a cupboard, or could mean the closure of an entire room or learning space.

- Licensed asbestos removalists and assessors are then engaged to attend the school.
- Air monitoring tests are conducted to confirm there is no airborne asbestos. So far, all air monitoring tests done in our schools have returned negative results.
- Contaminated products are safely removed and spaces are cleaned.
- The licensed asbestos assessor will then provide a clearance certificate confirming the spaces are safe to re-open.

Is contaminated sand still at some schools?

- In many of our schools the sand products have been found in spaces that can be securely closed off (like cupboards and store rooms). These schools have been able to remain open.
- These spaces will also need to be cleaned and cleared by a licensed asbestos assessor. This work is occurring outside school hours and on weekends to minimise disruption to learning.
- It is possible schools will continue to find sand products they have in storage. When this happens, school staff will follow work health safety processes to isolate the product until it can be removed and cleared by a licensed assessor.


Out of hours access to schools

- While the majority of our schools have returned to normal operations during the school day, after hours access to school facilities may be limited.
- Many schools have isolated rooms and spaces where the recalled sand products are present. These spaces will be cleared by a licensed asbestos assessor before they can be used again. Much of this work will occur outside school hours and on weekends, which may impact community availability.
- If you hire or use public school facilities outside school hours, please confirm your booking with the school.



Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care and non-government schools

- The Children's Education and Care Assurance (CECA), and Regulator for non-government schools, has provided advice to early childhood education and care (ECEC) services and non-government schools about the management of both products.
- Families are asked to seek advice from their ECEC or non-government school about arrangements in place for their specific location.


Child Care Subsidy Fee Waivers for OSHC providers

- The Australian Department of Education has declared a Child Care Subsidy (CCS) period of emergency nationally, following the recall of contaminated sand products.
- The CCS period of emergency applies from 12 to 21 November 2025.
- During this period out of school hours care services may be able to claim CCS whilst closed (for enrolled hours during the period) and families may be able to access gap fee waivers and extra absences.
- Information is available on the Department of Education website for impacted services, including CCS contact details. Providers at ACT public schools will need to include a copy of the correspondence you received from your school about the requirement for full/partial closure.
- [Recalled play sand due to asbestos risks: CCS period of emergency declared - Department of Education, Australian Government](#) 

Safe disposal at home

- [ACCC's Product Safety advice](#)  will help you understand how to safely dispose of any recalled craft sand products. It also provides health information about these products.
- [Worksafe ACT's safety advice](#)  provides step-by-step guidance on removing the product from your home or workplace.
- If you have any craft sand products at home, **do not bring them to school.**

Health advice

- On Friday 21 November 2025, enHealth issued updated [health advice](#)  regarding the recall of imported coloured and decorative sand products.
- Testing to date indicates that there is very low risk to human health from these products.
- Regulatory authorities maintain a precautionary approach and are advising people to stop using the products and dispose of them appropriately.
- Workplace settings, including schools, are advised to follow the advice from their state or territory work, health and safety agency.

From: [Nakkan, John](#)
To: [Henderson-Smith, N](#); [Colman, Matthew](#)
Subject: Re: Sand LHS
Date: Sunday, 16 November 2025 7:46:21 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Thanks Nathan,

As discussed, keep room isolated and add to the remediation and clearance list.
Support school opening.

Regards,

John Nakkan
0466 015 922

From: Henderson-Smith, N <N.Henderson-Smith@act.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, November 16, 2025 7:43:03 PM
To: Nakkan, John <John.Nakkan@act.gov.au>; Colman, Matthew <Matthew.Colman@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Sand LHS

OFFICIAL

FYI

Nathan Henderson-Smith ESM | Assistant Director Risk Security & Emergency Management

Phone: via Microsoft Teams/Webex: RSEM Duty Phone 0447 882 754 | Email: n.henderson-smith@act.gov.au | EDURMA@act.gov.au

Risk, Security and Emergency Management Section | Governance Education Directorate | ACT Government

Level 4, 220 London Cct, CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 CANBERRA ACT 2601
www.act.gov.au



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters where we live and work and pay my respects to elders past, present and future.

From: Walsh, Brooke <Brooke.Walsh@act.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 16 November 2025 7:42 PM
To: Henderson-Smith, N <N.Henderson-Smith@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Sand LHS

OFFICIAL

Hi Hendo,

As discussed. Please see attached and below.

For John's consideration.

Brooke

From: Ford, Jacqui <jacqui.ford@ed.act.edu.au>
Sent: Sunday, 16 November 2025 6:55 PM
To: Walsh, Brooke <Brooke.Walsh@act.gov.au>
Subject: Sand LHS

OFFICIAL

Hey Brooke

Thanks for taking my call.

We have sand at LHS in Room 1 (YSW office) and 3 (small drop in space).

Photo attached. It has been sealed and left in those rooms. Rooms isolated (no one in or out) - no disruption to operations.

School opening tomorrow.

Thanks
Jacqui

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Updated School Information - Sand Contamination - 17 November 2025

Please complete to support prioritisation of sand collection, cleaning of spaces and environmental assessment.

* Required

1. School *

- Ainslie School
- Alfred Deakin High School
- Amaroo School
- Aranda Primary School
- Arawang Primary School
- Aunty Agnes Shea High School
- Belconnen High School
- Birrigai Outdoor School
- Black Mountain School
- Bonython Primary School
- Calwell High School
- Calwell Primary School
- Campbell High School
- Campbell Primary School
- Canberra College
- Canberra High School
- Caroline Chisholm School
- Chapman Primary School
- Charles Conder Primary School
- Charles Weston School
- Charnwood-Dunlop School
- Cranleigh School
- Curtin Primary School
- Dickson College
- Duffy Primary School
- Erindale College
- Evatt Primary School
- Evelyn Scott School
- Fadden Primary School
- Farrer Primary School

- Flexible Education
- Florey Primary School
- Forrest School
- Franklin School
- Fraser Primary School
- Garran Primary School
- Gilmore Primary School
- Giralang Primary School
- Gold Creek School
- Gordon Primary School
- Gowrie Primary School
- Gungahlin College
- Harrison School
- Hawker College
- Hawker Primary School
- Hughes Primary School
- Instrumental Music Program
- Isabella Plains Early Childhood
- Jervis Bay Primary
- Kaleen Primary School
- Kingsford Smith School
- Lake Tuggeranong College
- Lanyon High School
- Latham Primary School
- Lyneham High School
- Lyneham Primary School
- Lyons Early Childhood School
- Macgregor Primary School
- Macquarie Primary School
- Majura Primary School
- Malkara School

- Margaret Hendry School
- Maribyrnong Primary School
- Mawson Primary School
- Melba Copland Secondary
- Melrose High School
- Miles Franklin Primary School
- Monash Primary School
- Mount Rogers Primary School
- Mount Stromlo High School
- Namadgi School
- Narrabundah College
- Narrabundah Early Childhood
- Neville Bonner Primary School
- Ngunnawal Primary School
- North Ainslie Primary School
- O'Connor Cooperative School
- Palmerston District Primary
- Red Hill Primary School
- Richardson Primary School
- Shirley Smith High School
- Southern Cross Early Childhood
- Strathnairn School
- Taylor Primary School
- Telopea Park School
- The Woden School
- Theodore Primary School
- Throsby School
- Torrens Primary School
- Turner School
- UC High School Kaleen
- UC Senior Secondary College

- Wanniassa Hills Primary School
- Wanniassa School
- Weetangera Primary School
- Yarralumla Primary School

2. **Your name and role, including best contact phone number? ***

3. **Do you have kinetic/play sand on site? ***

- Yes
- No

4. **Where classes are impacted, can they be safely relocated to other spaces? ***

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

5. **If no to above, how many classes or cohorts will be unable to be safely accommodated? Please indicate specific student numbers and year groups/classes etc**

6. **Are there any areas where sand is present that you have not shared with ESO already? ***

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

7. **If yes to the above, please describe.**

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Microsoft. The data you submit will be sent to the form owner.

Status as 17/11	Whole school closures:	Priority	In your search for the recalled product, did you identify any other coloured sand brands/products that were not identified in the first product recall on your site?	Do you know if you have the IMART brand sand (see recall notice above) or another brand of sand?	Reinspection required	Network	Removalist	Date On Site	Consultant / Assessor	Date On Site	Lab Testing	Clearance Received	DG Approval	School Open Date	Clearance sent to WorkSafe	Comms sent to Schools
	Black Mountain School	1	Yes	Yes	yes	NORTH/GUNGAHLIN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Charmwood-Dunlop School	1	Yes	Yes	yes	BELCONNEN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - certificate received				
	Crankle School & Pre	1	Yes	Yes	yes	BELCONNEN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Campbell Primary	1	Yes	Yes	yes	NORTH/GUNGAHLIN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Charles Weston School	1	Yes	Yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Chapman Pre - 6	1	Yes	Unclear	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 Certificate received				
	Evatt Primary	1	Yes	Unclear	yes	BELCONNEN		14/11/2025		14/11/2025	Yes	Expected 4pm 16/11/25				
	Floney Primary	1	Yes	Yes	yes	BELCONNEN		14/11/2025		14/11/2025	Yes	Yes 14/11/2025	Yes	14/11/2025	15/11/2025	
	Fraser Primary	1	Yes	Yes	yes	BELCONNEN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25-certificate pending				
	Latham Primary	1	Yes	Yes	yes	BELCONNEN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
No Sand onsite	Lyon's ECS	1	Yes	Yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - certificate pending				
	Miles Franklin School	1	Yes	Yes	yes	BELCONNEN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Malkara School	1	Yes	Yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - certificate pending				
	Namadgi School	1	Yes	Unclear	yes	TUGGERANONG		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Warrnassa Hills Pre - 6	1	Yes	Yes	yes	TUGGERANONG		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 Certificate received				
	Warrnassa School Pre - 6	1	Yes	Yes	yes	TUGGERANONG		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Flex Education Mulyan	1														
Status as 17/11	Partial Closures:	Priority	In your search for the recalled product, did you identify any other coloured sand brands/products that were not identified in the first product recall on your site?	Do you know if you have the IMART brand sand (see recall notice above) or another brand of sand?	Reinspection required	Network	Removalist	Date On Site	Consultant / Assessor	Date On Site	Lab Testing	Clearance Received	DG Approval	School Open Date	Clearance sent to WorkSafe	Comms sent to Schools
	Amaroo School Pre - Yr1, Yr 2 & Small Group	2	Yes	Yes	yes	NORTH/GUNGAHLIN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025		Yes 15/11/25 - certificate pending				
	Charles Conder School - Pre & Small Group	N/A	No	No	no	TUGGERANONG		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Forrest Primary - Pre and Small Group	2	Yes	Yes	yes	TUGGERANONG		15/11/2025		15/11/2025		Yes 15/11/25 - certificate pending				
	North Anstie School Pre & Yr1	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	NORTH/GUNGAHLIN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes - 15/11/25 Certificate received				
	Red Hill Pre, Kindy / Yr 2	2	Yes	Yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Throsby School - Kindy, Yr1 & Yr2	2	Yes	Yes	yes	NORTH/GUNGAHLIN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - certificate pending				
	Torrents Primary Pre - Yr 1	2	Yes	Yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Yarralumla Primary Pre /Montessori /Kindy /Yr1 / Small Group	2	Yes	Yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Expected 9 Pm 15/11/25				
Status as 17/11	Preschool Closures:	Priority	In your search for the recalled product, did you identify any other coloured sand brands/products that were not identified in the first product recall on your site?	Do you know if you have the IMART brand sand (see recall notice above) or another brand of sand?	Reinspection required	Network	Removalist	Date On Site	Consultant / Assessor	Date On Site	Lab Testing	Clearance Received	DG Approval	School Open Date	Clearance sent to WorkSafe	Comms sent to Schools
	Duffy Pre	2	Yes	Unclear	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes - 15/11/25 Certificate received				
	Bannister Gardens(Giffith) - Red hill	2	Yes	Yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Curtin South Pre	2	Yes	Yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - certificate pending				
	Mount Rogers - Flynn Pre	2	Yes	Yes	yes	BELCONNEN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - certificate pending				
	Franklin Pre	2	Yes	Yes	yes	NORTH/GUNGAHLIN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - certificate pending				
	Kingsford Smith Pre & Koori	2	Yes	Yes	yes	BELCONNEN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received	/			
	Mount Rogers Pre	2	Yes	Yes	yes	BELCONNEN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - certificate pending				
	Monash Pre	2	Yes	Yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Melba Pre	2	Yes	Yes	yes	BELCONNEN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - certificate pending				
17-Nov	Narrabundah ECS / Koori	N/A	No	No	no	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/2025 - certificate received				
	Mount Rogers - Spence Pre	2	Yes	Yes	yes	BELCONNEN		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate pending				
	Theodore Pre	2	yes	yes	yes											
Status as 17/11	Site Remaining Open during Initial Remedial Action with Internal measures in place:	Priority	In your search for the recalled product, did you identify any other coloured sand brands/products that were not identified in the first product recall on your site?	Do you know if you have the IMART brand sand (see recall notice above) or another brand of sand?	Inspection required	Network	Removalist	Date On Site	Consultant / Assessor	Date On Site	Lab Testing	Clearance Received	DG Approval	School Open Date	Clearance sent to WorkSafe	Comms sent to Schools
	Ainslie School	3	yes	yes	yes	NORTH/GUNGAHLIN										
	Arawang Primary	3	yes	yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON										
	Bonython Primary	3	yes	yes	yes	TUGGERANONG										
	Calwell Primary	3	yes	yes	yes	TUGGERANONG										
	Duffy Primary	3	yes	Unclear	yes	SOUTH/WESTON		15/11/2025		15/11/2025	Yes	Yes 15/11/25 - Certificate received				
	Evelyn Scott School	3	yes	yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON										
	Garran Primary	3	yes	unclear	yes	SOUTH/WESTON										
	Girralang Primary	3	yes	yes	yes	BELCONNEN										
	Gowrie Primary	3	yes	unclear	yes	TUGGERANONG										
	Harrison School	3	yes	Yes	yes	NORTH/GUNGAHLIN										
17-Nov	Hawker College	N/A	no	no	no	BELCONNEN										
	Hughes Primary	3	yes	yes	yes	SOUTH/WESTON										

Isabella Plains Early Childhood School	3	yes	yes	yes	TUGGERANONG												
Macgregor Primary	3	yes	yes	yes	BELCONNEN												
Marlbyrnong Primary	3	yes	yes	yes	BELCONNEN												
Margaret Hendry School	3	yes	yes	yes	NORTH/GUNGAHLIN												
O'Connor Cooperative School	N/A	yes	no - clever patch/edu colours	no	NORTH/GUNGAHLIN												
Taylor Primary	3	yes	yes	yes	TUGGERANONG												
Melba Copland Secondary School	3	no	No	no	BELCONNEN												
Impacted by Kmart Recall 16/11	Priority	In your search for the recalled product, did you identify any other coloured sand brands/products that were not identified in the first product recall on your site?	Do you know if you have the KMART brand sand (see recall notice above) or another brand of sand?	Ins pection required	Amplifying comments												
Caroline Chisholm School	3	yes	yes	yes	already isolated												
Canberra High School	3	Yes	yes	yes	can't be isolated												
Erindale College	3	Yes	yes	yes	Can be isolated												
Gilmore Primary School	3	Yes	yes	yes	can't be isolated												
Gold Creek School	3	Yes	yes	yes	Preschool can be isolated												
Gordon Primary School	3	Yes	yes	yes	Can be isolated												
Jervis Bay School	3	Yes	yes	yes	Can be isolated/alt brand												
Lake Tuggeranong College	3	Yes	yes	yes	Confirmed remain open												
Lynham Primary School	3	Yes	yes	yes	in BSO storeroom												
Macquarie Primary School	3	Yes	yes	yes	can't be isolated												
Majura Primary School	3	Yes	yes	yes	can't be isolated												
Palmerston Primary School	3	Yes	yes	yes	in store room												
Southern Cross Early Childhood School	3	Yes	yes	yes	can't be isolated												
UC High School Kaleen	3	Yes	yes	yes	can't be isolated												
Weetangera Primary School	3	Yes	yes	yes	can't be isolated												

Status as 17/11	Schools with no initial sand or further identified sand
open	Alfred Deakin High School
open	Auntie Agnes Shea High School
open	Belconnen High School
open	Birrigai Outdoor School
open	Calwell High School
open	Campbell High School
open	Canberra College
open	Canberra High School
open	Dickson College
open	Lake Ginninderra Senior Secondary College
open	Lanyon High School
open	Gungahlin College
open	Lynham High School
open	Metrose High School
open	Narrabundah College
open	Shirley Smith High School
open	The Woden School
open	Melba Copland Secondary School
open	Schools cleared and no further sand identified
open	Charles Conder Primary School
Open	Narrabundah Early Childhood School inc Koori Pre
Open	Can Operate with isolated areas
Open	Hawker College
Open	Lake Tuggeranong College
Open	Erindale College

Kadink but has been isolated
 Kmart in pav 6 and 4 - will be isolated
 Kmart but can be isolated

Neville Bonner

Open	Current Status	Impacted Areas	Initial Recommendation	Next Action
Alfred Deakin High School	Open	Science Stoorroom 1 Between 5 & 6		
Aunty Agnes Shea High School	Open	Nil		
Belconnen High School	Open	Nil		
Birrigai Outdoor School	Open	Nil		
Calwell High School	Open		Cleaning of wellbeing HUB	
Campbell High School	Open	Nil		
Canberra College	Open	Nil		
Canberra High School	Open	Nil		Normal Beech Sand
Charles Conder Primary School	Open	N I		
Dickson College	Open	Nil		
Etihadia College	Open	Front Office	Area Isolated	
Hawker College	Open	Removed 17/11	Bagged, Removed	
Lake Ginninderra Senior Secondary Collr	Open	Nil		
Laka Tuggeranong College	Open	Careers Office, Retreat room, Science Storeroom Hub Staff Room	Isolated	
Lanyon High School	Open	Room	Isolated	
Gungahlin College	Open	In a locked Cubboard, Science Lab 6	Isolated	
Lynemah High School	Open	locked back storeroom		
	Open	Nil		
	Open	Cupboard in high school science preparation room BSO Store Room		
Melba Copland Secondary School	Open	Room		
Melrose High School	Open	Nil		
Narrabundah College	Open	Nil		
Narrabundah Early Childhood School	Open	Nil		
Shirley Smith High School	Open	Nil		

WORKSAFE NOTIFIED The clearance certificate has been provided to Jessie Atkins - notified Worksafe
 DG AUTHORITY TO REOPEN The DG has approved the school to reopen on basis of clearance cert + worksafe notification
 COMMS TO SCHOOL Comms/School Ops has sent communications to schools in preparation of opening
 COMMS TO COMMUNITY Principal confirms they have sent comms to their community
 CONFIRMED OPEN DATE The date the school is confirmed as re-opening

PLEASE SEE PETE IF YOU ARE UNSURE ABOUT THIS SECTION

WORKSAFE NOTIFIED	DG AUTHORITY TO REOPEN	COMMS TO SCHOOL	COMMS TO COMMUNITY	CONFIRMED OPEN DATE
17/11/2025	17/11/2025	17/11/2025	17/11/2025	18/11/2025

This school was cleared on 17/11 and will reopen on 18/11

Monday 17 Nov Triage									
SCHOOL	CURRENT STATUS	IMPACTED AREAS	Matt & Hendo Recommendation	EEL confirms impacted classes and plan	EEL Recommendation	Public Summary	DG Decision	Removalist/Consultant	Clearance
Ainslie School	Closed	yerra Kindy wet area (open space), Preschool store room, BM office	EEL OP Assessment	Open space in Yerra (Kindy) will be isolated. Other spaces are isolated and secure. Kindergarten students can be relocated safely within other classrooms in the school	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs			
Amaroo School	open	Pre Schools Store room Kapu/Bural	EEL OP Assessment	Pre School storeroom can be isolated. School can return to BAU with storeroom isolated	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs			
Aranda Primary School	Closed	Room 22 (inclusion) ANKO - Cupboards on the left hand side of the classroom. Sand is in a cupboard labelled 'sensory'. Sand is reported to be in the cupboards. Room 14 (5/6) ANKO - Stored in the office on the left. Plastic basket on the floor. In the basket there are 2 plastic containers with the sand. Will need to move items from on top to see the sand. Room 6 (Year 2) ALD1 Sensory sand - Room 6 storeroom, in the desk and in a storage box above the fridge in a cupboard. Contained in a zip lock bag. Room 26 (Kindy) ANKO Containers reportedly empty. Cupboard under the sink at the back of the classroom. Bottom left shelf. Room 1 (Kindy) EC. Reported on Friday. Middle cupboard along window. On left side of shelf. Preschool (Separate site on Gungahlin St). Left side classroom. Staff preemptively put in the bin on Friday but bins haven't been emptied. Currently in Wheelie bin outside near gate. In a blue and white icecream container labeled 'kinetic sand' previously stored with the sand under sink. In cupboard labeled 'playdough resources'. Sand across the school has been used both in trays and on tables. Trays still located at school.	Referral to SFM for Remediation	Too many impacted areas. Principal has confirmed extensive use.	Closed			Removalist Consultant Scheduled 17/11 Clearance received 17/11	Yes
Arawang Primary School	Closed	Portable cupboards year 2 portable, Wirria /Small Groups, year 3 RM Classroom, Pre School Class room. No impacts for Kindergarten		Year 4, 5 and 6 classrooms all upstairs, but the SGP is a senior class recommend not opening due to Inclusion / disability leg	Partial	All K to year 6 students can be accommodated. For preschool, only Echidna preschool students can be accommodated. Turtle preschool students can't be accommodated			
Black Mountain School	Closed		Remediation Works 17/11		Closed			Removalist Removal complete 17/11/2025 Pending clearance 17/11 - Clearance achieved Clearance certificate received 18/11/2025	Yes
Bonython Primary School	Closed	Kindergarten - multiple spaces, small group program classes and multi-purpose spaces, we are likely to have some in our year 1 2 and 3/4 classroom/unit, second SGP room on floor, K&D classroom		Classes can be accommodated in other areas of the school. Impacted areas can be safely isolated.	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs			

18 NOVEMBER PROCESSING TOWARDS OPENING - PLEASE USE DATES				
WORKSAFE NOTIFIED	DG AUTHORITY TO REOPEN	COMMS TO SCHOOL	COMMS TO COMMUNITY	CONFIRMED OPEN DATE

Calwell Primary School	Closed	Preschool room on teacher office desk (door to office closed so contained) year 3/4 Unit, OSCH, Kindy Hall store room 3/4 wet area (no door)	Type B	All P-6 students can be relocated and impacted areas isolated	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs				
Chapman Primary School	Closed	Preschool store cupboard, Kindergarten Units, Small group program classrooms, Yr 1 classrooms, Admin building - executive office Room Numbers 806-808, 808-001	EEL OP Assessment	2, 4, 5, 6 can be accommodated tomorrow	Partial	P, K, 3 and SGP cannot be accommodated	Removalist Consultant Works scheduled after hours 18/11 Clearance certificate received 18/11/2025	YES		
Charmwood-Dunlop School	Closed	SGP, 1/2, preschool 10 Additional Sites	More info	1/2 storeroom can be locked, preschool is in storeroom which can be locked. Other classes can be accommodated - IEC will be moved and SGP moved to that space. There is a box in the front office delivered last week, with sand in it	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated. Students in our Small Group Program and IEC will be supported in alternative classrooms				
Campbell Primary School	Closed	Year 2x1 & Year 2x2 + 1xSGP + 2x Kindy classrooms + executive office	More info	Due to open plan nature of the school and shared space impact, all classrooms exposed including Y4/5/6	Closed	Students are not able to be accommodated at our school	Removalist Consultant Scheduled for 18/11			
Caroline Chisholm School	Closed	Kindy and Flex Space year 3/4 wet area, 1/2 wet area.		Kindy can be accommodated in an additional space. 3/4 Wet area will be isolated. Flex Students to be relocated	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs				
Charles Weston School	Closed	Building 3 store room Building 1 2SR & 2SK Building 2 3UH ST		P, K & 5/6 could attend safely	Partial	Able to accommodate students in preschool, kindergarten and years 5 and 6				
Cranleigh School	Closed		Remediation Works 17/11		Closed		Removalist Consultant Clearance pending 17/11 Clearance achieved	Yes		
Curtin Primary School	Closed	Patterson Hall Desk 7 OSCH Staff Desk missed on initial, grey cupboards at rear of hall used by after school		South and north preschool- no sand. All sand has been moved to DP Office. sand spu was moved by the consultant. But now not sure if sand is in Before and Afters	Fully	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs				
Duffy Primary School	Closed	Yr 1 Staff Office, Small Gp Griffin, Break out room Yr 6		Clean up occurred on Saturday - all sand is type B. Year 6 break out room, green sand in carpet. This space could be isolated and locked. Waiting on test results. But all sand has been removed and students can be relocated elsewhere	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs				
Evatt Primary School	Closed	Room 17 coloured sand in a cupboard on the right as you enter the room. Located on bottom left hand side of the shelf. We have other non coloured sensory sand in OSC store room in the hall (far left stores on floor to right) and in the nest storeroom/office on a desk. This is not coloured but is sensory sand and school is happy for it to be taken away as a precaution if needed.		Possible coloured sand emptied into the school sand pit by a student. Sand pit has been isolated by the school with barriers preventing access. School believes they can isolate the playground area	Closed	School has been advised by contractor to remain closed due to sandpit	Removalist Consultant Scheduled 18/11			
Evelyn Scott School	Closed	Building C Classroom 'KK', stored on a table tray shelf - 2x buckets, Kindergarten staff room, locked cupboard, bottom shelf - 1x bucket, Classroom '1VH' cupboards behind clevertouch board - unsure of qty, staff believe the sand is also dispersed through the carpet in Year K 2 end of the building, Building G, Science Prep Room (between Labs 1 & 2) - 1x bucket sitting on a trolley, Chemstore room, located on second shelf up from the bottom - 1 bucket, possibly in the science storeroom - unverified but likely		No answer	Closed		Removalist Consultant Scheduled 17/11 Clearance certificate received 18/11/2025	Yes		
Fadden Primary School	Closed	Murramarang classroom has sand tray on desk and sealed box underneath the table. Sand in Dalmeida art room, cupboard under sink. Back storeroom of canteen		All students can be relocated from impacted areas	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs	Removalist Consultant Scheduled after 17/11 Clearance received Clearance certificate received 18/11/2025	Yes		
Farrer Primary School	Closed	DP Office, Principal Office Yr 6 Classroom Yr 5 Teachers Desk, Yr 5W classroom, 4 MA classroom Preschool & Play School store Room			Partial	Preschool to year 2 can operate safely, with isolated areas. Year 3-6 cannot be accommodated				
Flexible Education	Closed	2 Containers at Smith family site								
Florey Primary School	Closed	1) - Preschool - Sally's classroom, in the cupboard near the sink (same spot as the other sand) - in a bag not the tubs. 2) - In the art room in Baby cottage (just off the bag area same spot as other sand), sitting in trays under the shelf near the playdough stuff. 3) - Twelvevess cottage - 1/2 AG classroom - containers of the sand in a big black tub in the corner of the classroom behind the desk (it is behind science lesson equipment and other things - not sure of this is that sand though). 4) - Twelvevess cottage - 1/2 LC - 2 trays in cupboard outside classroom, left hand side of the cupboard, padlock code is 1314, one lot of sand in container, another in packet. 5) - SGP junior - left hand side of the cupboard near floor, top shelf of lower cupboard (upper shelf). 6) - Todd cottage - 3/4HE - cupboard inside classroom, blue and green tubs, also tablecloth with plastic on it and 2 trays in cupboard used with the sand, blue and orange trays. 7) - Howard Florey room - 3/4 EA - not sure of this one but potentially some in the black cupboards at the back of the room.	Referral to SFM for Remediation	Too many impacted areas	Closed		Removalist Consultant Works scheduled 18/11/2025			

Kaleen Primary School	Closed	Before and After: Kmart sand in the CFM storeroom, Hall and there is "potentially some in Hall storeroom". The sand in SGP was brought down to the Front Office area by LSA's and then moved into 2/F with other sand, however, some spilled in Front Office area. Sand located in V2 art room access from 2CK. Brand of preschool sand is Creative's - is located on shelving at the back of the storeroom which houses all the outdoor equipment which is accessed everyday by staff to set up. On Friday, staff moved the sand into the locked storeroom in empty preschool classroom so it can be contained.	Referral to SGM for Remediation	Front office will need to be isolated. Year 2 can move to the library. Other classrooms can be used as sand is located within cupboards. Preschool can not be accommodated.	Partial	Some students will be relocated to other areas of the school. Pre School can not be accommodated. The school will change the entry to the school and front office spaces as students are to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs.	Scheduled for after hours 18/11 Removalist Consultant		
Kingsford Smith School	Closed	1KG15, Koorie Pre, KLV Building 1, 1KP, the Hub Building 2, Building 3, preschool Staff room, office space, primary hall labelled community store, tag 07A, preschool room cupboard, SPG primary, High school teal room 3G 07, science lab in cupboard 3G 11, science storeroom, wood/metal work storeroom, 41 17 high school science lab		High school SGP sand is out in the classroom. Primary is isolated in cupboards. School would like clarification regarding the cleaning of Koorie Pre/School space.	Fully with isolated spaces				
Latham Primary School	Closed	In addition to the original locations marked up on Thursday evening, there are other coloured sand locations in the following locations: Room 46 - a tub of Anko sand packed in a photocopy paper box on the white kallax 2x4 shelf. Room 24 - Natural Kinetic sand on the bench near the sink. Room 23 - yellow sand in four tubs with pink lids on top of the white cupboards, DPM4 (see room number but directly opposite Room 46) - Kmart scentsos brand is in the open cupboard closest to the back of the room, it's on the third shelf up. There's a box with Scentos written on it and a zipback bag with green sand in it. Preschool - coloured sand unsure of brand locked in the dark grey kitchen cabinets at the end on the the right side doors facing the classroom. The keys should be hanging on a hook in the kitchen near the sink.	Referral to SGM for Remediation		Closed		Removalist Consultant Works scheduled 18/11/2025		
Lyneham Primary School	Closed	Currently in BSO store room and Kindergarten cupboard	EEL OP Assessment	Sand products in Kindergarten cupboard near sink can be isolated. BSO storeroom shed can be isolated.	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs.			
Lyons Early Childhood School	Closed	In Euroa room, two tote trays on the second bottom row of tote cupboard near Rigamajig area. In the Nunkeri room, in long cupboard on the right, top shelf in a blue tray preschool and kinder storerooms	EEL OP Assessment	Two of the four 1/2 classrooms have sand in them but the children could move into the other 1/2 classrooms.	Partial	Preschool to Year 2 students can be accommodated. Early Childhood cannot be accommodated.			
Macgregor Primary School	Closed	Room 26, Junior School and disability Units - SGP Classroom 8 (094) cupboard side of classroom in a cube - Preschool in main classroom in a big play station tray and on back cupboard and in back office behind teachers office on shelf to the left - in storeroom on the way into the library on shelves two sections - in Irindilla building 34MS classroom under teacher desk in a brown paper bag (unopened) - Unable to get into cupboards of after school care not sure if they are in there Tidinbilla, KEP in Namadgi, YWCA OHSC white cupboards in the school hall.	EEL OP Assessment	Staff collected sand and placed in room 26 (Year 3) back storeroom. Staff have reported sand in the preschool. K-6 One classroom offline but students can be accommodated.	Closed	Sand was widely used across the school. Will require assessment.	Removalist Consultant Works scheduled 18/11/2025		
Macquarie Primary School	Closed		Referral to SGM for Remediation		Closed		Removalist Consultant Works scheduled 18/11/2025		
Majura Primary School	Closed	2 x preschool rooms + 2 x SGP classrooms + 2x Year 2 classrooms + principals Office	EEL OP Assessment	preschool closed, SGP's closed, Year 2 closed - kindergarten, Year 1, year 3, year 4, year 5, year 6 can return	Partial	Preschool, SGP classes, Year 2 cannot be accommodated. Kindergarten, year 1, year 3, year 4, year 5, year 6 to return to learning onsite.			
Malikra School	Closed		Remediation works 17/11		Closed		Removalist Consultant Completed - pending clearance 17/11 - Clearance received	Yes	
Margaret Hendry School	Closed	Adrianna SGP, Amanda SGP, 2 preschool, 1 kindergarten, 1 1/2 classroom	EEL OP Assessment	Year 3,4,5,6 +1 Dom's SGP can return	Partial	Adrianna's SGP, Amanda's SGP, Preschool, Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2 can not be accommodated. Years 3, year 4, year 5, year 6 can return to learning onsite.			
Maribyrnong Primary School	Closed	Art Areas of classrooms, front offices, library store, preschool store, Learning Support Unit, OOSC store (off hall), Science Room Store Y16, Kindy and chem storage	Referral to SGM for Remediation		Closed		Removalist Consultant scheduled 17/11 Clearance received 17/11	Yes	
Mawson Primary School	Closed	Kinetic sand purchased from MTA. It is in the preschool. I cannot contact anyone to find out exactly where they store it, but it is most likely in the shed outside the preschool rooms or in the cupboard under the sink.	EEL OP Assessment	No sand on site with the exception of the SGP. We could accommodate SGP students in another location.	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs.			
Miles Franklin School	Closed	After school care - storeroom - large clear tub and 3 small tubs with toys 2. Kindy have the trays that they've used the sand previously they are on the bench in Kindy. Big Portable - Year 6 possibly in a woolies bag on the floor - not used this year but may be there. 4. Year 3 storeroom may have some but teachers are not sure if it's been used. EALD intervention Spaces	Referral to SGM for Remediation		Closed	Not contacted.	Removalist Consultant Works scheduled 18/11/2025		
Monash Primary School	Closed	Kindy wet area, year 1 classroom, art room, year 2 RTI space Year 3 classroom Baral Building	EEL OP Assessment	Principal confirmed all impacted areas will be isolated. All impacted students can be relocated to other spaces, including library.	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs.			

Mount Rogers Primary School	Closed	Yes more Details Required	EEL OP Assessment	School believes it is out in all classrooms (used in the calming spaces) Can not open tomorrow	Closed		Removalist Consultant Scheduled for 18/11 Inc all preschools							
Mount Stromlo High School	Closed	Isolated in student services cupboard	EEL OP Assessment Recommend Opening		Fully	All students able to be accommodated Some students will be relocated to different learning areas Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs								
Namadji School	Closed	Villa 2A, Villa 2D, Villa 2B, Villa 2C	EEL OP Assessment	Principal confirmed the products were removed from the Villas last week, however was used widely prior to that Unsure of residue or remediation over the weekend The high school is not impacted Recommendation to open high school only	Partial	Able to accommodate students in years 7-10 Not able to accommodate students in P-6								
Neville Bonner Primary School	Closed	Principal office, all junior classrooms 4 Kidy, 4yr 1, 3 preschool	Referral to SFM for Remediation	Too many areas impacted to resume BAU	Closed		Removal Consultant Works scheduled 18/11/2025							
Ngunnawal Primary School	Closed	Kooris Pre, room 4, 2 SPG Library, Year10 20F, Red wood Building, Koorosko SGEF, Namadji Building, vinn Building, 6/5	Referral to SFM for Remediation	Too many areas impacted to resume BAU	Closed		Removal Consultant Works scheduled 18/11/2025							
North Ainslie Primary School	Closed	SGP room 10, YMCA Storage Cupboard storeroom 5, IEC room 4 on shelf, Year2 classroom 24 cupboard on shelf closed lid, Year 2 room 28 on shelf contaminated open & exposed Hacked Preschool in cupboard	EEL OP Assessment	Preschool NAPS to remain closed Year 1 Bringa excursion 18/11/25 to proceed, Year 2 can be located in hall for a day to support removal SGP to be relocated to library Junior and senior IEC relocate to spare demountable, Kinder open fully, years 3, 4, 5 & 6 to return fully	Partial	All students Kindergarten to year 6 able to be accommodated including SGP and IEC Some students will be relocated to different learning areas Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs								
O'Connor Cooperative School	Closed	Year 1 Store Room Teacher resource shed, year 1 Classroom storeroom in an isolated cupboard, OHSC Classroom type A in an isolated cupboard	EEL OP Assessment	Principal confirmed all impacted areas could be secured with items isolated	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated Some students will be relocated to different learning areas Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs								
Palmerston Primary School	Closed	All sand in store room in front office next to BSO office.	EEL OP Assessment	All year levels can return All product can be found centrally in front office storeroom This needs to be removed ASAP to enable BSO access to workspace	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated Some students will be relocated to different learning areas Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs								
Red Hill Primary School	Closed	We found a tub of green Creative sand in a kindergarten storeroom It was purchased in 2023 The location of the room was advised to School Operations by our BM on Friday afternoon 14/11/25	EEL OP Assessment	Preschool still impacted Added to the list late on 17/11, web page updated to reflect this	Partial	Students in K-6 are able to be accommodated Preschool students are not able to be accommodated	Removalist Consultant Scheduled for 18/11 after hours							
Richardson Primary School	Closed	In a tub in the OP's office, some in Kindy, 1/2 office, 3/4 and 5/6, pre school, counsellors	EEL OP Assessment	All impacted students could be relocated Principals confident students can all	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated Some students will be relocated to different learning areas Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs								
Southern Cross Early Childhood School	Closed	All Site Impacted	Referral to SFM for Remediation		Closed		Removalist Consultant Works scheduled 18/11/2025							
Taylor Primary School	Closed	at least 1 uncovered tub in a Kindergarten classroom, in a locked cupboard We have an uncovered tray of unidentified sand in preschool, locked in a cupboard We also have unidentified sand in containers in our art storeroom, STEM and preschool cupboards	EEL OP Assessment	All products are in locked cupboards and no staff or students will have access Principal is confident that all students can safely return and be accommodated	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated Some students will be relocated to different learning areas Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs								
Telopea Park School	Closed	Isolated sand in BM office, executive office (primary) kindergarten classrooms	EEL OP Assessment		Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated Some students will be relocated to different learning areas Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs								
Theodore Primary School	Closed	Location 1: Yes -main preschool building (Murranga) storeroom, Shelf straight ahead, eye line level. Location 2: Preschool demountable storeroom shelf. Location 3: Kindergarten (Birimbangi) classroom 4. Multi purpose Hall & Community 1 Office and store room	EEL OP Assessment	Pre school is clear, only product is in a storeroom not being used Kindergarten is also Multi purpose room will remain isolated Principal is confident students can return tomorrow with any impacted areas isolated	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated Some students will be relocated to different learning areas Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs								
Throsby School	Closed	Preschool storeroom and classroom, Kindy wet area cupboard, 1/2 wet area cupboard and teacher office, 3-6 storage and 5/6 classroom cupboard	EEL OP Assessment	Pre school is not able to be able to be isolated K-6 will be able to return without exposure	Partial	Students in K-6 able to be accommodated Students in preschool not able to be accommodated								
Torrens Primary School	Closed	Y11 classroom, OHSC New Hall & BER building	EEL OP Assessment	year 2, 3 and 5 could attend	Partial	Students in years 2, 3 and 5 able to be accommodated								
Turner School	Closed	D9 kindergarten, D2, D1, D15 Preschool D12, S 27, D13	Referral to SFM for Remediation		Partial	All students in Kindergarten to Year 6 able to be accommodated Preschool to remain closed								
University of Canberra High School Kale	Closed	I will mark up on the map On the Security map the space is labelled 19 Withdrawal room The other space is a large storage cupboard in the same area that is not located on the map	EEL OP Assessment	The sand had been in this location at some time in the last year The school can not locate it	Fully with isolated spaces	All students able to be accommodated Some students will be relocated to different learning areas Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs								

Wanniassa Hills Primary School	Closed	Unaware of what has been removed so far but we had sand in the following locations: *preschool - loose sand in the lockable cupboards. Sand used regularly in both classroom spaces. *After school care - Kmart branded sand was thrown out when the other products were recalled just to be safe. Was used in the after school care program regularly Kindergarten- 2 large unbranded tubs of sand in Anna's classroom. Year 1 - Decorative sand in the wet area cupboard. Recently used for an art project to create spiders. Spider artworks on display in French area. Concerns sand may still be in the carpet in this space after art activity. Year 2 - no sand found. Year 3 - no sand found. Year 4 - no sand found. Year 5 - sand is located in the reception area. Year 6 - no sand found. IEC - no sand found. Small Group Program - Kmart branded sand on the teacher's desk. Sand has spilt and remnants are throughout the cubed storage unit. Has been used in moulds still located in the classroom. *Conference room - some of the sand has been relocated to the conference room.	Referral to SFM for Remediation	All products are in locked cupboards and no staff or students will have access. Principal is confident that all students can safely return and be accommodated.	Fully with isolated spaces.	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs.			
Wannlassa School	Closed	Both sites orange and yellow unit P-6 (not previously marked), 7-10 campus additional rooms - SGU x4 and Student Services x3 and offices x7.	Referral to SFM for Remediation	Principal not confident to be able to accommodate	Closed	DID NOT CONTACT	Removalist Consultant Scheduled for 18/11		
Weetangera Primary School	Closed	Preschool - main store room, art cupboards and in both classrooms (opened). Transportable unit - in classroom on school side and likely the wet area. Unit 7 - small quiet room attached to one of the classrooms. Hall - OHSC store room, also likely used in hall. Library office - opened and used (stored on shelf). Not used in main library. Unit 2 - open and used in classrooms. May be some in staff office. Unit 1 - open and used in classrooms. Unit 1 small group classroom - open and used in classroom.	Referral to SFM for Remediation			DID NOT CONTACT	Removalist Consultant Scheduled for 18/11		
The Woden School	Closed		Remediation Work 17/11		Closed		Removalist Consultant Completed - pending clearance 17/11 - Clearance achieved	Yes	
Yarralumla Primary School	Closed	room 6 SGP, Room 2, Montessori	EEL OP Assessment		Closed	All students able to be accommodated. Some students will be relocated to different learning areas. Some areas of the school will be isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs. Students in Montessori can be accommodated.	Removalist Consultant Scheduled for 18/11		

15 partial
31 Open
26 closed

DATA Definitions

Column B headers

DATA	Definition
Whole school closures:	School that was completely closed on Friday 14 November
Partial Closures:	School that had select year groups not on site on Friday 14 November
Preschool Closures:	Preschool that had a full closure on Friday 14 November
Sites Remaining Open during initial remedial Action with internal measures in place:	School that was able to remain open with local measures in place on Friday 14 November
Schools with no initial sand or further identified sand	School that reported no Kadink sand on site on Thursday 13 November and remained open on Friday 14 November

Column C

Priority 1	Priority 1 schools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subjected to full closure in initial actions 14 November • Clearance certificate provided or pending • Since identified presence of Kmart sand • Flex Ed/Muliyar due to recent discovery and complexities
Priority 2	Priority 2 schools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subjected to partial closure in initial actions 14 November • Clearance certificate provided or pending • Since identified presence of Kmart (or other brand) sand
Priority 3	Priority 3 schools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not impacted by any closure 14 November, managed internally OR remained fully operational 14 November • Since identified Kmart sand or unidentified sand

1. Whole School Closure, Remains Closed:

Black Mountain School
Charnwood-Dunlop School
Cranleigh School
Campbell Primary School
Charles Weston School
Chapman Primary School
Evatt Primary School
Florey Primary School
Fraser Primary School
Latham Primary School
Lyons Early Childhood School
Miles Franklin School
Malkara School
Namadgi School
Wanniassa Hills Primary School
Forrest Primary School

15

2. Partially closed Friday, full closure Monday

Amaroo School
North Ainslie School
Red Hill Primary School
Throsby School
Torrens Primary School
Yarralumla Primary School
Duffy Primary School
Curtin Primary School
Mount Rogers Primary School
Monash Primary School
Theodore Primary School
Kingsford Smith School

Wanniassa School	
Franklin School	14

3. Reopening following closure

Charles Conder Primary School	
Narrabundah Early Childhood School	2

4. New Schools Closed for first time

Ainslie School
 Aranda Primary School
 Arawang Primary School
 Bonython Primary School
 Calwell Primary School
 Caroline Chisholm School
 Evelyn Scott School
 Fadden Primary School
 Farrer Primary School
 Flexible Education
 Garran Primary School
 Gilmore Primary School
 Giralang Primary School
 Gold Creek School
 Gordon Primary School
 Gowrie Primary School
 Harrison School
 Hawker Primary School
 Hughes Primary School
 Isabella Plains Early Childhood School
 Jervis Bay School
 Kaleen Primary School
 Lyneham Primary School

Macgregor Primary School
Macquarie Primary School
Majura Primary School
Margaret Hendry School
Maribyrnong Primary School
Mawson Primary School
Mount Stromlo High School
Neville Bonner Primary School
Ngunnawal Primary School
O'Connor Cooperative School
Palmerston Primary School
Richardson Primary School
Southern Cross Early Childhood School
Taylor Primary School
Telopea Park School
Turner School
University of Canberra High School Kaleen
Weetangera Primary School

41

5. No impact at all (friday/Monday) continuing to operate

Alfred Deakin High School
Aunty Agnes Shea High School
Belconnen High School
Birrigai Outdoor School
Calwell High School
Campbell High School
Canberra College
Canberra High School
Dickson College
Lake Ginninderra Senior Secondary College
Lanyon High School

Gungahlin College	
Melrose High School	
Narrabundah College	
Shirley Smith High School	
The Woden School	
Melba Copland Secondary School	17

6. Internal measures to be implemented, and continuing to operate

Lyneham High School	4
Hawker College	
Lake Tuggeranong College	
Erindale College	

Note - all primary sites include preschools

RED = 17/11/25

	17/11/2025
Open	21
Closed	72
TOTAL	93

	18/11/2025
Open	22
Partially open	0
Closed	73
TOTAL	95

	17/11/2025
Alfred Deakin High School	Open
Aunty Agnes Shea High School	Open
Belconnen High School	Open
Birrigai Outdoor School	Open
Calwell High School	Open
Campbell High School	Open
Canberra College	Open
Canberra High School	Open
Charles Conder Primary School	Open
Dickson College	Open
Erindale College	Open
Hawker College	Open
Lake Ginninderra Senior Secondary College	Open
Lake Tuggeranong College	Open
Lanyon High School	Open
Gungahlin College	Open
Lyneham High School	Open
Melrose High School	Open
Narrabundah College	Open

1	Alfred Deakin High School	Open
2	Aunty Agnes Shea High School	Open
3	Belconnen High School	Open
4	Birrigai Outdoor School	Open
5	Calwell High School	Open
6	Campbell High School	Open
7	Canberra College	Open
8	Canberra High School	Open
9	Charles Conder Primary School	Open
10	Dickson College	Open
11	Erindale College	Open
12	Hawker College	Open
13	Gungahlin College	Open
14	Lake Ginninderra Senior Secondary College	Open
15	Lake Tuggeranong College	Open
16	Lanyon High School	Open
17	Lyneham High School	Open
18	Melba Copland Secondary School	Open

Narrabundah Early Childhood School	Open
Shirley Smith High School	Open

19	Melrose High School	Open
20	Narrabundah College	Open
21	Narrabundah Early Childhood School	Open
22	Shirley Smith High School	Open

Ainslie School	Closed
Amaroo School	Closed
Aranda Primary School	Closed
Arawang Primary School	Closed
Black Mountain School	Closed
Bonython Primary School	Closed
Calwell Primary School	Closed
Chapman Primary School	Closed
Charnwood-Dunlop School	Closed
Caroline Chisholm School	Closed
Charles Weston School	Closed
Chapman Primary School	Closed
Cranleigh School	Closed
Curtin Primary School	Closed
Duffy Primary School	Closed
Evatt Primary School	Closed
Evelyn Scott School	Closed
Fadden Primary School	Closed
Farrer Primary School	Closed
Flexible Education	Closed
Florey Primary School	Closed
Forrest Primary School	Closed

1		Closed
2	Ainslie School	Closed
3	Amaroo School	Closed
4	Aranda Primary School	Closed
5	Arawang Primary School	Closed
6	Black Mountain School	Closed
7	Bonython Primary School	Closed
8	Calwell Primary School	Closed
10	Charnwood-Dunlop School	Closed
11	Campbell Primary School	Closed
12	Caroline Chisholm School	Closed
13	Charles Weston School	Closed
14	Chapman Primary School	Closed
15	Cranleigh School	Closed
16	Curtin Primary School	Closed
17	Duffy Primary School	Closed
18	Evatt Primary School	Closed
19	Evelyn Scott School	Closed
20	Fadden Primary School	Closed
21	Farrer Primary School	Closed
22	Flexible Education	Closed

Franklin School	Closed
Fraser Primary School	Closed
Garran Primary School	Closed
Gilmore Primary School	Closed
Giralang Primary School	Closed
Gold Creek School	Closed
Gordon Primary School	Closed
Gowrie Primary School	Closed
Harrison School	Closed
Hawker Primary School	Closed
Hughes Primary School	Closed
Isabella Plains Early Childhood School	Closed
Jervis Bay School	Closed
Kaleen Primary School	Closed
Kingsford Smith School	Closed
Latham Primary School	Closed
Lyneham Primary School	Closed
Lyons Early Childhood School	Closed
Macgregor Primary School	Closed
Macquarie Primary School	Closed
Majura Primary School	Closed
Malkara School	Closed
Margaret Hendry School	Closed
Maribyrnong Primary School	Closed
Mawson Primary School	Closed
Miles Franklin School	Closed
Monash Primary School	Closed
Mount Rogers Primary School	Closed

23	Florey Primary School	Closed
24	Forrest Primary School	Closed
25	Franklin School	Closed
26	Fraser Primary School	Closed
27	Garran Primary School	Closed
28	Gilmore Primary School	Closed
29	Giralang Primary School	Closed
30	Gold Creek School	Closed
31	Gordon Primary School	Closed
32	Gowrie Primary School	Closed
33	Harrison School	Closed
34	Hawker Primary School	Closed
35	Hughes Primary School	Closed
36	Isabella Plains Early Childhood School	Closed
37	Jervis Bay School	Closed
38	Kaleen Primary School	Closed
39	Kingsford Smith School	Closed
40	Latham Primary School	Closed
41	Lyneham Primary School	Closed
42	Lyons Early Childhood School	Closed
43	Macgregor Primary School	Closed
44	Macquarie Primary School	Closed
45	Majura Primary School	Closed
46	Malkara School	Closed
47	Margaret Hendry School	Closed
48	Maribyrnong Primary School	Closed
49	Mawson Primary School	Closed
50	Miles Franklin School	Closed

Mount Stromlo High School	Closed
Namadgi School	Closed
Neville Bonner Primary School	Closed
Ngunnawal Primary School	Closed
North Ainslie Primary School	Closed
O'Connor Cooperative School	Closed
Palmerston Primary School	Closed
Red Hill Primary School	Closed
Richardson Primary School	Closed
Southern Cross Early Childhood School	Closed
Taylor Primary School	Closed
Telopea Park School	Closed
Theodore Primary School	Closed
Throsby School	Closed
Torrens Primary School	Closed
Turner School	Closed
University of Canberra High School Kaleen	Closed
Wanniassa Hills Primary School	Closed
Wanniassa School	Closed
Weetangera Primary School	Closed
The Woden School 11am	Closed
Yarralumla Primary School	Closed

51	Monash Primary School	Closed
52	Mount Rogers Primary School	Closed
53	Mount Stromlo High School	Closed
54	Namadgi School	Closed
55	Neville Bonner Primary School	Closed
56	Ngunnawal Primary School	Closed
57	North Ainslie Primary School	Closed
58	O'Connor Cooperative School	Closed
59	Palmerston Primary School	Closed
60	Red Hill Primary School	Closed
61	Richardson Primary School	Closed
62	Southern Cross Early Childhood School	Closed
63	Taylor Primary School	Closed
64	Telopea Park School	Closed
65	Theodore Primary School	Closed
66	Throsby School	Closed
67	Torrens Primary School	Closed
68	Turner School	Closed
69	University of Canberra High School Kaleen	Closed
70	Wanniassa Hills Primary School	Closed
71	Wanniassa School	Closed
72	Weetangera Primary School	Closed
73	The Woden School	
	Yarralumla Primary School	

[List of Schools Monday 18 November 2025.docx](#)

Opening checklist for 18 November onwards

SCHOOL	CURRENT STATUS	CERT RECEIVED	WORKSAFE NOTIFIED	DG AUTHORITY TO REOPEN	COMMS TO SCHOOL	SCHOOL COMMS SENT	DATE TO OPEN
Ainslie School	Closed						
Amaroo School	open						
Aranda Primary School	Closed						
Arawang Primary School	Closed						
Black Mountain School	Closed	17/11/2025					18/11/2025
Bonython Primary School	Closed						
Calwell Primary School	Closed						
Chapman Primary School	Closed						
Charnwood-Dunlop School	Closed						
Campbell Primary School	Closed						
Caroline Chisholm School	Closed						
Charles Weston School	Closed						
Cranleigh School	Closed	17/11/2025					18/11/2025
Curtin Primary School	Closed						
Duffy Primary School	Closed						
Evatt Primary School	Closed						
Evelyn Scott School	Closed						
Fadden Primary School	Closed						
Farrer Primary School	Closed						
Flexible Education	Closed						
Florey Primary School	Closed						
Forrest Primary School	Closed						
Franklin School	Closed						
Fraser Primary School	Closed						
Garran Primary School	Closed						
Gilmore Primary School	Closed						
Giralang Primary School	Closed						
Gold Creek School	Closed						
Gordon Primary School	Closed						
Gowrie Primary School	Closed						
Harrison School	Closed						
Hawker Primary School	Closed						

Hughes Primary School	Closed						
Isabella Plains Early Childhood School	Closed						
Jervis Bay School	Closed						
Kaleen Primary School	Closed						
Kingsford Smith School	Closed						
Latham Primary School	Closed						
Lyneham Primary School	Closed						
Lyons Early Childhood School	Closed						
Macgregor Primary School	Closed						
Macquarie Primary School	Closed						
Majura Primary School	Closed						
Malkara School	Closed	17/11/2025					18/11/2025
Margaret Hendry School	Closed						
Maribyrnong Primary School	Closed						
Mawson Primary School	Closed						
Miles Franklin School	Closed						
Monash Primary School	Closed						
Mount Rogers Primary School	Closed						
Mount Stromlo High School	Closed						
Namadgi School	Closed						
Neville Bonner Primary School	Closed						
Ngunnawal Primary School	Closed						
North Ainslie Primary School	Closed						
O'Connor Cooperative School	Closed						
Palmerston Primary School	Closed						
Red Hill Primary School	Closed						
Richardson Primary School	Closed						
Southern Cross Early Childhood School	Closed						
Taylor Primary School	Closed						
Telopea Park School	Closed						
Theodore Primary School	Closed						
Throsby School	Closed						
Torrens Primary School	Closed						
Turner School	Closed						
University of Canberra High School Kaleen	Closed						
Wanniassa Hills Primary School	Closed						
Wanniassa School	Closed						

Weetangera Primary School	Closed						
The Woden School	Closed	17/11/2025					18/11/2025
Yarralumla Primary School	Closed						

From: [Whitty, Anna](#)
To: [Laurent, Kristen](#); [BERRY](#); [Hobbs, Rebecca](#)
Cc: [Wood, Jo](#); [EDU, Director-General Office](#); [Spence, Angela](#); [DDGEDUoffice](#)
Subject: RE: FOR URGENT CLEARANCE: GOVERNMENT & STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS - Customer Service - MO REQUESTED CAVEAT BRIEF : contaminated sand products
Date: Monday, 17 November 2025 7:46:35 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.jpg](#)
[image006.png](#)

Hi Kristen,
 Thank you for sending this through.
 Many thanks,
 Anna

Anna Whitty | Senior Adviser
 02 6207 7937 |

Office of Yvette Berry MLA | Member for Ginninderra
 Deputy Chief Minister
 Minister for Education and Early Childhood
 Minister for Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs
 Minister for Sport and Recreation
 Phone: +61 2 6205 0233 | Email: berry@act.gov.au
[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | www.yvetteberry.com.au



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Ngunnawal people, and pay my respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

From: Laurent, Kristen
Sent: Saturday, 15 November 2025 3:03 PM
To: BERRY ; Hobbs, Rebecca ; Whitty, Anna
Cc: Wood, Jo ; EDU, Director-General Office ; Spence, Angela ; DDGEDUoffice
Subject: FW: FOR URGENT CLEARANCE: GOVERNMENT & STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS - Customer Service - MO REQUESTED CAVEAT BRIEF : contaminated sand products

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Bec and Anna
 Please see attached the brief requested by your office on the Directorate's response to the contaminated sand issue. Please note Attachment A is at the end of the brief.
 Kind regards

Kristen Laurent | **Executive Branch Manager Governance and SERBIR**
 Phone: 6205 6749 | Mobile: 0466 244 203 | Email: kristen.laurent@act.gov.au
 Education Directorate | ACT Government
 GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au



From: Kuar, Sarabjit **On Behalf Of** EDU, Ministerial Liaison Officer

Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:43 AM

To: EDU, CBS & WHS

Cc: EGMSDD ; DDGEDUoffice ; EDU, Education and Care, Regulation and Support ; EDU, Ministerial Liaison Officer ; EDU, Director-General Office

Subject: FOR ACTION : FILE2025/39069 : GOVERNMENT & STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS - Customer Service - MO REQUESTED CAVEAT BRIEF : contaminated sand products

Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hi

Please see below for action.

Minister Office Brief Request	
TRIM Number	FILE2025/39069
Title/Question	MO REQUESTED CAVEAT BRIEF : contaminated sand products
Action(s)	The MO would like a Caveat Brief on today's incident regarding WorkSafe issuing a safety alert "Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand products". Further to the brief including information about how EDU will support schools regarding this issue, the MO would also like to know if there is anything EDU can/will do to support the ECEC and OSHC sectors.
Responsible Area	CBS WHS – input from ECRS
Response type	Caveat brief
Clearance level required	DG
Response Due	If the MO could receive the Caveat brief by COB Friday 14 November, that would be appreciated.
Further information i.e external deadlines, who requested the input, any additional context	If a redirection is required: Please liaise directly between business units and once redirection is accepted, please forward allocation email to the accepting business unit with EDU Ministerial Cc'd for visibility.

Comment	Please contact EDUMinisterial@act.gov.au if you have any questions.
----------------	--

Regards

Sarabjit Kuar | Ministerial Liaison Officer

Phone: Microsoft Teams | **Email:** Sarabjit.Kuar@act.gov.au

Communications, Engagement and Government Support | ACT Education

Directorate | ACT Government

220 London Circuit Canberra City ACT 2601|GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

I often work outside of regular business hours. I do not expect you to respond to my request outside of your normal working hours.

From: Education DLO <EDUDLO@act.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:09 AM

To: EDU, Ministerial Liaison Officer <EDUMinisterial@act.gov.au>

Subject: ALLOCATION - caveat brief - CBS WHS: Caveat Brief regarding contaminated sand products (MO requested)

OFFICIAL

Hi Sara,

Could we please task out the below request for a caveat brief to CBS WHS. They will need input from ECRS.

Many thanks,

Adrienne

Adrienne White | Directorate Liaison Officer, Ministerial and Corporate Reporting

Pronouns: She/her

[You can call me directly on MS Teams](#)

Phone: 71833 | Email: Adrienne.White@act.gov.au

MCR | Education Directorate | ACT Government

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

My employer supports me working flexibly, so I may email you outside of normal office hours. I don't expect you to read or respond outside of your normal work hours.

From: Meeth, Sybilla <Sybilla.Meeth@act.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 10:53 AM

To: Education DLO <EDUDLO@act.gov.au>

Subject: Request for Caveat Brief regarding contaminated sand products

OFFICIAL

Hi Adrienne

The MO would like a Caveat Brief on today's incident regarding WorkSafe issuing a safety alert "Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand products".

Further to the brief including information about how EDU will support schools regarding this issue, the MO would also like to know if there is anything EDU can/will

do to support the ECEC and OSHC sectors.

If the MO could receive the Caveat brief by Friday 14 November, that would be appreciated.

Thanks

Sybilla

Sybilla Meeth

A/g Education Adviser

Pronouns: she/ her | sybilla.meeth@act.gov.au | Phone + 61 2 6205 3619

Office of Yvette Berry MLA | Member for Ginninderra

Deputy Chief Minister

Minister for Education and Early Childhood

Minister for Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs

Minister for Sport and Recreation

Phone: +61 2 6205 0233 | Email: berry@act.gov.au

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | www.yvetteberry.com.au



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Ngunnawal people, and pay my respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

From: [Nakkan, John](#)
To: [Morton, Phillip](#); [Hooper, Richard](#)
Subject: Where are the assessors and removalists today
Date: Monday, 17 November 2025 9:52:00 AM

Can we divert some to Woden School

Regards,

John Nakkan | Executive Branch Manager
Phone: +61 2 6205 1289 | Mobile: 0466 015 922 | Email: john.nakkan@act.gov.au
Asset Management and Delivery | Education | ACT Government
Level 4, 220 London Circuit | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
Ngunnawal Country
www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

6:23 



JW

Jo

We have just received clearance for Florey and I have approved lifting the current restrictions. So school can resume and the fair can go ahead

Sat 15 Nov at 8:24 pm

Bec - there is a new development, I need to run past you because we may need to action first thing in the morning

YB will make a decision in the morning. Aiming for 7am

OK thanks

Sun 16 Nov at 4:02 pm

Call me when you get to HB

Mon 17 Nov at 10:09 am

Not urgent. Just calling to figure out when we should schedule min briefings today



riMessage of the Minister



From: [Player, Ben](#)
To: [Nakkan, John](#); [Wickham, Ilona](#); [Coffey, Patrick](#)
Subject: FW: Garran coloured sand removal
Date: Monday, 17 November 2025 2:46:34 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Image 356.JPG](#)
[Image 357.JPG](#)
[Image 358.JPG](#)
[Image 359.JPG](#)
[Image 360.JPG](#)
[Image 361.JPG](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Hi John,

Please see attached update below from [REDACTED] regarding the coloured sand in the new buildings.

I've just got off the phone to [REDACTED] who has advised that the sand is still onsite in the spaces. This is due to the asbestos contractor not being able to remove the sand as the hygienist couldn't attend site today to set up air monitoring while the this took place.

The hygienist will be onsite tomorrow morning to set up the air monitoring while the removal takes place.

[REDACTED] have raised a concern after speaking with the hygienist. They have been advised that the sand being removed will not be tested, it will be treated as asbestos containing material. Therefore requiring and full hazmat clean, which may include removal of carpet and other porous material. Is this correct?

I will keep you updated if I receive any further updates.

Regards

Ben Player

A/g Project Director | Delivery – Health, Education, Justice

P 0421 162 123 | E ben.player@act.gov.au

Infrastructure Canberra | ACT Government

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters where we live and learn, and pay our respects to elders past, present, and future.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2025 12:18 PM
To: Wilson, Helen (ACTEDU) <Helen.Wilson@ed.act.edu.au>; Fellows, Sharon (ACTEDU) <Sharon.Fellows@ed.act.edu.au>; Player, Ben <Ben.Player@act.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] DArcy, Vy Forte Ly <VyForteLy.DArcy@act.gov.au>; Beaton, Jordan <Jordan.Beaton@act.gov.au>
Subject: Garran coloured sand removal

Caution: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi All,

Please see below update on the coloured sand at Garran School which are in line with discussions with John Naken this morning,

Sand products found in the following locations;

New Buildings unopened sand in original packaging was found in the following rooms

1. GD-029
2. GD-073
3. 1D-125

New Buildings opened packages of sand

1. GD-058 – opened sand contained in large shopping bag
2. GD-034 – exposed sand in plastic trays
3. GD-029 – opened sand contained in large shopping bag

All of the above rooms are currently locked, sliding doors cable tied together from the outside and have signage in place stating “this room has been isolated no entry”

Now we also have been made aware of 2 other locations within the existing school that has opened sand and 1 area within the preschool that has opened sand.

The asbestos removal subcontractor is currently onsite and will remove all sand that has been identified this afternoon.

Subject to confirmation from the Hygienist, it is expected that only the rooms that contained the open bags will need to be fully cleaned.

As the affected rooms in the new buildings have been suitably isolated, photos attached, other works such as defects rectification, removalists and construction cleaners are undertaking their works in the areas of the building that are not isolated.

Currently [REDACTED] has no plans for cleaning the existing buildings.

I will send more updates as new information comes to hand.

Regards





10:49

THIS ROOM HAS BEEN ISOLATED NO ENTRY

THIS ROOM HAS BEEN ISOLATED NO ENTRY

10:52



GD073

THIS ROOM HAS BEEN ISOLATED NO ENTRY

THIS ROOM HAS BEEN ISOLATED NO ENTRY

THIS ROOM HAS BEEN ISOLATED NO ENTRY

GD 058

THIS ROOM HAS BEEN ISOLATED NO ENTRY



GDO29

DO NOT
ENTER

**THIS
ROOM
HAS BEEN
ISOLATED
NO
ENTRY**





THIS ROOM HAS BEEN ISOLATED NO ENTRY

We wish you well from your angels

grace: Always more. Archive Carton grace.com.au

PLEASE PACK AND MOVE CONTENTS. THANK YOU. Place Label Here. Always more.

**THIS
ROOM
HAS BEEN
ISOLATED
NO
ENTRY**

*DO NOT
ENTER
TYPE A*

From: [Beaton, Jordan](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Player, Ben](#)
Subject: RE: Garran coloured sand removal
Date: Monday, 17 November 2025 4:08:55 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Thanks [REDACTED], appreciate the work and updates!

Jordan Beaton | Senior Project Manager
Phone: [REDACTED] | Email: Jordan.Beaton@act.gov.au
Delivery – Education | Infrastructure Canberra



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2025 3:53 PM
To: Wilson, Helen (ACTEDU) <Helen.Wilson@ed.act.edu.au>; Fellows, Sharon (ACTEDU) <Sharon.Fellows@ed.act.edu.au>; Player, Ben <Ben.Player@act.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Darcy, Vy Forte Ly <VyForteLy.DArcy@act.gov.au>; Beaton, Jordan <Jordan.Beaton@act.gov.au>; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Garran coloured sand removal

Caution: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi All,

The asbestos subcontractor attended site this afternoon to inspect the works, they were unable to remove the coloured sand as the hygienist could not attend as well.

Both will be back in the morning.

Separately, [REDACTED] have [REDACTED] coming onsite this afternoon to take samples of each of the opened products to test and confirm the presence of asbestos. Until the test results come back, the products will be treated as asbestos.

If the samples test positive for asbestos, then we will need to follow the hygienist advice for cleaning and then once cleaned they will issue a clearance certificate. If no asbestos is present in the sample test, the hygienist will sign off and normal activities can resume.

More information will be provided as it comes to hand.

Regards

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2025 12:18 PM
To: Helen Wilson <Helen.Wilson@ed.act.edu.au>; Sharon Fellows <Sharon.Fellows@ed.act.edu.au>; Player, Ben <Ben.Player@act.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]; Vy Darcy (<vyfortely.darcy@act.gov.au>); Beaton, Jordan <Jordan.Beaton@act.gov.au>
Subject: Garran coloured sand removal

Hi All,

Please see below update on the coloured sand at Garran School which are in line with discussions with John Naken this morning,

Sand products found in the following locations;

New Buildings unopened sand in original packaging was found in the following rooms

1. GD-029
2. GD-073
3. 1D-125

New Buildings opened packages of sand

1. GD-058 – opened sand contained in large shopping bag
2. GD-034 – exposed sand in plastic trays
3. GD-029 – opened sand contained in large shopping bag

All of the above rooms are currently locked, sliding doors cable tied together from the outside and have signage in place stating “this room has been isolated no entry”

Now we also have been made aware of 2 other locations within the existing school that has opened sand and 1 area within the preschool that has opened sand.

The asbestos removal subcontractor is currently onsite and will remove all sand that has been identified this afternoon.

Subject to confirmation from the Hygienist, it is expected that only the rooms that contained the open bags will need to be fully cleaned.

As the affected rooms in the new buildings have been suitably isolated, photos attached,

other works such as defects rectification, removalists and construction cleaners are undertaking their works in the areas of the building that are not isolated.

Currently [REDACTED] has no plans for cleaning the existing buildings.

I will send more updates as new information comes to hand.

Regards



From: [Gutteridge, James](#) on behalf of [EDU, EGMPGC](#)
To: [Matthews, David](#)
Cc: [EDU, EGMPGC](#)
Subject: RE: FOR URGENT CLEARANCE: GOVERNMENT & STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS - Customer Service - MO REQUESTED CAVEAT BRIEF : contaminated sand products
Date: Monday, 17 November 2025 4:44:15 PM
Attachments: [image007.png](#)
[image001.png](#)
[Attachment B Asbestos Regulation Comparison Table.docx](#)
[Minister Brief Hazardous Materials Response Contaminated Sand \(ACM\)- Update 1.docx](#)
[GOVERNMENT & STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS - Customer Service - MO REQUESTED CAVEAT BRIEF contaminated sand products.tr5](#)

OFFICIAL

Hi David,

DLO has confirmed that the attached TRIM folder has progressed.

Thanks,
James**James Gutteridge | Assistant Director (Secretariat), Governance Policy and Procedure**Phone: 02 6207 4537 | Email: james.gutteridge@act.gov.au**Governance | Education Directorate | ACT Government**220 London Circuit, ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | act.gov.au

I acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. I acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.



From: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2025 4:29 PM
To: EDU, EGMPGC <EGMPGC@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: FOR URGENT CLEARANCE: GOVERNMENT & STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS - Customer Service - MO REQUESTED CAVEAT BRIEF : contaminated sand products

OFFICIAL

From: Laurent, Kristen <Kristen.Laurent@act.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, 15 November 2025 5:21 PM
To: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>; Crowther, Michael <Michael.Crowther@act.gov.au>; James, Brooke <Brooke.James@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; Attridge, Vanessa <VanessaS.Attridge@act.gov.au>
Cc: Allen, Tracey <Tracey.Allen@act.gov.au>; Spence, Angela <Angela.Spence@act.gov.au>; Wood, Jo <Jo.Wood@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: FOR URGENT CLEARANCE: GOVERNMENT & STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS - Customer Service - MO REQUESTED CAVEAT BRIEF : contaminated sand products

OFFICIAL

From: Laurent, Kristen
Sent: Saturday, 15 November 2025 3:03 PM
To: BERRY <BERRY@act.gov.au>; Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>; Whitty, Anna <Anna.Whitty@act.gov.au>
Cc: Wood, Jo <Jo.Wood@act.gov.au>; EDU, Director-General Office <EDUDirectorGeneralOffice@act.gov.au>; Spence, Angela <Angela.Spence@act.gov.au>; DDGEDUoffice <DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: FOR URGENT CLEARANCE: GOVERNMENT & STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS - Customer Service - MO REQUESTED CAVEAT BRIEF : contaminated sand products

Good afternoon Bec and Anna

Please see attached the brief requested by your office on the Directorate's response to the contaminated sand issue. Please note Attachment A is at the end of the brief.

Kind regards

Kristen Laurent | **Executive Branch Manager Governance and SERBIR**
Phone: 6205 6749 | Mobile: 0466 244 203 | Email: kristen.laurent@act.gov.au
Education Directorate | ACT Government
GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au



From: Kuar, Sarabjit **On Behalf Of** EDU, Ministerial Liaison Officer
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:43 AM
To: EDU, CBS & WHS
Cc: EGMSDD ; DDGEDUoffice ; EDU, Education and Care, Regulation and Support ; EDU, Ministerial Liaison Officer ; EDU, Director-General Office
Subject: FOR ACTION : FILE2025/39069 : GOVERNMENT & STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS - Customer Service - MO REQUESTED CAVEAT BRIEF : contaminated sand products
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hi

Please see below for action.

Minister Office Brief Request	
TRIM Number	FILE2025/39069
Title/Question	MO REQUESTED CAVEAT BRIEF : contaminated sand products
Action(s)	<p>The MO would like a Caveat Brief on today's incident regarding WorkSafe issuing a safety alert "Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand products".</p> <p>Further to the brief including information about how EDU will support schools regarding this issue, the MO would also like to know if there is anything EDU can/will do to support the ECEC and OSHC sectors.</p>
Responsible Area	CBS WHS – input from ECRS
Response type	Caveat brief
Clearance level required	DG
Response Due	If the MO could receive the Caveat brief by COB Friday 14 November, that would be appreciated.
Further information i.e external deadlines, who requested the input, any additional context	If a redirection is required: Please liaise directly between business units and once redirection is accepted, please forward allocation email to the accepting business unit with EDU Ministerial Cc'd for visibility.
Comment	Please contact EDUMinisterial@act.gov.au if you have any questions.

Regards

Sarabjit Kuar | Ministerial Liaison OfficerPhone: Microsoft Teams | Email: Sarabjit.Kuar@act.gov.au

Communications, Engagement and Government Support | ACT Education Directorate | ACT Government

220 London Circuit Canberra City ACT 2601|GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

I often work outside of regular business hours. I do not expect you to respond to my request outside of your normal working hours.

From: Education DLO <EDUDLO@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:09 AM
To: EDU, Ministerial Liaison Officer <EDUMinisterial@act.gov.au>
Subject: ALLOCATION - caveat brief - CBS WHS: Caveat Brief regarding contaminated sand products (MO requested)

OFFICIAL

Hi Sara,

Could we please task out the below request for a caveat brief to CBS WHS. They will need input from ECRS.

Many thanks,
Adrienne

Adrienne White | Directorate Liaison Officer, Ministerial and Corporate Reporting

Pronouns: She/her

[You can call me directly on MS Teams](#)

Phone: 71833 | Email: Adrienne.White@act.gov.au

MCR | Education Directorate | ACT Government

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

My employer supports me working flexibly, so I may email you outside of normal office hours. I don't expect you to read or respond outside of your normal work hours.

From: Meeth, Sybilla <Sybilla.Meeth@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 10:53 AM
To: Education DLO <EDUDLO@act.gov.au>
Subject: Request for Caveat Brief regarding contaminated sand products

OFFICIAL

Hi Adrienne

The MO would like a Caveat Brief on today's incident regarding WorkSafe issuing a safety alert "Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand products".

Further to the brief including information about how EDU will support schools regarding this issue, the MO would also like to know if there is anything EDU can/will do to support the ECEC and OSHC sectors.

If the MO could receive the Caveat brief by Friday 14 November, that would be appreciated.

Thanks
Sybilla

Sybilla Meeth

A/g Education Adviser

Pronouns: she/ her | sybilla.meeth@act.gov.au | Phone + 61 2 6205 3619

Office of Yvette Berry MLA | Member for Ginninderra

Deputy Chief Minister

Minister for Education and Early Childhood

Minister for Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs

Minister for Sport and Recreation

Phone: +61 2 6205 0233 | Email: berry@act.gov.au

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | www.yvetteberry.com.au



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Ngunnawal people, and pay my respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

From: [Steele, Peter](#)
To: [Attridge, Vanessa](#); [Nakkan, John](#)
Cc: [Huxley, Mark](#)
Subject: FOR REVIEW - CRITERIA FOR ASSESSOR ALLOCATION
Date: Monday, 17 November 2025 5:48:12 PM

OFFICIAL

Confirming from discussion, latest update + proposed triaging for future sites:

To expect for tomorrow (18/11):

- 4 schools (specialist schools) expected to have clearance certificates by 18/11 and open 19/11 (if not earlier).
- 19 Schools have now been allocated to contractors for remediation and clearance.
 - The schools allocated are either fully closed on 18/11 or partially closed on 18/11
 - 5 full closures to be allocated (next priority)

Schedule for remaining -

- Prioritise full closures for allocation of work
- Then remaining priorities is from age cohort
 - Specialist schools or schools with SPG prioritised if required

If further issues arise (e.g. a further find of sand):

- Where possible, prioritise schools that need to be revisited as priority

Situation Report

Incident Name/Identifier: Contaminated Sand	Date/Time: 17 Nov 2025 – Meeting 6; 1830
Situation Update:	
<p>The ACCC has published a recall notice over children’s sand products that may contain asbestos and were sold at various retailers including Officeworks. The recall was issued by supplier Educational Colours for colourful children’s sand products sold at Officeworks, Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids and Zart Art.</p> <p>There are reports that the recall list may be expanded to include other decorative sand products sold at K-Mart. The ACT Education Directorate is assessing this new information to ensure the continued safety and regulatory requirements are maintained.</p> <p>The ACT Education Directorate is continuing to assess the impact on service delivery and to the safety staff, students and the community and that we exercise the PCBU Obligations under the WHS Act for all decorative sand products. Efforts include the remediation and re-opening requirements to ensure regulatory compliance and appropriate approvals have been achieved.</p> <p>The CMT strategy meeting focussed on the remediation and gaining clarity on critical pathway to re-opening schools. This will drive the risk assessment review. The CMT will also overlay the Directorate BCP and Recovery tools over the actions required.</p> <p>Overview – CMT Lead Overview of the day – where did we land? 51 totally operational; still working on flexible ed space; Woden and Malkara clearances just received MO and DG happy to take the advice of the school principals. Schools that get clearances should notify their community early Comms were sent out following improvements after yesterday’s lessons. Website update was a lot quicker with the EELs working with Taymore</p> <p>Our intent for Tuesday Confirming isolated areas, fully operate, partially operate Full assessments to take place and timeframes are important 24 schools scheduled for Tuesday – partial schools. Timeframe depends on sites and access; 12 schools are looking at being completed tomorrow. Priorities have been identified with an agreed order that includes Garran and Hughes, due to high health staff parents Aim is all sites open by Monday with students returning. Some schools will still have isolated areas Alex and Jess have been working with CMTEDD to review current process regarding testing to look at how to accelerate, remediate and recover. Approach to be tested with WorkSafe. Data is shown that there are no airborne risks. We are still waiting for other test results. What physical testing do we need and for what process Action: Comms to explain why the next batch will take a little longer</p>	

Situation Report

Action: Coordinate conversation on other pathways for accelerated clearance

Cross Government

Focus was on household impact and other Govt. and Non-Govt. areas

Discussion was on sharing the assessors

Strategic Actions moving forward

*Business and Governance forecast - what are we likely to experience moving forward? How are we going to support business areas that need act?

*Do we need to cost capture?

*Risk Assessment & PESTLE Analysis to overlay the RA

*Recovery – what does this look like and what are we anticipating?

*Transition back to BAU with rest and relief of key staff

Action: Prepare communications to explain why the next batch will take longer.

Need to continue the schools budget management actions. Mark will discuss this with EELs

IMT Update – Peter Steele – Incident Lead

In addition to CMT lead discussion, IMT Lead mentioned a workshop was held at 1515hrs resulted in a schedule for each day as follows:

1600hrs - Start

1615hrs – Information for the DG such as:

*DG Decision via briefing and to seek approvals

*No. of clearance certificates

*Clarity for DG including priority school status

*Schools with no small group program but can open

Communications cleared – based on information above and other priorities

1630hrs – MO Briefing

1645hrs – Communications List complete

1700hrs – Publish on Web

1715hrs – Workshop for priority the next day

Schedule subject to change due to information

Operations/Infrastructure – John Nakkan

Gave an update on the priority for Wednesday being having a full picture in the schools and clearances.

Execution: (Actions.to.be.taken.to.resolve.the.incident).

REFER to Action Register in TEAMS file for comments, and status

[Action Register CMT_IMT.xlsx](#)

Administration and Logistics: (include.frequency.and.types.of.meetings?resources.required.including.learning.arrangements?school.closures?financial.etcj)

Situation Report

Where possible staff have been asked to work from HBCTL

Brooke Walsh – POC with EEL's

IMT scheduled meetings:

Tuesday

EELs – 0845

Communications – 0830

IMT – 1200hrs – strategy check-in

IMT – 1500hrs – check-in

CMT scheduled meetings:

Tuesday

CMT End of Day Update 1800hrs

Whole of Govt. – Kristen Laurent

0900hrs

MO Meetings

MO Briefing – 1630hrs

CMT

CMT Lead – Mark Huxley

Admin Support – Tracey Allen

CMT Manager – Kristen Laurent

IMT Lead – Peter Steele

Communications – Paul Short

Infrastructure – Vanessa Attridge

Stakeholder – David Matthews

DG – Jo Wood

IMT

IMT Lead – Peter Steele

Admin Support – Madeline Wynn & Nathan Henderson-Smith

WHS – Jessie Atkins

Prepared by:
Tracey Allen, Admin Support

Approved by Incident Controller/Lead (IC):

From: [Nakkan, John](#)
To: [Bailey, Anthony](#); [Hooper, Richard](#); [Morton, Phillip](#); [Mosely, Ben](#); [Fairman, Mikhala](#); [Clifton, Rose](#)
Cc: [Steele, Peter](#); [EDU_EBM_AMD](#)
Subject: FW: FOR REVIEW - CRITERIA FOR ASSESSOR ALLOCATION
Date: Monday, 17 November 2025 6:38:00 PM

Hi all,

Please see the agreed prioritisation process below.

Regards,

John Nakkan | Executive Branch Manager
Phone: +61 2 6205 1289 | Mobile: 0466 015 922 | Email: john.nakkan@act.gov.au
Asset Management and Delivery | Education | ACT Government
Level 4, 220 London Circuit | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
Ngunnawal Country
www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

From: Steele, Peter <Peter.Steele@act.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2025 5:48 PM
To: Attridge, Vanessa <VanessaS.Attridge@act.gov.au>; Nakkan, John <John.Nakkan@act.gov.au>
Cc: Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>
Subject: FOR REVIEW - CRITERIA FOR ASSESSOR ALLOCATION

OFFICIAL

Confirming from discussion, latest update + proposed triaging for future sites:

To expect for tomorrow (18/11):

- 4 schools (specialist schools) expected to have clearance certificates by 18/11 and open 19/11 (if not earlier).
- 24 Schools have now been allocated to contractors for remediation and clearance.
 - The schools allocated are either fully closed on 18/11 or partially closed on 18/11

Schedule for remaining -

- Prioritise full closures for allocation of work
- Then remaining priorities is from age cohort
 - Specialist schools or schools with SPG prioritised if required

If further issues arise (e.g. a further find of sand):

- Where possible, prioritise schools that need to be revisited as priority

From: Fairman, Mikhaila on behalf of EDU_Hazardous Materials
To: Nakkas, John
Cc: Morton, Phillip; Hooper, Richard; Clifton, Rose; Mosely, Ben
Subject: FW: Black Mountain and Cranleigh
Date: Monday, 17 November 2025 6:55:44 PM
Attachments: [clip_image002.jpg](#)
[KEF2816 - Cranleigh School - Starke Street, Holt ACT 2615 - 17 November 2025-Clearance Certificate.pdf](#)
[KEF281617112025-AMR.pdf](#)
[KEF2829 - Black Mountain School 34 Faunce Crescent O'Connor ACT 2602 - 17 November 2025-Clearance Certificate.pdf](#)
[KEF282917112025-AMR.pdf](#)
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hi John

A further 2 clearances have now been received for Cranleigh and Black Mountain school.

Kind regards

Mikhala Fairman | Hazardous Materials Project Officer | School Infrastructure Management
Phone: 0481 903 237 | Email: mikhala.fairman@act.gov.au Email: eduhazardousmaterials@act.gov.au
Finance and Infrastructure Group | Education | ACT Government
Level 4, 220 London Circuit, Canberra City, ACT 2601
GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Google+](#)

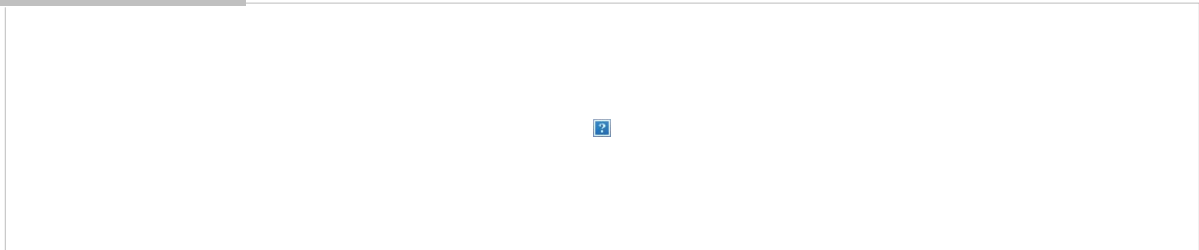
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2025 6:41 PM
To: Fairman, Mikhaila <Mikhala.Fairman@act.gov.au>; Clifton, Rose <Rose.Clifton@act.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED] >; EDU, Hazardous Materials <EDUHazardousMaterials@act.gov.au>; Morton, Phillip <Phillip.Morton@act.gov.au>
Subject: Black Mountain and Cranleigh
Importance: High

Caution: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi All,

Please find the AM results and clearance attached, all ok.

Regards



PROJECT DETAILS

JOB NUMBER	KEF2821	SAMPLE DATE	17/11/2025
CLIENT	ACT Education	REPORT DATE	17/11/2025
CONTACT NAME	Grant Voysey	CONTACT NUMBER	[REDACTED]
SITE ADDRESS	Cranleigh School - Starke Street, Holt ACT 2615		
SCOPE OF WORKS	Removal of asbestos contaminated sand products, environmental clean of affected areas and inspection of all school areas for sand contamination - see site plan		
SCOPE OF CLEARANCE	A thorough visual inspection and clearance air monitoring was conducted.		
ASBESTOS CONTRACTOR	[REDACTED]	SUPERVISOR	[REDACTED]
ASBESTOS ASSESSOR	[REDACTED]	LICENCE NUMBER	[REDACTED]
LEGISLATION	Asbestos removal clearance certificate issued under regulations 473 & 474 of the Work Health Safety Regulation 2011 & 2017		

VISUAL CLEARANCE

	YES	NO	N/A
Did inspection of the specific work area detailed above find no visible asbestos remaining as a result of the asbestos removal work carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did inspection of the internal areas of the site find no visible asbestos remaining as a result of the asbestos removal work carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is air monitoring required?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If air monitoring was carried out as part of the clearance inspection (friable works only) was the result below 0.01 fibres/ml?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can the site be dismantled?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did inspection of the work area following dismantling of the enclosure find no visible asbestos remaining?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can the area be reoccupied?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONCLUSION

A thorough visual inspection of the removal area found no visible asbestos residue from asbestos removal work in the area or in the vicinity of the area where the work was carried out.

This area has been cleared for reoccupation, and restrictions associated with the asbestos removal can now be lifted.

Kind Regards,



PHOTOS



Removal area



Removal area



Removal area



Removal area



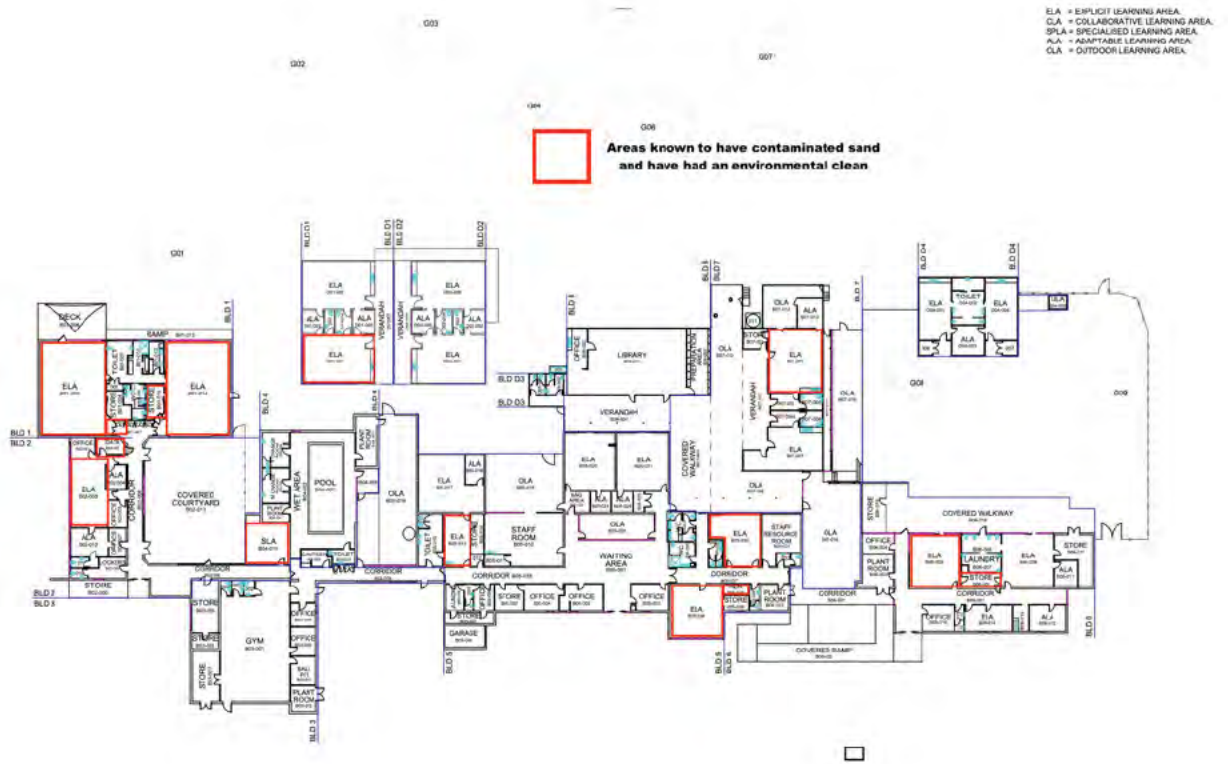
Removal area



Removal area



PLAN



PROJECT DETAILS

CLIENT	ACT Education (Grant Voysey)	JOB NUMBER	
SITE ADDRESS	Cranleigh School - Starke Street Holt ACT	SAMPLE DATE	17/11/2025
CONTRACTOR		REPORT DATE	17/11/2025
SUPERVISOR		ASSESSOR	
SCOPE OF WORKS	Removal of asbestos contaminated sand products, environmental clean of affected areas and inspection of all school areas for sand contamination	LICENSE #	N/A

AIR MONITORING DETAILS

Sample#	Pump	Sample Type	Sample Location(s)	Time			Average Flow Rate (L/min)	Vol(L)	Fields	Fibre Count	Result (Fibres/ml)
				On	Off	Total (mins)					
7022		Control/Clearance	Inside room 66/66A	14:28	17:23	175	4	700	100	0	<0.01
7023		Control/Clearance	Inside classroom 46	14:29	17:24	175	4	700	100	0	<0.01
7024		Control/Clearance	Inside classroom 34	14:30	17:25	175	4	700	100	0	<0.01
7025		Control/Clearance	Inside craft room 24	14:31	17:26	175	4	700	100	0	<0.01
7026		Control/Clearance	Inside classroom 21 / hallway cupboard	14:32	17:27	175	4	700	100	0	<0.01
7028		Control/Clearance	Inside classroom 67	14:34	17:29	175	4	700	100	0	<0.01
7027		Control/Clearance	Classroom 16/17	14:34	17:29	175	4	700	100	0	<0.01
0481		FB	-	-	-	0	0	0	100	0	-

* Indicates satisfactory field blank result

** Air monitoring was conducted in accordance with the Guidance Note on the Membrane Filter Method for Estimating Airborne Asbestos Fibres [NOHSC: 3003 (2005)] and in house procedures from D120 - SOP for the Estimation of Airborne Fibres (latest version)

CONCLUSION

All air monitoring results were below 0.01 fibres/ml. The results shall not be reproduced except in full.

Approved Counter: [Redacted]

Approved Signature: [Redacted]

Approved Signatory Name: [Redacted]

Approved Signature: [Redacted]



WORLD-LEADING ACCREDITATION

Accredited for compliance with ISO/IEC 17025 – Testing

NATA accredited laboratory 19564



PROJECT DETAILS

JOB NUMBER	KEF2829	SAMPLE DATE	17/11/2025
CLIENT	ACT Education	REPORT DATE	17/11/2025
CONTACT NAME	Grant Voysey	CONTACT NUMBER	[REDACTED]
SITE ADDRESS	Black Mountain School 34 Faunce Crescent O'Connor ACT 2602		
SCOPE OF WORKS	Removal of asbestos contaminated sand products, environmental clean of affected areas and inspection of all school areas for sand contamination - see site plan		
SCOPE OF CLEARANCE	A thorough visual inspection and clearance air monitoring was conducted.		
ASBESTOS CONTRACTOR	[REDACTED]	SUPERVISOR	[REDACTED]
ASBESTOS ASSESSOR	[REDACTED]	LICENCE NUMBER	[REDACTED]
LEGISLATION	Asbestos removal clearance certificate issued under regulations 473 & 474 of the Work Health Safety Regulation 2011 & 2017		

VISUAL CLEARANCE

	YES	NO	N/A
Did inspection of the specific work area detailed above find no visible asbestos remaining as a result of the asbestos removal work carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did inspection of the internal areas of the site find no visible asbestos remaining as a result of the asbestos removal work carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is air monitoring required?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If air monitoring was carried out as part of the clearance inspection (friable works only) was the result below 0.01 fibres/ml?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can the site be dismantled?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did inspection of the work area following dismantling of the enclosure find no visible asbestos remaining?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can the area be reoccupied?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONCLUSION

A thorough visual inspection of the removal area found no visible asbestos residue from asbestos removal work in the area or in the vicinity of the area where the work was carried out.

This area has been cleared for reoccupation, and restrictions associated with the asbestos removal can now be lifted.

Kind Regards,



PHOTOS



Removal area



Removal area



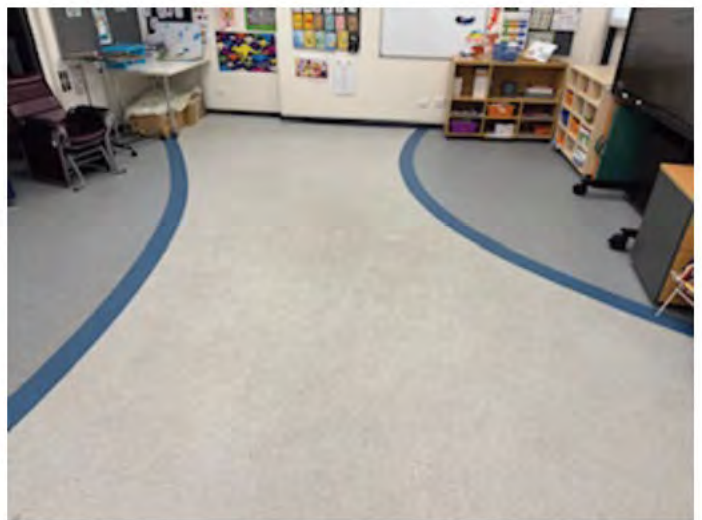
Removal area



Removal area

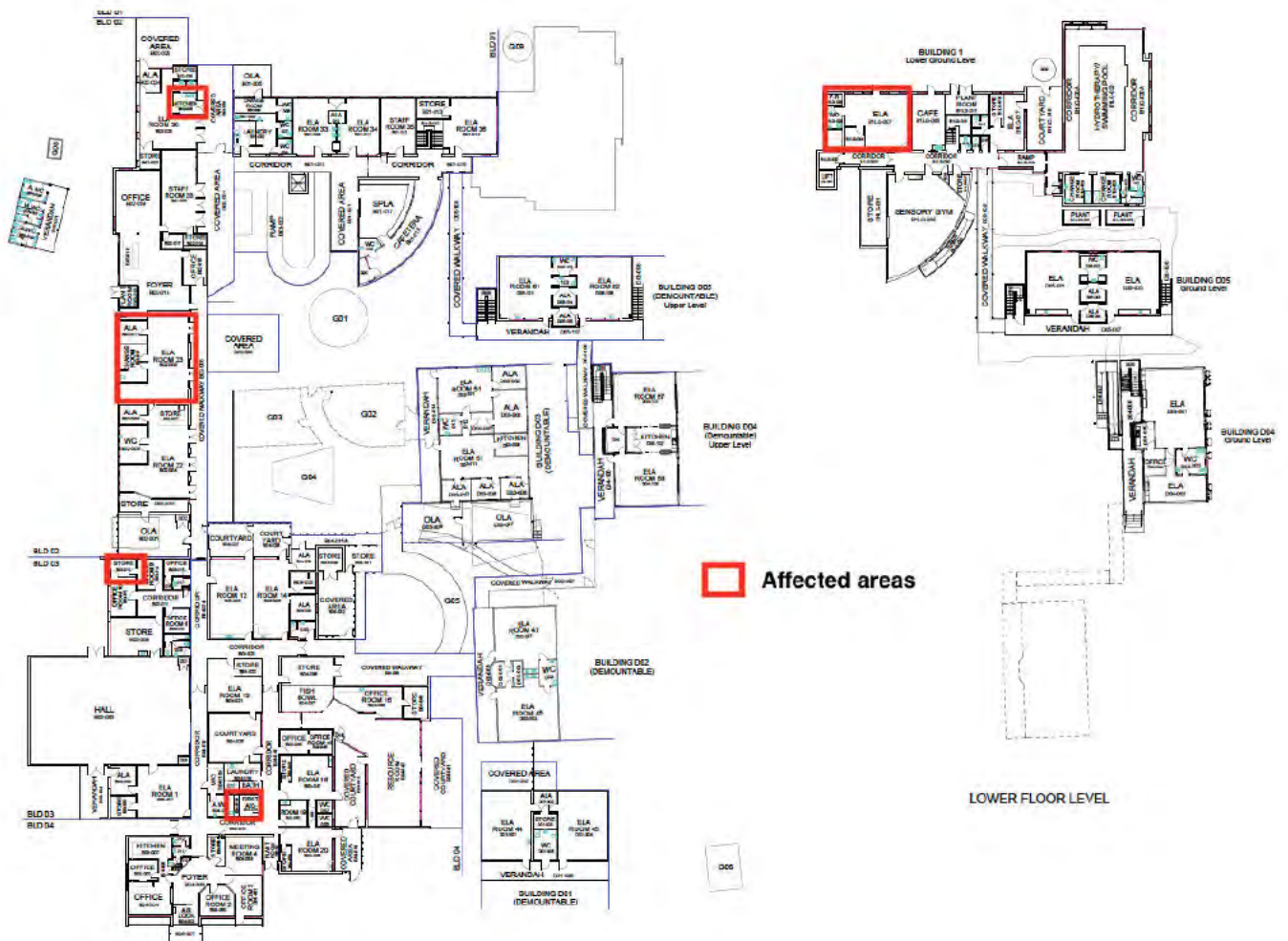


Removal area



Removal area

PLAN



PROJECT DETAILS

CLIENT	ACT Education (Grant Voysey)	JOB NUMBER	
SITE ADDRESS	Black Mountain School - 34 Faunce Crescent O'Connor ACT	SAMPLE DATE	17/11/2025
CONTRACTOR		REPORT DATE	17/11/2025
SUPERVISOR		ASSESSOR	
SCOPE OF WORKS	Removal of asbestos contaminated sand products, environmental clean of affected areas and inspection of all school areas for sand contamination - see site plan	LICENSE #	

AIR MONITORING DETAILS

Sample#	Pump	Sample Type	Sample Location(s)	Time			Average Flow Rate (L/min)	Vol(L)	Fields	Fibre Count	Result (Fibres/ml)
				On	Off	Total (mins)					
7021		Control/Clearance	In first aid room	12:45	15:00	135	4	540	100	1	<0.01
20779		Control/Clearance	Room 10 storage	12:46	15:01	135	4	540	100	0	<0.01
20777		Control/Clearance	Room 20 storage	12:47	15:02	135	4	540	100	0	<0.01
20776		Control/Clearance	Room 30 kitchen	12:48	15:03	135	4	540	100	0	<0.01
7019		Control/Clearance	In room 23	12:49	15:04	135	4	540	100	0	<0.01
20778		Control/Clearance	In room 58	12:50	15:05	135	4	540	100	0	<0.01
20741		FB	-	-	-	0	0	0	100	0	-

* Indicates satisfactory field blank result

** Air monitoring was conducted in accordance with the Guidance Note on the Membrane Filter Method for Estimating Airborne Asbestos Fibres [NOHSC: 3003 (2005)] and in house procedures from D120 - SOP for the Estimation of Airborne Fibres (latest version)

CONCLUSION

All air monitoring results were below 0.01 fibres/ml. The results shall not be reproduced except in full.

Approved Counter: [Redacted]

Approved Signature: [Redacted]

Approved Signatory Name: [Redacted]

Approved Signature: [Redacted]



WORLDWIDE ACCREDITATION

Accredited for compliance with ISO/IEC 17025 – Testing

NATA accredited laboratory 19564



From: [Nakkan, John](#)
To: [EDU, Hazardous Materials](#)
Subject: FW: Garran coloured sand removal
Date: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 9:24:00 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image001.png](#)
[T-17005 - Garran Primary School Fibre Identification Cert of Analysis.pdf](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Hi Team,

Please note clearance for the new buildings at Garran PS.

Regards,

John Nakkan | Executive Branch Manager
Phone: +61 2 6205 1289 | Mobile: 0466 015 922 | Email: john.nakkan@act.gov.au
Asset Management and Delivery | Education | ACT Government
Level 4, 220 London Circuit | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
Ngunnawal Country
www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

From: Player, Ben <Ben.Player@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 8:40 AM
To: Nakkan, John <John.Nakkan@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Garran coloured sand removal

OFFICIAL

Good Morning John,

Please see attached testing report for the coloured sand in the new buildings at Garran.

Regards

Ben Player
A/g Project Director | Delivery – Health, Education, Justice
P 0421 162 123 | E ben.player@act.gov.au
Infrastructure Canberra | ACT Government
GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601





We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters where we live and learn, and pay our respects to elders past, present, and future.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 7:35 AM
To: Fellows, Sharon (ACTEDU) <Sharon.Fellows@ed.act.edu.au>; Wilson, Helen (ACTEDU) <Helen.Wilson@ed.act.edu.au>; Player, Ben <Ben.Player@act.gov.au>
Cc: DArcy, Vy Forte Ly <VyFortely.DArcy@act.gov.au>; Beaton, Jordan <Jordan.Beaton@act.gov.au>; [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Garran coloured sand removal

Caution: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi All,

Attached is the Analysis report for the samples taken from open containers yesterday from rooms GD-029 and GD-034. Both of these rooms will need a clean this afternoon after school with the hygienist present based on the recommendations of the report even though no asbestos fibres were detected.

Regards



From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2025 11:24 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Garran coloured sand removal

Caution: This email came from outside of [Redacted]. Do not enter your login details or passwords, and refrain from clicking on suspicious attachments or links. Do not scan QR Codes in emails. When in doubt, contact the IT Help Desk.

Good evening [Redacted]

Attached are the results of the analysis of the two sand samples collected from the new Garran Primary School this afternoon.

Unidentified Mineral Fibre Note: The sample (J3617) collected from the plastic A4 size trays

was found to contain an asbestiform where we could not conclusively determine the type of fibre by the Polarised Light Microscopy and Dispersion Staining. These fibres are called UMFs (Unidentified Mineral Fibres). Essentially, the fibre identified shows the same characteristic as an Asbestos fibre however to be able to conclusively determine what type of mineral fibre it is, confirmation by another independent analytical technique is required.

Asbestos was not identified in the sample collected from the large paper shopping bag (Sample J3618), however there were coloured sand particles within the pink coloured sand consistent with the coloured sand granules in the UMF Sample J3617.

It appears that there has been cross contamination of the two types of sand used at Garran Primary School.

Based on the above we recommend that all sand be disposed of as asbestos containing waste.

The recommended process is to;

Engage a Licensed Asbestos Removalist to remove all of the remaining containers with the sand, HEPA vacuum all horizontal surfaces at and below the table levels and vacuum the carpet in an area approximately 2 metres in a radial distance from where the samples were collected.

██████████ will conduct airborne fibre monitoring during the vacuuming and cleaning and then visually inspect the areas and provide a clearance certificate on the satisfactory completion of the cleaning.

The clearance certificate requires both satisfactory airborne fibre monitoring results and visual inspections.

Thank you for engaging ██████████ to undertake these works and we will be available to conduct the monitoring and inspections commencing at 5pm tomorrow afternoon, Tuesday 18 November 2025.

Take care



From: ██████████

Sent: Monday, 17 November 2025 5:09 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Garran coloured sand removal

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for your time today, your help is appreciated.

Below are the rooms where the sand has been found and the condition it was in

1. GD-029 – opened sand contained in large paper shopping bag
2. GD-073 – unopened tubs in original packaging
3. 1D-125 – unopened tubs in original packaging
4. GD-058 – this was the location where the opened sand contained in large shopping bag had previously been sat of the filing cabinet that we looked at this afternoon
5. GD-034 – exposed sand in plastic trays

I look forward to seeing your report this evening.

Regards



Fibre Identification Certificate of Analysis

Report Number:

T-17005

Date of Report: 17/11/2025 Samples Taken by:

Page 1 of 2

R.E. Job Number:

Client Details

Client:

Attention:

Date of Sampling: 17/11/2025

Date of Testing: 17/11/2025

Client Reference: Garran Primary School

Email:

Sample Number	Client Reference	Location	Physical Structure	Sample Weight	Analysis of Fibrous Content
J3617		Room GD-034 plastic tray A4 storage container	coloured sand	2g	Unidentified Mineral Fibre*
J3618		Room GD-029 large paper shopping bag open plastic container	pink sand	2g	No Asbestos Detected*

Non Asbestos Fibre Table

* J3617 - Organic Fibres Detected

* J3618 - Organic Fibres Detected

Accredited for compliance with ISO/IEC 17025 – Testing



No. 3181

Fibre Identification Certificate of Analysis

Laboratory Report Number: T-17005

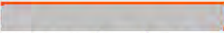
Analyst: 

Page 2 of 2

LABORATORY METHODOLOGY

Samples of material are examined to determine the presence of asbestos fibres using AS4964 (2004) & In-House Procedure HMP002 – Fibre Identification. Unequivocal identification of asbestos minerals present is made by assessing fibre properties to determine if the values are consistent with published data. Careful application of the test procedure provides sufficient diagnostic evidence to allow unequivocal identification of the common asbestos types to determine whether a sample contains asbestos or not. If diagnostic evidence is insufficient or fibres are not able to be unequivocally identified by Polarising Light Microscopy (PLM), further testing may be required.

CLIENT SUPPLIED SAMPLES

Samples are analysed as received and as such  accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of third party sampling. Insufficient sample volume may lead to inaccurate results. Large samples may be sub-sampled.

REPORTING OF RESULTS

Asbestos Detected: Asbestos detected by PLM, including Dispersion Staining (DS).

No Asbestos Detected: No Asbestos detected by PLM, including DS. Non asbestos fibres such as organic and Synthetic Mineral Fibres detected in samples will be marked with an *. Please refer to non asbestos table beneath main table.

UMF Detected: Mineral fibres of unknown type detected by PLM, including DS. Confirmation by further independent testing may be necessary, usually scanning electron microscopy (SEM).

Contaminated: Small discrete amounts of asbestos unevenly distributed in a large body of non asbestos material.

- Reported results relate only to the sample(s) submitted for testing.
- Test report must not be reproduced except in full.
- Accredited for compliance with ISO/IEC 17025 – Testing.
- The results of the tests, calibrations and/or measurements included in this document are traceable to Australian/national standards.

LIMIT OF DETECTION & REPORTING LIMIT

Known limitations of the test procedure using PLM are:

- PLM is a qualitative technique only.
- This method is not sufficient for the identification of airborne or water-borne asbestos.
- The less encountered asbestos mineral fibres actinolite, anthophyllite and tremolite exhibit a wide range of optical properties that preclude unequivocal identification by PLM and DS. Thus, the method is used to positively identify only the three major asbestos minerals: amosite (brown), chrysotile (white) and crocidolite (blue).
- Valid identification requires that the sample material contains a sufficient quantity of the unknown fibres in excess of the practical detection limit used (in this case, PLM and DS, which has a calculated practical detection limit of 0.01-0.1% equivalent to 0.1-1g/kg (AS4946-2004:App. A4).



From: [Mayers, Adam](#)
To: [Dance, Alex](#)
Subject: FW: URGENT: School Closure Update and School Leader Actions
Date: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 9:58:55 AM
Attachments: [Cleared - Safety Alert #16 Restricted areas for asbestos remediation work.docx](#)
[Letter to school hirers closed Tues 18 Nov.docx](#)
[OSHC reopens with school reopening Tues 18 Nov.docx](#)
[OSHC closed Tues 18 Nov.docx](#)
[Letter to school hirers open Tues 18 Nov.docx](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Good morning Alex,

Apologies for not sending this through yesterday. Here's everything that went out to principals last night.

Kind regards,

Adam Mayers | Director | School Operations

E: Adam.D.Mayers@act.gov.au **P:** 0481 355 330

School Improvement Group | Education Directorate | ACT Government

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Google+](#)



I would like to respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we live, learn, work, and play, and pay my respect to the Elders past and present.



This email, and any attachments, may be confidential and also privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete all copies of this transmission along with any attachments immediately. You should not copy or use it for any purpose, nor disclose its contents to any other person.

From: School Operations
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2025 5:28 PM
Subject: URGENT: School Closure Update and School Leader Actions
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

Updated advice has been provided on [ACT public school closures](#) for tomorrow.

All school leaders must read the attached safety alert and implement actions prior to tomorrow morning.

Please access your School Workspace for your community comms which are being uploaded by your EEL at the moment.

Kind regards,

Adam Mayers | Director | School Operations

E: Adam.D.Mayers@act.gov.au **P:** 0481 355 330

School Improvement Group | Education Directorate | ACT Government

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Google+](#)



I would like to respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we live, learn, work, and play, and pay my respect to the Elders past and present.

This email, and any attachments, may be confidential and also privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete all copies of this transmission along with any attachments immediately. You should not copy or use it for any purpose, nor disclose its contents to any other person.

SAFETY ALERT #16



COLOURED SAND - DO NOT ACCESS AREAS ISOLATED FOR ASBESTOS REMOVAL OR REMEDIATION.

Where a site identifies asbestos containing material or suspected asbestos containing material the area must be isolated.

Only licensed asbestos assessors or removers may access isolated areas by law. Schools must maintain supervision to ensure these spaces remain isolated.

The issue

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has recalled a range of coloured sand products used widely in ACT public schools, due to possible traces of asbestos.

The Directorate has requested that all sand products (including those not subject to recall) be removed from school sites.

The Directorate must comply with legal obligations under the [Work Health and Safety Act 2011](#) and the [Dangerous Substances Act 2004](#) when identifying and managing asbestos. To allow licensed professionals the time and space required for assessment and remediation, some schools have been temporarily closed.

Other schools may have isolated areas but remain operational. Isolation areas are areas where the recalled coloured sand products were used or are stored that are not to be accessed. Isolated areas may include individual cupboards, storerooms, classrooms or other spaces.

Access to isolated areas

Schools must ensure that any areas isolated for asbestos assessment or remediation are strictly controlled. These areas may only be accessed licensed asbestos assessors and removers. Staff, students, or visitors **MUST NOT** access these spaces until they are cleared.

It is essential that students are adequately supervised to prevent entry into these areas. Clear signage and physical barriers should remain in place and be checked regularly to ensure they are visible and intact. Staff should reinforce the importance of adhering to these safety measures during daily routines and any movement around the school grounds.

If a student or any other person enters and isolation area or ignores warning signs, this must be reported immediately to School Operations.

To report a breach of a restricted area, or for advice or support, please contact School Operations on the below contact details:

School Operations: EDUIncidents@act.gov.au or 6205 3313

LETTER TO SCHOOL HIRERS CLOSED

Important update for school facility hirers: XXXXXXX School closed Tuesday 18 November 2025

Dear community hirers

I am writing to let you know our school remains closed, Tuesday 18 November 2025.

This means you cannot hire our facility until further notice while remediation work continues at our school.

This follows our closure due to the discovery of recalled craft sand used in our classrooms.

Testing and remediation works are being carried out, in line with Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice across the majority of ACT public schools and works to open schools again are occurring as quickly as possible.

The safety of our students, staff and the community is our highest priority.

The Education Directorate will advise of the testing results as soon as possible.

The decision to close our school was made in line with regulatory obligations. We will continue to follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

While we understand the health impacts of these products to be low, the health and safety of our staff and students is our highest priority and we continue to make all efforts to keep everyone safe.

Communications with hirers

The re-opening of our school will depend on testing and remediation advice. On Tuesday afternoon we will confirm learning arrangements for Wednesday.

Safety

Contractors engaged to undertake this work are suitably licenced and work is carried out under Work, Health, and Safety Codes of Practice, and a clearance certificate will be provided deeming the space safe to use.

Health advice

- enHealth have issued [interim health advice](#) regarding the recall of imported coloured/kinetic sand products on Friday 14 November 2025.
- enHealth reiterate that the recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.

- Regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk. This includes advice to stop using any identified products and to follow recall and disposal instructions.
- Based on currently available information, the risk to human health from exposure to these products is assessed as low.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- More information can be found [online](#).

More Information

- Kadink sand
- You can read the full Kadink Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).
- Kmart and Target sand
- You can read the full Kmart and Target advice on the [Kmart website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).

More information about asbestos management in ACT public schools is on the ACT Government [website](#).

Thank you again for your patience. If you have any questions, please contact the Front Office on [XX](#) or phone [XX](#).

Thank you for your support.

Regards
Principal

OSHC – WHEN SCHOOL REOPENS

LETTER TO OSHC PROVIDERS

Important update for OSHC providers – school reopens Tuesday 18 November 2025

Dear OSHC provider

I am writing to let you know our school re-opens tomorrow, Tuesday 18 November 2025.

This means you can resume OSHC services from Tuesday morning.

This follows our closure due to the discovery of recalled craft sand used in our classrooms. I want to thank you for your support and understanding.

The decision to close our school was made in line with regulatory obligations, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.

Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors. I can confirm that these products will no longer be used in our school.

Health advice

- enHealth have issued [interim health advice](#) regarding the recall of imported coloured/kinetic sand products on Friday 14 November 2025.
- enHealth reiterate that the recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- Regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk. This includes advice to stop using any identified products and to follow recall and disposal instructions.
- Based on currently available information, the risk to human health from exposure to these products is assessed as low.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- More information can be found [online](#).

More Information

- Kadink sand
- You can read the full Kadink Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).
- Kmart and Target sand
- You can read the full Kmart and Target advice on the [Kmart website](#).

- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).

More information about asbestos management in ACT public schools is on the ACT Government [website](#).

Wellbeing support for students

We appreciate that this may have been upsetting for students and families.

There are several community-based supports that are readily available and can be accessed at any time:

- eHeadspace 1800 650 890 - open 9am-1am daily (AEST).
- Mindmap 1800 862 111 phone support all day, every day from 11am to 10pm www.mindmap@act.gov.au
- Lifeline 13 11 14 - phone support all day, every day and online support 7pm to 4am daily (AEST).
- Beyondblue 1300 22 4636 - phone support all day, every day and online support 3pm to midnight every day.
- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 - phone support all day, every day and online support from 8am to midnight every day (AEST).

Thank you again for your patience. If you have any questions, please contact the Front Office on **XX** or phone **XX**.

Thank you for your support.

Regards
Principal

OSHC – CLOSED AS SCHOOL CLOSED**LETTER TO OSHC PROVIDERS****Important update for OSHC providers – school remains closed Tuesday 18 November 2025**

Dear OSHC provider

I am writing to let you know our school remains closed tomorrow, Tuesday 18 November 2025.

This means you cannot operate OSHC services on Tuesday 18 November while remediation work continues at our school.

This follows our closure due to the discovery of recalled craft sand used in our classrooms.

Testing and remediation works are being carried out, in line with Work, Health and Safety Codes of Practice across the majority of ACT public schools and works to open schools again are occurring as quickly as possible.

The safety of our students, staff and the community is our highest priority.

The Education Directorate will advise of the testing results as soon as possible.

The decision to close our school was made in line with regulatory obligations. We will continue to follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

While we understand the health impacts of these products to be low, the health and safety of our staff and students is our highest priority and we continue to make all efforts to keep everyone safe.

Communications with OSHC

The re-opening of our school will depend on testing and remediation advice. On **Tuesday afternoon we will confirm learning arrangements for Wednesday.**

Safety

Contractors engaged to undertake this work are suitably licenced and work is carried out under Work, Health, and Safety Codes of Practice, and a clearance certificate will be provided deeming the space safe to use.

Health advice

- enHealth have issued [interim health advice](#) regarding the recall of imported coloured/kinetic sand products on Friday 14 November 2025.

- enHealth reiterate that the recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- Regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk. This includes advice to stop using any identified products and to follow recall and disposal instructions.
- Based on currently available information, the risk to human health from exposure to these products is assessed as low.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- More information can be found [online](#).

More Information

- Kadink sand
- You can read the full Kadink Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).
- Kmart and Target sand
- You can read the full Kmart and Target advice on the [Kmart website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).

More information about asbestos management in ACT public schools is on the ACT Government [website](#).

Wellbeing support for students

We appreciate that this may have been upsetting for students and families.

There are several community-based supports that are readily available and can be accessed at any time:

- eHeadspace 1800 650 890 - open 9am-1am daily (AEST).
- Mindmap 1800 862 111 phone support all day, every day from 11am to 10pm www.mindmap@act.gov.au
- Lifeline 13 11 14 - phone support all day, every day and online support 7pm to 4am daily (AEST).
- Beyondblue 1300 22 4636 - phone support all day, every day and online support 3pm to midnight every day.
- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 - phone support all day, every day and online support from 8am to midnight every day (AEST).

Thank you again for your patience. If you have any questions, please contact the Front Office on **XX** or phone **XX**.

Thank you for your support.

Regards
Principal

LETTER TO SCHOOL HIRERS - OPEN**Important update for school facility hirers: XXXXXXX School opens Tuesday 18 November 2025**

Dear community hirers

I am pleased to let you know our school reopens on Tuesday 18 November 2025.

This means you can hire our facility at your normal time effective Tuesday morning.

This follows our closure due to the discovery of recalled craft sand used in our classrooms. Thank you for your support and understanding.

The decision to close our school was made in line with regulatory obligations, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.

Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors. I can confirm that these products will no longer be used in our school.

Health advice

- enHealth have issued [interim health advice](#) regarding the recall of imported coloured/kinetic sand products on Friday 14 November 2025.
- enHealth reiterate that the recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- Regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk. This includes advice to stop using any identified products and to follow recall and disposal instructions.
- Based on currently available information, the risk to human health from exposure to these products is assessed as low.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- More information can be found [online](#).

More Information

- Kadink sand
- You can read the full Kadink Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).
- Kmart and Target sand
- You can read the full Kmart and Target advice on the [Kmart website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#).

More information about asbestos management in ACT public schools is on the ACT Government [website](#).

Thank you again for your patience. If you have any questions, please contact the Front Office on **XX** or phone **XX**.

Thank you for your support.

Regards
Principal



12.30 comms

From Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>

Date Tue 2025-11-18 11:57

To Phillips, Tori <Tori.Phillips@act.gov.au>

Cc Wood, Jo <Jo.Wood@act.gov.au>; Spence, Angela <Angela.Spence@act.gov.au>; Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>; Barges, Joanne <Joanne.Barges@act.gov.au>

📎 2 attachments (84 KB)

School reopening after full closure - 19NOV.docx; WEBSITE 1230 TUES 18112025.docx;

Hi Tori

As requested, ahead of 12.30 media:

Schools cleared for re-opening tomorrow

1. Chapman Primary School – reopen from partial closure
2. Evelyn Scott School – reopen from full closure
3. Aranda Primary School – reopen from full closure
4. Malkara Specialist School – reopen from full closure
5. The Woden School - reopen from full closure
6. Cranleigh School - reopen from full closure
7. Black Mountain School - reopen from full closure

Fyi attached

- Comms for parents and staff of reopened schools.
- Website updates (changes tracked) – won't go live until 12.30pm.

TPs about clearance certificates:

- The Education Directorate is working with licensed asbestos assessors to remove recalled craft sand products from closed schools and clear them for re-opening.
- This is a time consuming process, but we are working as fast as we can.
- The process to clear all of our closed and partially closed schools may take several days, because impacted spaces need to be certified by licenced assessors before they can be used again.
- Yesterday we were able to reopen a larger number of our schools because the sand products they identified were in locations that could be isolated while the school continues to operate. These spaces will need to be cleared at a later date, but are a lower priority while the products are isolated and there is no impact on normal school operations.

Clearance certificates for specialist schools

- We received clearance certificates for our 4 specialist schools overnight:
 - Malkara School – 6.30pm
 - The Woden School – 6.30pm
 - Cranleigh School – 6.40pm
 - Black Mountain School – 6.40pm
- We were really hopeful to open them today. We made our decision on all school re-openings for Tuesday at 5pm yesterday, and were concerned we may not get full clearance on our specialist schools overnight, as the process was still underway.

- We consulted with school leadership in making the decision to stay closed for today.
- Those school communities had only just been told of closure and were in contact with their families so they could make arrangements for today.
- To avoid uncertainty and confusion we decided we would wait until we had the clearance certificates in our hands, and ensure a safe and orderly return on Wednesday.
- We prioritised clearance of our specialist schools and are please they will be open again to all students tomorrow.

Other closed and partially closed schools

- We will continue receiving clearance certificates for other school sites over the coming days and will get them back online as quickly as we can.
- Parents should keep an eye out for emails from their school. We will also update the Education website twice per day so the public has access to the latest information.

Cheers,
Paul

Paul Short

Executive Branch Manager, Communications, Engagement & Government Support

Education Directorate | ACT Government

Phone: 02 620 72809 | Mobile: 0408 368 746

www.act.gov.au/education-and-training

aCOMMS PACK**School reopening from full closure** – clearance certificate received

Please review and update text highlighted yellow before use.

TEXT MESSAGE TO FAMILIES AND STAFF

IMPORTANT UPDATE: XXXXXXX School will re-open for all students **Wednesday 19** November 2025. Please check your email for details.

EMAIL TO FAMILIES

Important update: XXXXXXX School reopening Wednesday 19 November 2025

Dear parents and carers

I'm pleased to let you know our school has been cleared to re-open tomorrow, Wednesday 19 November 2025.

This follows our closure due to the discovery of recalled craft sand products used in our classrooms.

The recalled products have now been safely removed by a licensed asbestos assessor. Air monitoring has been completed, and a clearance certificate has been provided deeming our school safe to re-open.

I want to thank families for their continued support and understanding.

The decision to close our school was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.

Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors. I can confirm that these products will no longer be used in our school.

More information about the recalled craft sand products, including health and safety advice, is available on the [ACT Education website](#).

Wellbeing support for students

I appreciate that this has been a disruptive time for students and families. There are several community-based supports that are readily available and can be accessed at any time if you need them:

- eHeadspace 1800 650 890 - open 9am-1am daily (AEST).

- Mindmap 1800 862 111 phone support all day, every day from 11am to 10pm www.mindmap@act.gov.au
- Lifeline 13 11 14 - phone support all day, every day and online support 7pm to 4am daily (AEST).
- Beyondblue 1300 22 4636 - phone support all day, every day and online support 3pm to midnight every day.
- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 - phone support all day, every day and online support from 8am to midnight every day (AEST).

If you have any questions, please contact our front office on XX.

Thank you for your support.

Regards

Principal

EMAIL TO STAFF - please attached WHS advice referenced below (PDF documents A to D provided).

Important information: XXXXXXXX School open Wednesday 19 November 2025

Dear colleagues

I'm pleased to let you know our school has been cleared to re-open tomorrow, Wednesday 19 November 2025.

This follows our closure due to the discovery of recalled craft sand products used in our classrooms.

The recalled products have now been safely removed by a licensed asbestos assessor. Air testing has been completed, and a clearance certificate has been provided deeming our school safe to re-open.

I want to thank you all for your support and understanding.

The decision to close our school was made in line with Education Directorate procedures, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community.

Please be assured that our school has followed all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors. I can confirm that these products will no longer be used in our school.

More information about the recalled craft sand products, including health and safety advice, is available on the [ACT Education website](#).

Work Health and Safety advice

Since the Directorate became aware of product recalls applying to coloured sand, every effort has been made to identify and isolate recalled (and unidentified) sand products in accordance with Work Health and Safety Act 2011 requirements. Assessment and removal works are well underway.

While every effort has been made to identify coloured sand products, we know that additional products may be found as schools resume operations. A Work Instruction has been developed to support schools where they identify additional coloured sand products.

Please see attached advice and posters for further information.

Wellbeing supports for staff

Telephone wellbeing supports are available for you free of charge through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at Converge by calling **1300 687 327**. I encourage you to make use of this service if you need.

For Tuesday 18 and Wednesday 19 November, a dedicated line has been established to support staff with concerns arising from presence of coloured sand on school sites. Staff should contact Converge on the phone number above and quote the reference number **CP-20688**.

I am extremely grateful for your support. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Regards

Principal

Website at 8:20am 18/11/25

Latest updates on ACT public school closures

On this page

- [Advice for ACT public school families](#)
- [Health advice](#)
- [More information](#)
- [Current status of ACT public school closures](#)
- [Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care and non-government schools](#)

Advice for ACT public school families

**Latest advice as of: 5:12.30PM,
Monday Tuesday 18 17 November
2025**

Authorities have issued safety warnings about 2 brands of crafts sand found to include traces of asbestos:

- Kadink Decorative Sand – WorkSafe ACT safety notice 12 November 2025
- Anko magic sand – ACCC product recall 16 November 2025

These products have been used in many ACT public schools.

While personal health risks are low, under ACT work health and safety laws, any products containing asbestos must be removed by a licensed asbestos assessor.

Formatted: Font: (Default) Source Sans Pro, 13.5 pt.
Font color: Black, Ligatures: None

The ACT Education Directorate has worked quickly to identify these products and engage experts to have them safely removed from our schools.

This has required us to close some schools, or close off spaces in some schools, where the products are present.

Below is the status of each ACT public school at **12.30pm Tuesday 18 November.**

This information will be updated daily. Schools will also email parents and staff directly with regular updates about their school site.

- On Saturday 15 November 2025, Kmart and Target issued a voluntary recall for one of their sand products, stating asbestos has been detected in some samples.
- The Education Directorate commenced an audit of all ACT public schools on Sunday 16 November 2025 for this product.
- We have found that use of this product is widespread across ACT public schools.
- In line with our regulatory obligations, and in the interest of the safety of our students, staff and community we have decided to close some schools that have this product to allow for assessment clean up and remediation to occur.
- The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has **issued a recall** for this product.
- We will continue to follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced contractors.
- This follows a number of ACT public school closures on Friday and national advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that a different decorative, coloured sand (Kadink Decorative Sand) also used at our schools has been found to contain traces of chrysotile asbestos.

Update for families and staff

- There are a range of closures and changes to learning arrangements across many ACT public schools tomorrow because of regulatory obligations.
- ACT public school staff and families should keep an eye out for an email from your school.
- The most up to date information is also on this page.

Thank you to our school communities for their ongoing support.

ACT public school hotline

Our hotline ~~will reopen at 7am on Tuesday 17 November~~ is available 7.00am to 5.00pm weekdays – call [02 6205 5429](tel:0262055429). For all enquiries after hours please contact [13 22 81](tel:132281).

Health advice

- enHealth have issued interim health advice regarding the recall of imported coloured/kinetic sand products on Friday 14 November 2025.
- enHealth reiterate that the recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- Regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk. This includes advice to stop using any identified products and to follow recall and disposal instructions.
- Based on currently available information, the risk to human health from exposure to these products is assessed as low.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- More information can be found online.

Commented [PS1]: Health advice moved to bottom of page

More information

Kadink sand

- You can read the full Kadink Safety Alert on the [WorkSafe ACT website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#). This includes advice on how to dispose of this product if you have it in your home.

Kmart and Target sand

- You can read the full Kmart and Target advice on the [Kmart website](#).
- Information about this product is also available through the [Australian Competition and Consumer Commission](#). This includes advice on how to dispose of this product if you have it in your home.

More information about asbestos management in ACT public schools is on the ACT Government [website](#).

Current status of ACT public schools ~~el~~losures

We will update the list of schools as status changes. To make sure you see the latest list of schools, you will need to refresh your web browser to clear its cache. You can do this by performing a Force Refresh: on Windows press Ctrl + F5, and on Mac press Command + Shift + R.

Latest advice ~~as at 5PM~~ 12.30PM ~~Monday 17~~ Tuesday 18 November 2025.

Schools ~~remaining currently~~ **CLOSED on Tuesday 18** **November 2025**

Primary school closures include ~~their~~ attached preschools.

These schools have identified the recalled sand products in various learning spaces. The temporary loss of these classrooms means there is not enough available space to safely operate the school.

These spaces will need to be cleaned and cleared by a licensed asbestos assessor, and a clearance certificate provided, before they can be used again. This process may take several days.

- ~~• Aranda Primary School~~
- ~~• Black Mountain School~~
- Campbell Primary School
- ~~• Cranleigh School~~
- Evatt Primary School
- ~~• Evelyn Scott School~~
- Florey Primary School
- Forrest Primary School
- Gowrie Primary School
- Gordon Primary School
- Isabella Plains Early Childhood School
- Latham Primary School
- Macgregor Primary School

- Macquarie Primary School
- Maribyrnong Primary School
- Miles Franklin Primary School
- ~~Malkara School~~
- Mount Rogers Primary School
- Neville Bonner Primary School
- Ngunnawal Primary School
- Southern Cross Early Childhood School
- ~~The Woden School~~
- Wanniasa School
- Weetangera Primary School
- Yarralumla Primary School

Schools currently open for SOME STUDENTS ~~on Tuesday 18 November 2025.~~

In these schools the sand products have been located in spaces that can be securely closed off, but the number of areas isolated means ~~that~~ we can't accommodate all students on site.

Impacted spaces will need to be cleaned and cleared by a licensed asbestos assessors, and a clearance certificate provided, before they can be used again. This process may take several days.

~~Some areas of the following schools have been isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs.~~ Some classes will be relocated in the interim.

- Arawang Primary School

- Open to the following cohorts only: Echidna Preschool students only, Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6 (note Turtle Preschool students cannot be accommodated at this time)
- ~~Chapman Primary School~~
 - ~~Open to the following cohorts only: Year 2, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6~~
- Charles Weston Primary School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Preschool, Kindergarten, Year 5, Year 6
- Farrer Primary School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Preschool, Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2
- Giralang Primary School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Preschool, Year 5, Year 6 (note the Small Group Program cannot be accommodated at this time)
- Harrison School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Year 7, Year 8, Year 9, Year 10, Senior Small Group Program
- Kaleen Primary School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6.
- Lyons Early Childhood School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Preschool, Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2 (note Early Childhood cannot be accommodated at this time)
- Majura Primary School

- Open to the following cohorts only: Kindergarten, year 1, year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6 (note the Small Group Program cannot be accommodated at this time)
- Margaret Hendry School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6 (including Dom's Small Group Program)
- Namadgi School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Year 7, Year 8, Year 9, Year 10
- North Ainslie Primary School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6 (including SGP and IEC)
- Red Hill
 - Open to Kindergarten, year 1, year 2, year 3, year 4, year 5, year 6
- Throsby School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6
- Turner School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6
- Torrens Primary School
 - Open to the following cohorts only: Year 2, Year 3, Year 5

Schools open to ALL STUDENTS – cleared by licensed assessor

These schools had classroom spaces impacted, which required full or partial closure of the school. They have now been cleared for use by a licensed asbestos assessor and all students can safely attend.

Re-opened to all students Wednesday 19 November:

- Aranda Primary School
- Black Mountain School
- Chapman Primary School
- Cranleigh School
- Evelyn Scott School
- Malkara School
- The Woden School

Schools open to ALL STUDENTS ~~on Tuesday 18 November 2025- products isolated:~~

Some areas of the following schools have been isolated until remediation and clearance of those areas occurs. In these schools the sand products have been located in spaces that can be securely closed off, while the school continues to operate.

These spaces will need to be cleaned and cleared by licensed asbestos assessors but are a lower priority, as the school is able to continue operating without access to these spaces. Some classes will be relocated in the interim.

- Ainslie School
- Alfred Deakin High School
- Amaroo School
- Bonython Primary School
- Calwell High School
- Calwell Primary School

- Campbell High School
- Canberra College
- Canberra High School
- Charnwood-Dunlop School
- Caroline Chisholm School
- Curtin Primary School
- Duffy Primary School
- Erindale College
- Fadden Primary School
- Franklin School
- Fraser Primary School
- Garran Primary School
- Gilmore Primary School
- Gold Creek School
- Gungahlin College
- Hawker College
- Hawker Primary School
- Hughes Primary School
- Jervis Bay School
- Kingsford Smith School
- Lake Tuggeranong College
- Lanyon High School
- Lyneham High School
- Lyneham Primary School
- Mawson Primary School
- Monash Primary School

- Mount Stromlo High School
- Narrabundah Early Childhood School
- O'Connor Cooperative School
- Palmerston Primary School
- Richardson Primary School
- Taylor Primary School
- Telopea Park School
- Theodore Primary School
- University of Canberra High School Kaleen
- Wanniasa Hills Primary School

Schools open to ALL STUDENTS - ~~with~~ no identified sand on site ~~on Tuesday 18 November 2025~~

[These schools did not identify any craft sand products and have been able to continue operating without interruption.](#)

- Aunty Agnes Shea High School
- Belconnen High School
- Charles Conder Primary School
- Dickson College
- Lake Ginninderra Secondary College
- Melba Copland Secondary School
- Melrose High School
- Narrabundah College
- Shirley Smith High School

Note the following:

- Birrigai Outdoor School remains open for excursions
- Flexible Education programs are currently closed

Advice for Early Childhood Education and Care and non-government schools

- The Children's Education and Care Assurance (CECA), and Regulator for non-government schools, has provided advice to early childhood education and care (ECEC) services and non-government schools about the management of both products.
- Families are asked to seek advice from their ECEC or non-government school about arrangements in place for their specific location.

Health advice

Commented [PS2]: Health advice moved to bottom of page

- enHealth have issued **interim health advice** regarding the recall of imported coloured/kinetic sand products on Friday 14 November 2025.
- enHealth reiterate that the recall is a precautionary action based on preliminary results and more comprehensive scientific testing is underway.
- Regulatory authorities are taking a precautionary approach to minimise any potential risk. This includes advice to stop using any identified products and to follow recall and disposal instructions.
- Based on currently available information, the risk to human health from exposure to these products is assessed as low.
- enHealth do not recommend any clinical assessment for those who may have been in contact with this product.
- More information can be found **online**.

From: [Matthews, David](#)
To: [Huxley, Mark](#)
Cc: [Steele, Peter](#); [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
Subject: RE: Hawker College
Date: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 4:00:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thanks and noted.

David Matthews

From: Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 2:50 PM
To: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>
Cc: Steele, Peter <Peter.Steele@act.gov.au>; Attridge, Vanessa <VanessaS.Attridge@act.gov.au>
Subject: Fw: Hawker College

OFFICIAL

Hi David,

Further response below.

Thanks

Mark

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Henman, Lyndall <Lyndall.Henman@ed.act.edu.au>
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2025 2:23 pm
To: Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Hawker College

OFFICIAL

Thanks Mark.

We will proceed with allowing hirers and students to use the Theatre and Drama room and will keep the Student Services suite isolated until further notice.

We acknowledge and appreciate schools with closure and partial closure are the priority.

We have re-located the affected staff to other staffrooms in the college.

Kind regards,
Lyndall

Lyndall Henman | Principal

Chief Executive Officer, Belconnen Training RTO 88005

Phone: (02) 6142 0355 | lyndall.henman@ed.act.edu.au



Eddie Longford, Indigenous Artist

51 Murranyi Street, Hawker, ACT 2614, Australia | www.hawkerc.act.edu.au

Hawker College acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the land upon which we live,

learn and work and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region.

From: Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 2:05 PM

To: Henman, Lyndall <Lyndall.Henman@ed.act.edu.au>; Weeks, Hayden <Hayden.Weeks@ed.act.edu.au>

Cc: Matthews, David (ACTGOV) <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>; Steele, Peter (ACTGOV) <Peter.Steele@act.gov.au>

Subject: Fw: Hawker College

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Lyndall,

As discussed, please see below confirmation that the two issues raised with us centrally have been appropriately handled and responded to and the school should remain operating in the current way. The drama and theatre can be used as per advice from the assessor who picked up the bagged materials. If any other material is discovered continue to isolate and advise and we will add it to the triage list of works.

Many thanks

Mark Huxley

CMT Controller

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Henderson-Smith, N <N.Henderson-Smith@act.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2025 1:56 pm

To: Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>

Subject: Hawker College

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good After Mark

Following the incident at Hawker College on 17 November 2025, we received advice that a bag containing potentially contaminated sand was discovered in a stairwell. Upon investigation, it was confirmed that the sand had been collected by the BSO from a store in the drama area and hall. A removalist and assessor attended the site, collected the materials, and conducted a visual inspection. Based on the assessor's advice, the affected areas were deemed safe for use with no further immediate action required.

Regarding the sand identified today in the Year 12 Coordinator's room, the school implemented appropriate controls, including isolation and signage. This matter has been added to the scope of further remediation works scheduled for remaining schools. Schools with closure and partial closure remain our priority to assign removalists and assessors.

I am satisfied that all appropriate actions have been taken based on the information currently available.

Regards

Nathan Henderson-Smith ESM | Assistant Director Risk Security & Emergency Management

Phone: via Microsoft Teams/Webex: RSEM Duty Phone 0447 882 754 | Email: n.henderson-smith@act.gov.au | FDURMA@act.gov.au

Risk, Security and Emergency Management Section | Governance Education Directorate | ACT Government

Level 4, 220 London Cct, CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 CANBERRA ACT 2601
www.act.gov.au



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters where we live and work and pay my respects to elders past, present and future.

Situation Report

Incident Name/Identifier: Contaminated Sand	Date/Time: 18 Nov 2025 – Meeting 7; 1700hrs
Situation Update:	
<p>The ACCC has published a recall notice over children’s sand products that may contain asbestos and were sold at various retailers including Officeworks. The recall was issued by supplier Educational Colours for colourful children’s sand products sold at Officeworks, Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids and Zart Art.</p> <p>There are reports that the recall list may be expanded to include other decorative sand products sold at K-Mart. The ACT Education Directorate is assessing this new information to ensure the continued safety and regulatory requirements are maintained.</p> <p>The ACT Education Directorate is continuing to assess the impact on service delivery and to the safety staff, students and the community and that we exercise the PCBU Obligations under the WHS Act for all decorative sand products. Efforts include the remediation and re-opening requirements to ensure regulatory compliance and appropriate approvals have been achieved.</p> <p>The CMT strategy focus will include the review of recovery principles and Directorate BCP against actions which will support remediation and clarity on critical pathway to re-opening and resumption of operations and service delivery in schools and the Education Support Office. A recovery risk assessment will guide decisions and tasks with the intent of smooth transition for staff and students to business as normal.</p> <p>Overview – CMT Lead Overview of the day – where did we land? Union briefing offered for tomorrow following a good call with [REDACTED] who feel that they are being engaged. The meeting will take place at 11am Wednesday. We will address questions, and concerns through Stakeholder lead, David Matthews. Some of the questions related to staff entitlements. Need process on partially opened schools and how staff need to interact with the material with general guidance to be given to schools. Jessie confirmed work instructions have been sent to schools and so has a Safety Alert to all schools. Wesfarmers are going to provide an update through to Mark. Any useful information will be used in our advice to parents and staff. We need to explore the contents of school backpacks with general advice not to purchase sand particularly for those schools/families who purchase their own book packs. online learning advice now sent through to the schools story book from Cranleigh FAQs</p> <p>Action: Set up union briefing and provide factsheets/information to David ahead of the briefing Action: Seek advice from procurement on book packs and contents. Action: follow up – Share communications with Children and Young People Commissioner particularly information for parents/carers. Add the Cranleigh story board.</p>	

Situation Report

Intent for Wednesday
Locking in the schedule
IMT continuing to work on communications to schools to ensure clarity and prioritisation rationale e.g. Specialist schools, early childhood/preschools, exams
Residual isolation impact – EELs to scan and report as per current internal communications
Secondary Assessment – broader strategic impacts.

Action: IMT – bring together the advice to schools for the partially open sites
Action: Follow up on access to staffing devices for staff who have their devices locked away as part of the isolation.

Cross Government
Waiting on further advice from Work Safety Group. Jessie and Alex maintaining reporting and open lines of communications
There is some work occurring at a whole of Govt. level on this – WHS Management approach.

Strategic Actions moving forward
Recovery and BCP
CMT Lead mentioned that recovery actions are well underway. Tracey and Kristen will lead this at this stage. This includes the ongoing review of the BCP and alignment with approach and actions outlined.
Need clarity on our responsibilities in relation to recovery and identify what this means moving forward.

Recovery Action: School Backpacks advice on contents to ensure products are safe for our students and staff.

Execution: (Actions to be taken to resolve the incident).
REFER to Action Register in TEAMS file for comments, and status
[Action Register CMT.xlsx](#)

Administration and Logistics: (include frequency and types of meetings? resources required. including learning arrangements? school closures? financial. etc.)

Where possible staff have been asked to work from HBCTL

Brooke Walsh – POC with EEL's

\meeting schedule below is subject to change on the day

IMT scheduled meetings:

Wednesday

IMT – 0830hrs

IMT – 1200hrs – strategy check-in

IMT – 1500hrs – check-in

CMT scheduled meetings:

Situation Report

Wednesday
CMT End of Day Update 1730hrs
MO Meetings

Whole of Govt. – Kristen Laurent
0900hrs

CMT
CMT Lead – Mark Huxley
Admin Support – Tracey Allen
CMT Manager – Kristen Laurent
IMT Lead – Peter Steele
Infrastructure – Vanessa Attridge
Stakeholder – David Matthews
WHS – Jessie Atkins
DG – Jo Wood
ECEC Liaison – Michael Crowther

Communications – Paul Short

IMT
IMT Lead – Peter Steele
Admin Support – Madeline Wynn & Nathan Henderson-Smith

Prepared by:
Tracey Allen, Admin Support

Approved by Incident Controller/Lead (IC):

From: [Hobbs, Rebecca](#)
To: [Education DLO](#)
Subject: Re: FOR ACTION: Contact Wesfarmers/Officeworks
Date: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 5:02:41 PM

Thank you!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Education DLO <EDUDLO@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2025 5:00:12 PM
To: Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: FOR ACTION: Contact Wesfarmers/Officeworks

OFFICIAL

For info

Many thanks,
Adrienne

Adrienne White | Directorate Liaison Officer, Ministerial and Corporate Reporting

Pronouns: She/her

[You can call me directly on MS Teams](#)

Phone: 71833 | Email: Adrienne.White@act.gov.au

MCR | Education Directorate | ACT Government

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

My employer supports me working flexibly, so I may email you outside of normal office hours. I don't expect you to read or respond outside of your normal work hours.

From: Doherty, Sarah <Sarah.Doherty@act.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** EGMSloffic
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 5:00 PM
To: Education DLO <EDUDLO@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: FOR ACTION: Contact Wesfarmers/Officeworks

OFFICIAL

Hi Adrienne

Please see before from Mark.

Thank you

Sarah Doherty | A/g Executive Officer to Mark Huxley
School Improvement Group | Education Directorate | ACT Government
Phone: 0468 556 406 or MS Teams | Email: sarah.doherty@act.gov.au
www.education.act.gov.au

I would like to respectfully acknowledge the Ngunnawal people who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we live, learn, work, and play, and pay my respect to the Elders past, present and emerging.

From: Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 4:55 PM
To: EGMSlooffice <EGMSlooffice@act.gov.au>; DDGEDUoffice <DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>; Allen, Tracey <Tracey.Allen@act.gov.au>
Subject: Re: FOR ACTION: Contact Wesfarmers/Officeworks

OFFICIAL

Called. Action closed.

Thanks

Mark

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Doherty, Sarah <Sarah.Doherty@act.gov.au> on behalf of EGMSlooffice <EGMSlooffice@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2025 4:34:25 PM
To: Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>
Subject: FOR ACTION: Contact Wesfarmers/Officeworks

OFFICIAL

Hi Mark

Please see below from Bec Hobbs. DDGO has asked if you could please make the call.

I took a call this afternoon from [REDACTED]
for Wesfarmers, who own Officeworks and Kmart.

Here are my notes from the call:

- Their standard product testing identified an issue
- They then did extra safety testing, which then prompted contact with the ACCC

- The testing has all demonstrated negligible risk/no identifiable safety hazard
- Respirable fibres are only released through mechanical means (crushing or pulverising), which is unlikely to occur in the settings where the sand is used
- They have identified 322 schools that purchased the sand through Officeworks (nationally) and can provide data about which ACT schools they have on file (noting that we've already searched our schools, and that teachers may have purchased product themselves for classrooms)
- I said that all of our air testing so far has been negative
- I committed to getting EDU in touch with Wesfarmers to enable the sharing of the sales data, and any test results that we can share
- Can an EDU snr exec please call [REDACTED] Head of Officeworks [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]

Thank you
Sarah

From: Education DLO <EDUDLO@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 4:26 PM
To: EGMSlooffice <EGMSlooffice@act.gov.au>
Subject: FOR ACTION: Contact Wesfarmers/Officeworks

OFFICIAL

Hi team,

I've touched base with Ang's office and they have asked that Mark please call [REDACTED] from Officeworks. [REDACTED] details are below.

Many thanks,
Adrienne

Adrienne White | Directorate Liaison Officer, Ministerial and Corporate Reporting

Pronouns: She/her

[You can call me directly on MS Teams](#)

Phone: 71833 | Email: Adrienne.White@act.gov.au

MCR | Education Directorate | ACT Government

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

My employer supports me working flexibly, so I may email you outside of normal office hours. I don't expect you to read or respond outside of your normal work hours.

From: Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 4:10 PM

To: Education DLO <EDUDLO@act.gov.au>

Subject: Contact from Wesfarmers

Hi Adrienne

I took a call this afternoon from [REDACTED] for Wesfarmers, who own Officeworks and Kmart.

Here are my notes from the call:

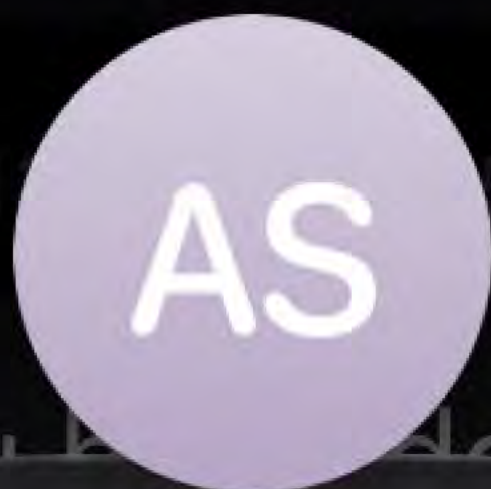
- Their standard product testing identified an issue
- They then did extra safety testing, which then prompted contact with the ACCC
- The testing has all demonstrated negligible risk/no identifiable safety hazard
- Respirable fibres are only released through mechanical means (crushing or pulverising), which is unlikely to occur in the settings where the sand is used
- They have identified 322 schools that purchased the sand through Officeworks (nationally) and can provide data about which ACT schools they have on file (noting that we've already searched our schools, and that teachers may have purchased product themselves for classrooms)
- I said that all of our air testing so far has been negative
- I committed to getting EDU in touch with Wesfarmers to enable the sharing of the sales data, and any test results that we can share
- Can an EDU snr exec please call [REDACTED] Head of Officeworks [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] ?

Thanks

Bec

6:25

5G 69



Thu 1 57 pm

Let me know if you have done the calls to union them now. Do you have a uwu contact?

Sun 16 Nov at 9:33 pm

Hey Angela, I'm hearing from [redacted] that Margaret Hendry families don't have an email yet. Can you help me confirm where we're up to with parent comms?

Let me make some calls.

Thank you

Wed 19 Nov at 10:01 am

[redacted] Board Chair (didn't give a name I'm so sorry)

Call made and [redacted] (board chair [redacted] going to work with parents who were calling to understand approach. Working on parent friendly coms around safety management approach.

Thank you so much Angela



From: [Dance, Alex](#)
To: [James, Brooke](#)
Cc: [Short, Paul](#); [Henderson-Smith, N](#); [Bailey, Anthony](#); [Atkins, Jessie](#)
Subject: Work instruction for visual inspection 191125
Date: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 10:17:00 AM
Attachments: [Work instruction for visual inspection 191125.docx](#)

Hi Brooke,

Please see attached.

AD

Work Instruction: Coloured Sand Products – Visual Inspection and associated action

NB: Product Identification TYPE A and TYPE B require different action to be taken under this work instruction

Purpose

To guide workers in performing a visual inspection of the site to identify colored sand products, apply appropriate labeling, and record and communicate findings accurately. Associated actions may be required for Product TYPE B.

There are two types of products:

- 1) TYPE A – Kadink (Education Colours) and Anko - subject to consumer recalls due samples containing asbestos (see attachment A). It also includes any unmarked product that appears to be coloured sand (including white sand).
- 2) TYPE B – all other coloured sand products (including white sand) – not subject to consumer recall.

Workers will be required label, record and communicate for both Type A and Type B products.

Under no circumstance are workers to touch or handle TYPE A products. A visual inspection and recording is all that is required.

REMINDER – Australian Government Health advice is that product TYPE A is very low risk.

It is important that staff remain calm if they identify TYPE A product and follow the work instruction and be mindful of staff and students who may be distressed.

Scope

This instruction applies to all workers conducting visual inspections and associated actions on the designated site.

Responsibilities

- Workers must follow this procedure during inspections and report findings of Type A product immediately.
- Report findings immediately as per the steps below.

Definitions

Type A Product: Requires Warning Notice to be attached to support isolation of product/area of use (Warning Poster – recalled product)

Type B Product: Requires (Label – other sand product) to be attached to cupboard/room door to support later collection and disposal of product in accordance with relevant guidance.

Procedure

Step	Description
<p>1. Preparation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSO plus one additional staff member (2 people aids in visual scrutiny) • Obtain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ site map (SAIL) ○ red and yellow markers ○ QR Code for evidence sharing (see below) ○ Warning Poster (TYPE A – recalled sand product) ○ Collection Poster (TYPE B – other sand product)
<p>2. Visual Inspection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk through school site and systematically conduct visual inspection of every room/cupboard and drawer where sand may be stored. • Look for products matching Type A (recalled sand products) or Type B (other sand products) descriptions.

3. Actions for Type A

Kadink Decorative Sand



Powered by **SafetyCulture**

[ACCC Recall Notice](#)

[K-Mart Recall Notice](#)

- Do NOT handle this product nor move it.
- Using the supplied QR Code capture an image of the product and provide requested data via the application (this will provide real time information to the Incident Management Team).
- Apply Warning Poster to the space that product is contained within i.e. a cupboard. If the sand was used within the room within the past week, the room should be identified for isolation.
- Mark location of Product TYPE A on site map in RED.
- Immediately phone through to designated contact where TYPE A product is visually confirmed and if you require direct advice about isolation of a space.

For Type A Finds please contact:

Richard Hooper – [REDACTED]

For issues with access via the QR Code please contact:

Craig Lapinski – [REDACTED]

4. Actions for Type B

Kadink Decorative Sand




Powered by **SafetyCulture**

- Using the supplied QR Code capture an image of the product and provide requested data via the application (this will provide real time information to the Incident Management Team).
- Clearly identify the location by applying a Collection Notice. Mark location on site map in YELLOW.
- Please apply a Collection Poster (TYPE B – other sand product)

TYPE A Product – Recall information

ACCC – Education Colours (Kadink)




Product safety recall

Educational Colours - Rainbow Sand (1.3kg), Creatistics - Coloured Sand (1kg) and Kadink - Sand (1.3kg)

Educational Colours Pty Ltd

Decorative coloured sand, supplied in various colours, to be used for open-ended art and craft activities or sensory play.



Reason the product is recalled

The products are being recalled because they may include asbestos, which is a prohibited substance in Australia.

The hazards to consumers

The products may cause a risk to health as tremolite asbestos (a naturally occurring asbestos) has been detected in some samples after laboratory testing.

Importantly, respiratory asbestos has not been detected in any of the tested samples. The release of respiratory asbestos fibres from the sand is unlikely to occur in its current state, unless the sand is processed by mechanical means such as crushing or pulverising.

While the risk that any asbestos found is likely to be airborne or fine enough for inhalation is low, this may still pose a risk.

What consumers should do

1. Stop using the products immediately.
2. Place the sand in a heavy-duty plastic bag and double tape it securely and keep it out of reach of children.
3. Do not dispose of the products in general waste. Information on the disposal of asbestos waste, including disposal facilities in your state or territory can be found on [The Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency](#) website.
4. Contact recalls@educationalvantage.com for guidance around disposal and seeking a full refund.

See productsafety.gov.au for Australian product recall information

**Important message from the ACCC to consumers:**

The ACCC continues to work with health and safety, and other relevant agencies at the state, territory and Commonwealth levels as this issue evolves.

In an abundance of caution, the ACCC refers to the following advice below from WorkSafe ACT on the safe disposal of products that may contain asbestos.

If you believe you may have the product in your home, including any arts or crafts made with the sand, to prevent dust or fibres from becoming airborne do not disturb or use it and isolate the product. Carefully double wrap the sand, its container, and any related materials in 200-micron plastic bags, seal securely with tape, and clearly label the package as asbestos waste. When disposing of asbestos, always take precautions to protect yourself from exposure:

- Wear disposable gloves. Tuck the gloves under the elasticised cuffs of your clothing. If the cuffs are loose, tape them down to create a proper seal.
- Wear a P2 rated face mask. Do not use a standard dust mask. A P2 respirator should fit snugly and cover half your face.
- Wear protective eyewear. Use safety glasses to protect your eyes from dust and debris.

200-micron disposal bags are available from hardware and safety supply shops.

Contact

Educational Colours Pty Ltd

Email: recalls@educationalvantage.com

Who sold the product: Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids, Officeworks and Zart Art

Dates available for sale: 1 January 2020 to 31 October 2025

PRA 2025/20691

See [productsafety.gov.au](https://www.productsafety.gov.au) for Australian product recall information

Kmart and Target Products – Anko



Product safety recall

14 piece Sand Castle Building Set, Blue, Green and Pink Magic Sand

Sold at Kmart & Target

Kmart	Colour	Target
42975724	n/a	69581984
42304364	Blue	Not ranged
42919650	Green	Not ranged
42304371	Pink	Not ranged



Reason the product is recalled

The product is being recalled because the sand may include asbestos, which is a prohibited substance in Australia.

The hazards to consumers

The product may cause a risk to health as asbestos has been detected in some samples after laboratory testing.

Importantly, respirable asbestos has not been detected in any of the tested samples. The release of respirable asbestos fibres is unlikely to occur in its current state, unless the sand is processed by mechanical means such as crushing or pulverising. The risk that any asbestos found, that is likely to be airborne or fine enough for inhalation, is low.

What consumers should do

Stop using the products immediately.

- Wear disposable gloves and a mask and either return in the original tub or place the sand in a heavy-duty plastic bag and double tape it securely and keep it out of reach of children.
- Do not dispose of the products in general waste. Information on the disposal of asbestos waste, including disposal facilities in your state or territory can be found on [The Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency website](#).

Contact

Kmart

Call: 1800 124 125, Monday to Friday, 7:00am to 6:00pm (AEST)

Online: <https://www.kmart.com.au/contact-us/>

Target

Call: 1300 753 567, Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 6:00pm (AEST)

Online: <https://www.target.com.au/help/contact-us>

Who sold the product:

Kmart store and online, Target stores, online or via the App.

See productsafety.gov.au for Australian product recall information

From: [McMahon, Zoe](#) on behalf of [EDU, EGMFIG](#)
To: [Attridge, Vanessa](#)
Subject: For Information SIGNED_Minister Brief Hazardous Materials Response Contaminated Sand (ACM)- Update 1
Date: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 10:24:33 AM
Attachments: [SIGNED_Minister Brief Hazardous Materials Response Contaminated Sand \(ACM\)- Update 1.tr5](#)

OFFICIAL

Hi Nessa,
To have on your radar that this has been signed with nil comment.
Thanks
Zoe

From: Education DLO
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 4:47 PM
To: DDGEDUoffice
Cc: EDU, EGMFIG ; EGMSloffice ; Laurent, Kristen
Subject: SIGNED_Minister Brief Hazardous Materials Response Contaminated Sand (ACM)- Update 1

OFFICIAL

Hi team,

The attached brief has been signed without comment.

Many thanks,

Adrienne

-----< Content Manager Record Information >-----

Record Number: REC25/493650
Title: SIGNED_Minister Brief Hazardous Materials Response Contaminated Sand (ACM)- Update 1

Attachment B) Asbestos Regulation Comparison table

Regulatory Area	Model WHS Regulations (2024)	ACT WHS Regulation 2011 (2025)	NSW WHS Regulation 2017 (as at 2025)	Other States/Territories
General Prohibition	Prohibits work involving asbestos, with exceptions for research, sampling, maintenance of non-friable asbestos installed before 31 Dec 2003, removal/disposal, etc. (Reg 419)	Same as Model, with ACT-specific references (e.g., to ACT notices, minor/routine maintenance) (s419)	Same as Model. Prohibits work involving asbestos, with similar exceptions (Reg 419).	Generally consistent with Model; minor local variations.
Definition of Asbestos/ACM	As per Act; ACM = asbestos-containing material.	As per Act; ACM = asbestos-containing material.	As per Act; ACM = asbestos-containing material.	Consistent nationally.
Identification of Asbestos	All asbestos/ACM at workplace must be identified by a competent person (Reg 422).	Must be identified by a licensed asbestos assessor (s422).	Must be identified by a competent person (Reg 422). NSW does not require a licensed assessor for identification, but does for clearance inspections.	Most require competent person; ACT is stricter.
Asbestos Register	Must be prepared and kept at workplace, updated as necessary, includes location, type, condition, and date of identification (Reg 425).	Same as Model, but must include risk assessment if made (s425, s422A).	Same as Model. Must be kept up to date and accessible (Reg 425).	Consistent nationally; some require inclusion of risk assessment.
Risk Assessment	Not mandatory unless required by regulator or for friable asbestos; must consider condition, likelihood of exposure, disturbance, etc.	Mandatory written risk assessment for friable asbestos, by licensed assessor (s422A).	Not mandatory unless required by regulator or for friable asbestos. NSW follows the Model approach (Reg 422).	Most require risk assessment for friable asbestos; ACT is explicit about licensed assessor.
Asbestos Management Plan	Required if asbestos/ACM is identified or likely present; must include identification, decisions, procedures, and worker info (Reg 429).	Same as Model, but must include risk assessment if made (s429).	Same as Model (Reg 429).	Consistent nationally.
Review of Register/Plan	Must be reviewed if further asbestos is identified, removed, disturbed, or at least every 5 years (Regs 426, 430).	Same as Model (s426, s430).	Same as Model (Regs 426, 430).	Consistent nationally.
Access to Register/Plan	Must be accessible to workers, health and	Same as Model (s427, s429(5)).	Same as Model (Regs 427, 429(5)).	Consistent nationally.

	safety reps, and others carrying out work (Regs 427, 429(5)).			
Demolition/Refurbishment	Register must be reviewed before demolition/refurbishment; all asbestos likely to be disturbed must be identified and removed as far as practicable (Regs 448–457).	Same as Model, but requires licensed assessor for identification and risk assessment; additional requirements for residential premises (s448–457).	Same as Model. For demolition/refurbishment, all asbestos likely to be disturbed must be identified and removed as far as reasonably practicable (Regs 448–457).	Consistent nationally; some local variations for residential premises.
Asbestos Removal Licensing	Class A licence required for friable asbestos; Class B for non-friable >10m ² ; recognition of licences from other jurisdictions (Regs 485–488).	Same as Model, but with ACT-specific notification and supervisor requirements (s485–488).	Same as Model. NSW recognises interstate licences and has similar supervisor requirements (Regs 485–488).	Consistent nationally; some local administrative differences.
Asbestos Assessor Licensing	Licence required for air monitoring, clearance inspections, and certificates for Class A removal (Regs 489–490).	Same as Model, but with expanded scope (includes risk assessment, identification, advice, and reporting) (s489).	Same as Model. NSW requires a licensed assessor for air monitoring and clearance for Class A removal (Regs 489–490).	Consistent nationally; some local differences in scope.
Notification of Removal	Regulator must be notified at least 5 days before licensed removal; immediate notification allowed in emergencies (Reg 466).	Same as Model, with ACT-specific forms and additional requirements for notification content (s466).	Same as Model. Notification to SafeWork NSW at least 5 days before removal; emergency provisions apply (Reg 466).	Consistent nationally; notification forms/processes may differ.
Clearance Inspections & Certificates	Independent licensed asbestos assessor must conduct clearance inspection and issue certificate before re-occupation (Regs 473–474).	Same as Model, but must include area surrounding removal area; air monitoring may be required (s473–474).	Same as Model. NSW requires a licensed assessor for clearance inspection and certificate for Class A removal (Regs 473–474).	Consistent nationally; some local differences in independence requirements.
Health Monitoring	Required for workers at risk of exposure during removal or asbestos-related work; must be supervised by registered medical practitioner (Regs 435–444).	Same as Model, but records must be kept for 40 years (s444).	Same as Model. NSW requires health monitoring for at-risk workers, with records kept for 40 years (Regs 435–444).	Consistent nationally; record-keeping periods may vary.
Training	Workers involved in asbestos removal or related work must be trained in	Same as Model, but ACT Minister may declare required courses/occupations;	Same as Model. NSW requires training for all workers involved in asbestos work, with	Consistent nationally; some local differences in course requirements.

	identification, safe handling, and control measures (Reg 445).	records must be kept for 5 years (s445, s445A).	records kept for 5 years (Reg 445).	
Use of Equipment	Prohibits high-pressure water spray and compressed air on asbestos/ACM; power tools/brooms only if use is controlled (Reg 446).	Same as Model, with detailed definition of "controlled" use (s446).	Same as Model. NSW prohibits high-pressure water and compressed air; power tools only if use is controlled (Reg 446).	Consistent nationally.
Waste Disposal	Asbestos waste must be contained, labelled, and disposed of at authorised sites (Reg 472).	Same as Model, with ACT-specific requirements for labelling and decontamination (s472).	Same as Model. NSW requires asbestos waste to be double-bagged, labelled, and disposed of at licensed facilities (Reg 472).	Consistent nationally; local differences in authorised sites.
Recognition of Other Jurisdictions' Licences	Yes, provided licence is current and not suspended/cancelled (Regs 488, 490).	Yes, but ACT requires notification before first work in ACT (s488, s490).	Yes, NSW recognises interstate licences, provided they are current and not suspended/cancelled (Regs 488, 490).	Consistent nationally; notification requirements may differ.

References

Safe Work Australia. (2024). *Model Work Health and Safety Regulations* (as at 1 September 2024). <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/model-whs-regulations>

Australian Capital Territory Parliamentary Counsel's Office. (2025). *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011* (Effective 27 February 2025). <https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/sl/2011-36/>

New South Wales Government. (2025). *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017* (as at 2025). <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sl-2017-404>

Safe Work Australia. (n.d.). *Work health and safety laws by jurisdiction*. <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation/laws-jurisdiction>

Microsoft Copilot. (2025). *Comparison table generated using AI assistance based on legislative documents*.



Education Directorate

Ministerial Brief

To:	Minister for Education and Early Childhood	Tracking No.: FOL25/7375
Date:	15/11/2025	
CC:	Click here to enter text.	
From:	Incident Controller – Contaminated Sand (ACM)	
Subject:	Hazardous Materials Response – Contaminated Sand (ACM) – Update 1	
Critical Date:	17/11/2025	
Critical Reason:	Hazardous Materials Response - ACM in Sand - 2025	

- DG .../.../...
- DDG .../.../...

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information in this brief outlining action taken by the Education Directorate to respond to advice of Asbestos contamination in sand products, following confirmation these products are present in ACT public schools;

[Redacted] **Noted / Please Discuss**
 Yvette Berry M [Redacted]/...../.....

Minister's Feedback

Background

1. On 12 November 2025 the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission published a [recall notice](#) and [media release](#) for a decorative coloured sand product sold as Kadink Decorative Sand, stating it may contain tremolite asbestos.

2. On the same day WorkSafe ACT issued a [safety alert](#) *Asbestos contamination confirmed in coloured sand products*, after WorkSafe laboratory testing of samples confirmed that some product lines contain traces of Chrysotile, another type of asbestos, is present in the ACT.

Issues

3. At 11:40am on 13 November 2025, School Operations issued urgent communications to all schools requesting priority stocktake to identify if the product was present and/or used at ACT public schools.
4. School responses confirmed presence of the product, and informed triaging levels of hazard/risk across sites, from sites that actively use the sand recently and frequently, compared to schools that have unused sealed product in storerooms.
5. Education Directorate notification was made to WorkSafe ACT as per ss35-38 of the *Work Health and Safety 2011 (WHS Act 2011)*, on the basis Directorate, is aware, through information provided by the ACCC and WorkSafe ACT, that products in schools contain asbestos/may contain asbestos.
6. In accordance with legislative requirements under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and Regulations (Part 8), and alignment with the Directorate's usual methods of addressing suspected asbestos containing material (ACM), School Facilities Management engaged licensed asbestos assessors to assess risk at each site.
7. Assessors provided verbal advice that these spaces must not be accessed until testing and any remediation was completed.
8. At a Teams meeting in the evening of 14 November, also attended by other Chiefs of Staff and the WorkSafe ACT Commissioner, Directorate officials provided you with advice and an update on the responses to address this risk.
9. At that meeting, the Directorate noted advice from the Commissioner including:
 - a. Concern about risk of exposure to asbestos fibres;
 - b. From the perspective of WHS Act, regardless of the Directorate's determination of the level of risk, the risk requires the same treatment and the expectation in relation to risk is isolation and then elimination, in line with the hierarchy of controls;
 - c. The Directorate is aware of the risk and legislatively obligated to take immediate action, and the need to balance psychosocial risk;
 - d. Risk of exposure to traces of asbestos is low;
 - e. In addition to air monitoring, TEM (polarised light providing defined resolution) and Polarized Light Microscopy (PLM) tests should occur;
 - f. Assessors should be the only people attending these sites from tonight. If contained to one building in a big school, isolate that building. If its over multiple classrooms then consider is it the whole school.
 - g. Remediation of areas is required to eliminate asbestos and receive certificate of clearance.

Legislative Obligations

10. A range of legal duties arise from the identification of Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) or suspected ACM, particularly with respect to the due diligence of officers under the WHS Act and the requirement to minimise the exposure of workers and others to identified risks. This is further refined through the WHS Regulations, particularly clause 419 which provides that a PCBU must not knowingly expose a worker to asbestos (including handling and removal).
11. In the evening of 13 November 2025, the WorkSafe ACT Commissioner advised the Directorate that impacted spaces should be isolated and advised testing requirements should include air testing, TEM testing (polarised light providing highly defined resolution) and Polarized Light Microscopy (PLM) testing.
12. The advice from the WorkSafe ACT Commissioner and subsequent advice for PCBUs published on the WorkSafe ACT website on 14 November 2025 accords with Part 8 of the WHS Regulations 2011:
 - a. Clauses 422 and 423 provide that asbestos or ACM must be treated as asbestos until it is determined that it is not asbestos or ACM.
 - b. Part 8 also steps out the requirements for assessment and identification of asbestos and removal of it requiring these activities to be conducted by licensed professionals.
 - c. None of the exemptions (clause 419) apply to Education Directorate workers in the context of this product recall.
 - d. Further requirements apply to the removal of asbestos requiring a licensed remover to conduct that activity, including isolation of location of material (clause 470) and provision of a clearance certificate by a licensed professional (clauses 473 and 474).
13. Key Regulation excerpts are provided at Attachment A.
14. Note while Chrysotile is a naturally occurring type of asbestos and there are specific requirements under the WHS Act for treatment of naturally occurring asbestos. However the Directorate considers these do not apply given the product is a manufactured product no longer in its natural form.

Decision to Close or Partly Close Schools

15. The Directorate commenced decisions and implementation for full and partial closure of these schools, due to:
 - a. Legal obligations under the *WHS Act 2011* and WHS Regulations 2011;
 - b. Advice from assessors which stated these spaces must not be accessed;
 - c. Verbal advice from the WorkSafe ACT Commissioner on 14 November;
 - d. School impact triaging and a risk assessment, which considered operational impacts of isolation of spaces where the product was stored or used.
16. Prioritisation is being given to sites that have been closed and/or have higher risk based on opened containers of product, frequency, prevalence and recency of use.

Testing, Remediation and Clearance

17. Air monitoring is being undertaken at impacted sites in areas of use/storage.
18. Assessors have provided air monitoring results, all results received for 16 schools to date are negative to the presence of airborne asbestos fibres.
19. As air monitoring results are obtained, the assessors, based on the known risks, are providing guidance to inform removal by a licensed asbestos removalist. A licensed removalist, in conjunction with the assessor, will safely remove identified product from schools in accordance with legal requirements/Codes of Practice.
20. In accordance with the Directorate's usual methods of managing ACM (or suspected ACM), assessors will conduct air monitoring during the removal and disposal process, identify the location of the product on a school map and conduct a further inspection of remediated spaces following the removal. Should the assessor deem it required, they will undertake cleaning of impacted spaces.
21. Assessors are expected to issue clearance certificates stating the impacted spaces are safe to occupy. One clearance certificate has already been provided for Florey Primary School.
22. Regulations only require that a clearance certificate is provided by a licensed assessor.
23. Advice from Licensed Assessors is that the timing of TEM testing means that it is not a valuable tool in determining the clearance of an isolated space, and it is understood to be the view of assessors that the TEM test is not reasonably practicable.
24. The Directorate is taking a risk-based approach to testing and will implement the following measures:
 - a. assessors to collect and test product samples from each site representing around 10% of products, and
 - b. Some TEM testing to occur, noting clearance certificates will be provided prior to those results being available in approximately 10 days.
25. Assessment and remediation is being prioritised at closed schools and Specialist Schools, to ensure these sites are able to reopen on Monday, 17 November 2025.
26. Current advice is that this will be achievable. Addressing the needs of schools with partial closure remains at risk and is dependent upon the capacity of assessors and removalists working over the weekend of 15 and 16 November and during the week of 17 November after hours so that there is no disruption to school operations.
27. Given the evolving nature of this situation it is reasonable to expect further product may be identified in schools in future. This may include schools that have been remediated through the current process. Further advice will be provided on responses should this occur, informed by outcomes of 13-17 November.

Financial Implications

28. Asbestos assessment, remediation and removal costs are expected to be in the range of approximately \$50,000 - \$100,000 – further advice will be provided.

Consultation

Internal

- 29. School Facilities Management, Work Health and Safety, School Operations.
- 30. Incident Management Team and Crisis Management Team.

Cross Directorate

- 31. Engagement has occurred with CMTEDD and Health.

External

- 32. Unions (AEU, CPSU UWU) and ACT Parents are being regularly informed on this matter.
- 33. Engagement and information sharing is occurring with the Association of Independent Schools and Catholic Education.

Work Health and Safety

- 34. The safety of students, staff and the community is our highest priority.
- 35. The Directorate continues to follow all advice from WorkSafe ACT and recommendations from licenced asbestos contractors.

Benefits/Sensitivities

- 36. As of 12.15pm on 14 November 2025, 43 schools have been identified as having this product on site.
- 37. The Directorate acknowledges significant disruption for students, staff and the community associated with schools being closed or partially closed on 14 November, and has provided regular communication to ensure transparency, awareness and mitigate negative impacts as much as possible.
- 38. The Directorate has taken a risk based approach to uphold legislative obligations and respond to the risk. Closing and partly closing impacted schools has enabled more rapid testing and remediation, outside of school hours, which will also enable risk elimination and clearance certificates more rapidly.

Communications, media and engagement implications

- 39. There has been extensive media coverage locally and nationally.

Signatory Name:	Deputy Director-General	Phone:	Teams
Action Officer:	Executive Group Manager, Finance & Infrastructure	Phone:	Teams

Attachments

Attachment	Title
------------	-------

Attachment A	WHS Act Regulations: Key Regulation Excerpts
Attachment B	Asbestos Regulation Comparison table

Attachment A**Key Regulation Excerpts**

The following are key excerpts of the [Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011](#) relevant to Education Directorate obligations and action taken to address contaminated sand in ACT public schools, provided for information.

PCBU must not direct or allow worker involvement with asbestos
Chapter 8 Part 8.1 419 (1), (2), page 340

Chapter 8 Asbestos

Part 8.1 Prohibitions and authorised conduct

419 **Work involving asbestos or ACM—prohibitions and exceptions**

- (1) A person conducting a business or undertaking must not carry out, direct or allow a worker to carry out, work involving asbestos.

Maximum penalty: tier E monetary penalty.

Note Strict liability applies to each physical element of each offence under this regulation, unless otherwise stated (see s 6A).

- (2) In this section, work *involves* asbestos if the work involves manufacturing, supplying, transporting, importing, storing, removing, using, installing, **handling**, treating, disposing of or disturbing asbestos or ACM.

Identification by a licenced assessor
Chapter 8 Part 8.3 422 (1), (2)(a), page 344

422 **Asbestos to be identified or assumed at workplace**

- (1) A person with management or control of a workplace must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that all asbestos or ACM at the workplace is identified by a licensed asbestos assessor.

Maximum penalty: tier E monetary penalty.

Note Strict liability applies to each physical element of each offence under this regulation, unless otherwise stated (see s 6A).

- (2) A person with management or control of a workplace must—
- (a) if material at the workplace cannot be identified but a licensed asbestos assessor reasonably believes that the material is asbestos or ACM—assume that the material is asbestos; and

Analysis of a sample

Chapter 8 Part 8.3 423 (1) (2), Page 36

423 Analysis of sample

- (1) A person with management or control of a workplace may identify asbestos or ACM by arranging for a sample of material at the workplace to be analysed for the presence of asbestos or ACM.
- (2) If a person with management or control of a workplace arranges for an analysis, the person must ensure that the sample is analysed only by—
 - (a) a NATA-accredited laboratory accredited for the relevant test method; or

Note NATA—see the dictionary.
 - (b) a laboratory approved by the regulator in accordance with guidelines published by Safe Work Australia; or

Removal of asbestos by a licensed removalist

470 (1), (2), page 384

470 Limiting access to asbestos removal area

- (1) This section applies to—
 - (a) a person conducting a business or undertaking at a workplace who commissions a person to carry out licensed asbestos removal work at the workplace; and
 - (b) a person with management or control of a workplace who is aware that licensed asbestos removal work is being carried out at the workplace.
- (2) Subject to subsection (4), the person must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that no-one other than the following has access to an asbestos removal area:
 - (a) workers engaged in the asbestos removal work;
 - (b) other persons associated with the asbestos removal work;
 - (c) anyone allowed under this regulation or another law to be in the asbestos removal area.

Clearance certificate

473 (1),(2),(3), page 388 & 389

474 (1), (2), page 389

473 Clearance inspection

- (1) This section applies if a person commissions licensed asbestos removal work at a workplace.
- (2) The person or, if the workplace is residential premises, the licensed asbestos removalist must ensure that, when the licensed asbestos removal work is completed, an independent licensed asbestos assessor carries out a clearance inspection of—
 - (a) the asbestos removal area; and
 - (b) the area surrounding the asbestos removal area, including access and egress pathways.

Maximum penalty: tier E monetary penalty.

Note Strict liability applies to each physical element of each offence under this regulation, unless otherwise stated (see s 6A).

- (3) In this part:

clearance inspection means an inspection of an asbestos removal area after asbestos removal work has been completed to verify that the area is safe for normal use, that—

- (a) includes a visual inspection; and
- (b) may include air monitoring.

Note If it is not reasonably practicable for the licensed asbestos assessor to be independent, the person or licensed asbestos removalist may apply to the regulator for an exemption under pt 11.2 from the requirement that the assessor be independent.

474 Clearance certificates

- (1) This section applies if a clearance inspection has been made in accordance with section 473.
- (2) The licensed asbestos assessor who carried out the clearance inspection must issue a clearance certificate, in accordance with this section, before the asbestos removal area at the workplace is re-occupied.

Maximum penalty: tier E monetary penalty.

Note Strict liability applies to each physical element of each offence under this regulation, unless otherwise stated (see s 6A).

- (3) The licensed asbestos assessor must ensure that the asbestos removal area does not pose a risk to health and safety from exposure to asbestos.

From: [Short, Paul](#)
To: [Phillips, Tori](#); [Hobbs, Rebecca](#)
Cc: [Huxley, Mark](#); [Barges, Joanne](#); [EDU Media](#)
Subject: Talking points - malkara, cranleigh, learning continuity
Date: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 12:21:47 PM
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

For presser at 1pm today.

Malkara

- Malkara received a clearance certificate from a licensed assessor on Monday evening.
- The school was re-opened for all students from this morning.
- Part of the remediation included cordoning off the playground sandpit, which had been contaminated with some of the recalled craft sand products.
- On arrival at the school this morning staff discovered some of the sandpit sand has been spread across other parts of the playground.
- Students were held on the bus for 7 minutes while staff found an appropriate space to move students into.
- An assessor has been onsite this morning and will give us advice about how to properly remediate the area.
- Students and staff are safely at school today using other spaces for learning.

Cranleigh

- Cranleigh received a clearance certificate from a licensed assessor on Monday evening.
- The school was re-opened for all students from this morning.
- On arrival at the school this morning staff discovered new instances of the recalled sand products which have not been previously identified.
- In line with WHS advice these products have been isolated until they can be cleared and remediated.
- The school is continuing to operate safely using other spaces for learning.

General WHS advice

- Since the directorate became aware of product recalls applying to coloured sand, every effort has been made to identify and isolate recalled (and unidentified) sand products in accordance with Work Health and Safety Act 2011 requirements.
- While every effort has been made to identify coloured sand products, we know that additional products may be found as schools resume operations.
- The Directorate has provided all schools with WHS advice and a Work Instruction to support them when they identify additional coloured sand

products.

- A briefing was held with principals and business managers this morning.

Alternative learning

- The Education Directorate is focused on remediating and reopening all of our impacted ACT public schools as quickly as we possibly can.
- We understand this has been disruptive for students and families, but safety in our schools is our top priority. We will continue to communicate regularly with families on the operational status of our schools moving forward.
- To support families interested in learning resources and activities while they are at home with the children, the Education Directorate has updated its online learning resources, developed during the COVID lockdown: [ACT Education - Resources to support home learning](#)
- This advice was share with ACT public school principals yesterday and is available for sharing with students and families at their discretion – there is no expectation that parents need to use the resources or undertake home learning activities.

Cheers,

Paul

Paul Short

Executive Branch Manager, Communications, Engagement & Government Support

Education Directorate | ACT Government

Phone: 02 620 72809 | Mobile: 0408 368 746

www.act.gov.au/education-and-training

From: [Education DLO](#)
To: [Whitty, Anna](#); [Hobbs, Rebecca](#); [Phillips, Tori](#)
Subject: 12.23 on 19/11 advice re Malkara/Cranleigh
Date: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 12:24:14 PM

OFFICIAL

Hi team,

Emailing through Paul's advice, as at 12.23 on 19 Nov.

Malkara

- Malkara received a clearance certificate from a licensed assessor on Monday evening.
- The school was re-opened for all students from this morning.
- Part of the remediation included cordoning off the playground sandpit, which had been contaminated with some of the recalled craft sand products.
- On arrival at the school this morning staff discovered some of the sandpit sand has been spread across other parts of the playground.
- Students were held on the bus for 7 minutes while staff found an appropriate space to move students into.
- An assessor has been onsite this morning and will give us advice about how to properly remediate the area.
- Students and staff are safely at school today using other spaces for learning.

Cranleigh

- Cranleigh received a clearance certificate from a licensed assessor on Monday evening.
- The school was re-opened for all students from this morning.
- On arrival at the school this morning staff discovered new instances of the recalled sand products which had not been previously identified.
- In line with WHS advice these products have been isolated until they can be cleared and remediated.
- The school is continuing to operate safely using other spaces for learning.

General WHS advice

- Since the directorate became aware of product recalls applying to coloured sand, every effort has been made to identify and isolate recalled (and unidentified) sand products in accordance with Work Health and Safety Act 2011 requirements.
- While every effort has been made to identify coloured sand products, we know that additional products may be found as schools resume operations.
- The Directorate has provided all schools with WHS advice and a Work Instruction to support them when they identify additional coloured sand products.
- A briefing was held with principals and business managers this morning.

Alternative learning

- The Education Directorate is focused on remediating and reopening all of our impacted ACT public schools as quickly as we possibly can.
- We understand this has been disruptive for students and families, but safety in our schools is our top priority. We will continue to communicate regularly with families on the operational status of our schools moving forward.
- To support families interested in learning resources and activities while they are at home with the children, the Education Directorate has updated its online learning resources, developed during the COVID lockdown: [ACT Education - Resources to support home learning](#)
- This advice was share with ACT public school principals yesterday and is available for sharing with students and families at their discretion – there is no expectation that parents need to use the resources or undertake home learning activities.

Many thanks,
Adrienne

Adrienne White | Directorate Liaison Officer, Ministerial and Corporate Reporting

Pronouns: She/her

[You can call me directly on MS Teams](#)

Phone: 71833 | Email: Adrienne.White@act.gov.au

MCR | Education Directorate | ACT Government

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

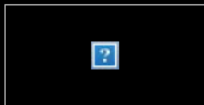
My employer supports me working flexibly, so I may email you outside of normal office hours. I don't expect you to read or respond outside of your normal work hours.

From: [Dance, Alex](#)
To: [Dance, Alex](#)
Subject: A message from Executive Group Manager, School Improvement, Mark Huxley - WHS advice – contaminated sand products
Date: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 2:16:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image014.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image006.jpg](#)

From: EDU Alerts <EDU.Alerts@act.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 11:11 AM

Subject: A message from Executive Group Manager, School Improvement, Mark Huxley - WHS advice – contaminated sand products



19 November 2025



WHS advice – contaminated sand products

Dear Principals and Business Managers

We are pleased to have most students back learning onsite following contaminated sand removal and assessment at many of our schools this week.

Work Health and Safety advice

Since the directorate became aware of product recalls applying to coloured sand, every effort has been made to identify and isolate recalled (and unidentified) sand products in accordance with *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* requirements.

While every effort has been made to identify coloured sand products, we know that additional products may be found as schools resume operations.

A Work Instruction has been developed to support schools where they identify additional coloured sand products. Please follow the attached advice and use the posters where needed at your school.

A directorate [Safety Alert](#) has also been issued providing further information about processes for managing asbestos-containing material.

EXAMPLE:

- If you find one of the recalled sand products in a cupboard, only the cupboard needs to be isolated and a warning poster applied to the cupboard until the product can be safely removed by a licensed remover.

Wellbeing supports for staff

Telephone wellbeing supports are available for you free of charge through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at Converge by calling **1300 687 327**. I encourage you to make use of this service if you

need.

For Wednesday 19 November (between 2:00-5:00 pm), a dedicated line has been established to support staff with concerns arising from the presence of coloured sand on school sites. Staff should contact Converge on the phone number above and quote the reference number **CP-20688**.

Regards

Mark Huxley

**Executive Group Manager
School Improvement**





RE: CORRECTION: Dotties for 3pm stand up

From Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>

Date Wed 2025-11-19 14:50

To Phillips, Tori <Tori.Phillips@act.gov.au>; Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>; Whitty, Anna <Anna.Whitty@act.gov.au>; Wood, Jo <Jo.Wood@act.gov.au>; EDU, Director-General Office <EDUDirectorGeneralOffice@act.gov.au>

Cc EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Barges, Joanne <Joanne.Barges@act.gov.au>; Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>; Spence, Angela <Angela.Spence@act.gov.au>

Yes, this is accurate as of 3pm announcement.

Status update – 3pm update including schools being announced as reopening tomorrow.

- 7 Closed
- 13 Open (for some students)
- 72 Open (for all students)

Cheers,
Paul

From: Phillips, Tori <Tori.Phillips@act.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 2:48 PM

To: Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>; Whitty, Anna <Anna.Whitty@act.gov.au>; Wood, Jo <Jo.Wood@act.gov.au>; EDU, Director-General Office <EDUDirectorGeneralOffice@act.gov.au>

Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Barges, Joanne <Joanne.Barges@act.gov.au>; Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>; Spence, Angela <Angela.Spence@act.gov.au>

Subject: RE: CORRECTION: Dotties for 3pm stand up

Thanks for the update are the list of schools below still accurate? Sorry I am confused what the update was

Tori Phillips
Media Adviser | Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister
M: 047 878 7065

From: Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 2:41 PM

To: Phillips, Tori <Tori.Phillips@act.gov.au>; Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>; Whitty, Anna <Anna.Whitty@act.gov.au>; Wood, Jo <Jo.Wood@act.gov.au>; EDU, Director-General Office <EDUDirectorGeneralOffice@act.gov.au>

Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Barges, Joanne <Joanne.Barges@act.gov.au>; Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>; Spence, Angela <Angela.Spence@act.gov.au>

Subject: CORRECTION: Dotties for 3pm stand up

Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Correction:

Status update – 3pm update including schools being announced as reopening tomorrow.

- 7 Closed
- 13 Open (for some students)
- 72 Open (for all students)

Cheers,
Paul

From: Short, Paul

Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 2:35 PM

To: Phillips, Tori <Tori.Phillips@act.gov.au>; Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>; Whitty, Anna <Anna.Whitty@act.gov.au>; Wood, Jo <Jo.Wood@act.gov.au>; EDU, Director-General Office <EDUDirectorGeneralOffice@act.gov.au>

Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Barges, Joanne <Joanne.Barges@act.gov.au>; Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>; Spence, Angela <Angela.Spence@act.gov.au>

Subject: Dotties for 3pm stand up

Importance: High

Status update – 3pm update including schools being announced as reopening tomorrow.

- 4 Closed
- 16 Open (for some students)
- 72 Open (for all students)

Announcing at 3pm

- Macquarie Primary School – full closure to full open
- Wanniasa School – full closure to full open
- Yarralumla Primary School – partial closure to full open
- Gowrie Primary School – full closure to full open
- Kaleen Primary School - partial closure to full open
- Evatt Primary School - full closure to full open
- Red Hill Primary School - partial closure to full open
- **Further update at 6pm.**

Clearance certificates

- The Education Directorate delayed its 12:30pm update today while it was undertaking due diligence to cross check Clearance Certificates for schools.
- This was to ensure full clearance was provided across whole site schools.
- Our clearances have been re-confirmed by assessors and our efforts are continuing.

WHS processes

- Every effort has been made to identify coloured sand products at our schools.
- However, as staff and students return, it's possible that additional items may be found.
- Please be assured that we have clear procedures in place to manage this safely.
- Under WHS regulations, any recalled sand products must be removed by a licensed asbestos removalist.
- Until removal occurs, these products can be safely isolated. For example:
 - recalled craft sand found in cupboards can be safely left in place without needing to isolate an entire room.
 - If sand products are found on desks or floors in learning spaces, the entire room needs to be closed off from use until the sand can be cleaned and removed by a licensed remover.
- This will continue to happen in our schools - in line with strong WHS practices.

Malkara

- Malkara received a clearance certificate from a licensed assessor on Monday evening. The school was re-opened for all students from this morning.

- Part of the remediation included cordoning off the playground sandpit, which had been contaminated with some of the recalled craft sand products.
- Additional sand has been discovered by the school in the playground area and some internal spaces at the schools.
- These areas have been isolated and assessors are on site doing further work and an assessment of impact.
- We will notify the school community of impact asap.
- Assessments at Malkara by licensed assessors are still underway.
- Some students, who would ordinarily access the cordoned off areas, have left school for the day.

Cranleigh

- Cranleigh received a clearance certificate from a licensed assessor on Monday evening.
- The school was re-opened for all students from this morning.
- On arrival at the school this morning staff discovered new instances of the recalled sand products which had not been previously identified.
- In line with WHS advice these products have been isolated until they can be cleared and remediated.
- The school is continuing to operate safely using other spaces for learning.

ECEC

- As at COB 18 November 2025, CECA (early childhood education and care regulator) received 95 new notifications the suspect-coloured sand was present at a service.
- As at COB 18 November 2025, there were 69 ECEC services temporarily closed within the ACT. 64 of these are an ACT Government service or located on an ACT Government school site. Five services notifying as closed are not located at school site.

Alternative learning

- The Education Directorate is focused on remediating and reopening all of our impacted ACT public schools as quickly as we possibly can.
- We understand this has been disruptive for students and families, but safety in our schools is our top priority. We will continue to communicate regularly with families on the operational status of our schools moving forward.
- To support families interested in learning resources and activities while they are at home with the children, the Education Directorate has updated its online learning resources, developed during the COVID lockdown: [ACT Education - Resources to support home learning](#)
- This advice was share with ACT public school principals yesterday and is available for sharing with students and families at their discretion – there is no expectation that parents need to use the resources or undertake home learning activities.

Cheers,
Paul

Paul Short

Executive Branch Manager, Communications, Engagement & Government Support

Education Directorate | ACT Government

Phone: 02 620 72809 | Mobile: 0408 368 746

www.act.gov.au/education-and-training

From: [Dance, Alex](#)
To: [James, Brooke](#)
Subject: FW: Coloured sand in schools
Date: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 3:30:00 PM
Attachments: [Work instruction for visual inspection 191125.pdf](#)
[Warning poster \(recalled product\).pdf](#)
[Product for disposal \(other sand product\).pdf](#)
[A message from Executive Group Manager School Improvement Mark Huxley - WHS advice contaminated sand products.msg](#)

FYI - just to keep you in the loop– this will go from WHS to our HSR network. If they have concerns about their role in this they will contact us.

Mark cleared.

AD.

From: Dance, Alex
Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 3:10 PM
To: Grech, Lisa <Lisa.Grech@act.gov.au>; EDU, Work Health and Safety <WHS.EDU@act.gov.au>
Subject: Coloured sand in schools

Hi Lisa and team

Would you please arrange for this to be distributed to our HSR network.

Thanks,

Alex

Dear HSRs

As you are no doubt aware, late on 13 November 2025 the ACCC issued a product recall for coloured sand products manufactured by Kadink, that contain asbestos. Immediately ESO and schools undertook work to identify whether and where these products were located so that we could deal with them in accordance with the work health and safety laws and advice from WorkSafe ACT.

Subsequently, additional products manufactured by Anko were recalled which has required a further review of coloured sand products. A decision has been made to remove all coloured sand products from schools.

We know that schools are continuing to find coloured sand products and I want to be very clear about how to deal with sand products.

I want to ensure that you are aware of the communications provided to Principals and Business Managers, which have been attached.

The recalled products represent a very low risk to staff and students (see [Health advice](#)). However, they do need to be isolated. The need to isolate cupboards or, in some circumstances, classrooms impacts whether a school can operate safely. With some of our schools, the isolation of some classrooms and lack of space to collapse classes into has meant schools have had to close.

Other sand products are not known to contain asbestos.

We are aware that staff may come to you for advice and support as we work together to address the coloured sand recall. You may wish to point them to the documents attached or use those to assist with any advice you are providing.

If you have any questions, the WHS Team is available to support you. Please do not hesitate to get in touch. We will get back to you as soon as we can. To report any findings of sand please follow the attached instructions and/or contact School Operations.

Wellbeing supports for staff

Telephone wellbeing supports are available for you free of charge through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at Converge by calling **1300 687 327**. I encourage you to make use of this service if you need.

For Wednesday 19 November (between 2:00-5:00 pm), a dedicated line has been established to support staff with concerns arising from the presence of coloured sand on school sites. Staff should contact Converge on the phone number above and quote the reference number **CP-20688**.

Kind regards,

Nelson, Amanda

From: Dance, Alex
Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 2:17 PM
To: Dance, Alex
Subject: A message from Executive Group Manager, School Improvement, Mark Huxley - WHS advice – contaminated sand products

From: EDU Alerts <EDU.Alerts@act.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 11:11 AM
Subject: A message from Executive Group Manager, School Improvement, Mark Huxley - WHS advice – contaminated sand products



19 November 2025

A message from the
Executive Group Manager

School Improvement
Education Directorate

 Mark Huxley



WHS advice – contaminated sand products

Dear Principals and Business Managers

We are pleased to have most students back learning onsite following contaminated sand removal and assessment at many of our schools this week.

Work Health and Safety advice

Since the directorate became aware of product recalls applying to coloured sand, every effort has been made to identify and isolate recalled (and unidentified) sand products in accordance with *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* requirements.

While every effort has been made to identify coloured sand products, we know that additional products may be found as schools resume operations.

A Work Instruction has been developed to support schools where they identify additional coloured sand products. Please follow the attached advice and use the posters where needed at your school.

A directorate [Safety Alert](#) has also been issued providing further information about processes for managing asbestos-containing material.

EXAMPLE:

- If you find one of the recalled sand products in a cupboard, only the cupboard needs to be isolated and a warning poster applied to the cupboard until the product can be safely removed by a licensed remover.

Wellbeing supports for staff

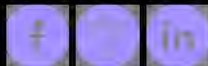
Telephone wellbeing supports are available for you free of charge through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at Converge by calling **1300 687 327**. I encourage you to make use of this service if you need.

For Wednesday 19 November (between 2:00-5:00 pm), a dedicated line has been established to support staff with concerns arising from the presence of coloured sand on school sites. Staff should contact Converge on the phone number above and quote the reference number **CP-20688**.

Regards

Mark Huxley

**Executive Group Manager
School Improvement**



From: [Grech, Lisa](#) on behalf of [EDU, Work Health and Safety](#)
To: [Deane, Elsa \(ACTEDU\)](#)
Subject: FW: Sand product recall advice for HSRs with all attachments
Date: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 3:44:00 PM
Attachments: [Work instruction for visual inspection 191125.pdf](#)
[Warning poster \(recalled product\).pdf](#)
[Product for disposal \(other sand product\).pdf](#)
[A message from Executive Group Manager School Improvement Mark Huxley - WHS advice contaminated sand products.msg](#)
[image001.jpg](#)

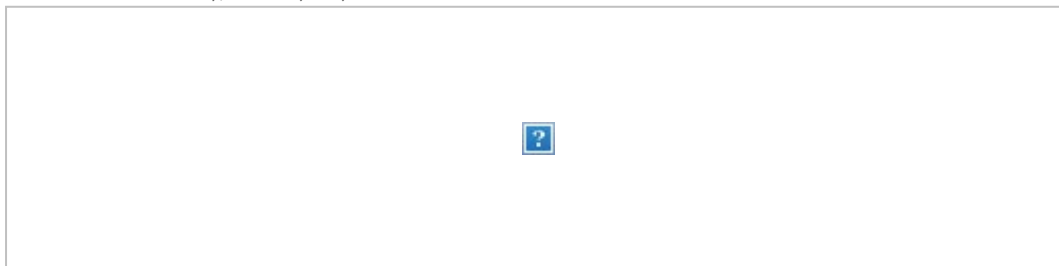
Lisa Grech | Director | Work Health Safety, Early Intervention and Wellbeing | Complex Behaviour Support & Work Health and Safety | Service Design and Delivery | Education Directorate | ACT Government

E: Lisa.Grech@act.gov.au

Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning | 51 Fremantle Dr Stirling ACT 2611 | www.education.act.gov.au

Converge International is the EAP provider for ACTPS staff and their immediate families.

To access support or book an appointment, call Converge International on **1300 687 327 (1300 OUR EAP)**. This number is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



I acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. I wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

From: Grech, Lisa **On Behalf Of** EDU, Work Health and Safety
Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 3:43 PM
Subject: Sand product recall advice for HSRs with all attachments

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi HSRs

Please find all attachments to the last email. It came to our attention two were missing - apologies.

Kind regards

Lisa

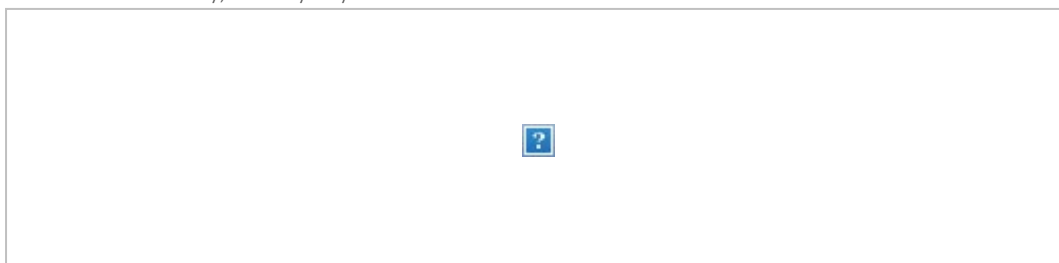
Lisa Grech | Director | Work Health Safety, Early Intervention and Wellbeing | Complex Behaviour Support & Work Health and Safety | Service Design and Delivery | Education Directorate | ACT Government

E: Lisa.Grech@act.gov.au

Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning | 51 Fremantle Dr Stirling ACT 2611 | www.education.act.gov.au

Converge International is the EAP provider for ACTPS staff and their immediate families.

To access support or book an appointment, call Converge International on **1300 687 327 (1300 OUR EAP)**. This number is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



I acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. I wish to

acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

From: Grech, Lisa **On Behalf Of** EDU, Work Health and Safety

Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 3:35 PM

Subject: Sand product recall advice for HSRs

Dear HSRs

As you are no doubt aware, late on 13 November 2025 the ACCC issued a product recall for coloured sand products manufactured by Kadink, that contain asbestos. Immediately ESO and schools undertook work to identify whether and where these products were located so that we could deal with them in accordance with the work health and safety laws and advice from WorkSafe ACT.

Subsequently, additional products manufactured by Anko were recalled which has required a further review of coloured sand products. A decision has been made to remove all coloured sand products from schools.

We know that schools are continuing to find coloured sand products and we want to be very clear about how to deal with sand products.

Please be aware of the communications provided to Principals and Business Managers, which have been attached.

The recalled products represent a very low risk to staff and students (see [Health advice](#)). However, they do need to be isolated. The need to isolate cupboards or, in some circumstances, classrooms impacts whether a school can operate safely. With some of our schools, the isolation of some classrooms and lack of space to collapse classes into has meant schools have had to close.

Other sand products are not known to contain asbestos.

We are aware that staff may come to you for advice and support as we work together to address the coloured sand recall. You may wish to point them to the documents attached or use those to assist with any advice you are providing.

If you have any questions, the WHS Team is available to support you. Please do not hesitate to get in touch. We will get back to you as soon as we can. To report any findings of sand please follow the attached instructions and/or contact School Operations.

Wellbeing supports for staff

Telephone wellbeing supports are available for you free of charge through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at Converge by calling **1300 687 327**. I encourage you to make use of this service if you need.

For today, Wednesday 19 November (between 2:00-5:00 pm), a dedicated line has been established to support staff with concerns arising from the presence of coloured sand on school sites. Staff should contact Converge on the phone number above and quote the reference number **CP-20688**.

Kind regards,

Work Health and Safety team

Lisa Grech | Director | Work Health Safety, Early Intervention and Wellbeing | Complex Behaviour Support & Work Health and Safety | Service Design and Delivery | Education Directorate | ACT Government

E: Lisa.Grech@act.gov.au

Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning | 51 Fremantle Dr Stirling ACT 2611 | www.education.act.gov.au

Converge International is the EAP provider for ACTPS staff and their immediate families.

To access support or book an appointment, call Converge International on **1300 687 327 (1300 OUR EAP)**. This number is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



I acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. I wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.




FYI: Parent message - safety procedures

From Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>

Date Wed 2025-11-19 15:45

To Phillips, Tori <Tori.Phillips@act.gov.au>; Whitty, Anna <Anna.Whitty@act.gov.au>; Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>

Cc Barges, Joanne <Joanne.Barges@act.gov.au>; Huxley, Mark <Mark.Huxley@act.gov.au>; Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>; Wood, Jo <Jo.Wood@act.gov.au>; Spence, Angela <Angela.Spence@act.gov.au>; Education DLO <EDUDLO@act.gov.au>

 1 attachment (19 KB)

Parent comms - sand safety procedures.docx;

Hi all

For information, today we have provided the attached message to our open and re-opening schools for use with their parent communities.

The advice is intended to reassure parents that it's very possible we will find more sand with everyone back onsite, and let them know we have WHS management processes in place.

Cheers,
Paul

Paul Short

Executive Branch Manager, Communications, Engagement & Government Support

Education Directorate | ACT Government

Phone: 02 620 72809 | Mobile: 0408 368 746

www.act.gov.au/education-and-training

Subject: Update on Craft Sand Safety Measures at Our School

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're pleased to welcome **all/some** of our students back onsite following the recent disruption caused by the discovery of recalled craft sand products at our school.

The safety and wellbeing of our students and staff remains our highest priority. Authorities have advised that the health risk from these products is very low, and we are following all recommended work health and safety (WHS) guidelines.

Every effort has been made to identify coloured sand products at our school. However, as staff and students return, it's possible that additional items may be found. Please be assured that we have clear procedures in place to manage this safely.

Under WHS regulations, any recalled sand products must be removed by a licensed asbestos removalist. Until removal occurs, these products can be safely isolated.

For example, recalled craft sand found in cupboards can be safely left in place without needing to isolate an entire room. If sand products are found on desks or floors in learning spaces, the entire room needs to be closed off from use until the sand can be cleaned and removed by a licensed remover. While this may mean some classes need to be relocated within the school for short periods, these measures ensure that our school remains a safe environment for all students.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we manage this situation. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office.

More information about the recalled craft sand products, including health and safety advice, is available on the [ACT Education website](#).

Regards,

[Principal's Name]

[School Name]

From: [Sloane, Brenton](#)
To: [Phillips, Tori](#)
Cc: [EDU Media](#); [Short, Paul](#); [Barges, Joanne](#)
Subject: FOR APPROVAL: [REDACTED] question
Date: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 4:00:00 PM

Hello Tori,

I got a text from [REDACTED] producer [REDACTED] earlier today, asking us a question they received on the textline from a listener. That question is:

Can you please find out if the ACT Government is making any provisions for alternative learning spaces for schools with prolonged closures?

The below proposed response has been cleared by EGM Mark Huxley – now seeking clearance from you before responding:

The Education Directorate is focused on remediating and reopening all of our impacted ACT public schools as quickly as we possibly can.

We understand this has been disruptive for students and families, but safety in our schools is our top priority. We will continue to communicate regularly with families on the operational status of our schools moving forward.

Let me know what you think.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director, Media and Content

Communications and Engagement | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 4, Government Office Block, 220 London Circuit Civic | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

From: [Whitty, Anna](#)
To: [Education DLO](#)
Subject: MIN Statement - Sand
Date: Wednesday, 19 November 2025 4:54:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Hi Adrienne,

Can EDU please provide a draft MIN statement for the next sitting on the sand issue. I understand that this is still evolving but wanted to give the team as much notice as possible.

Many thanks,
Anna

Anna Whitty | Senior Adviser
02 6207 7937 |

Office of Yvette Berry MLA | Member for Ginninderra
Deputy Chief Minister
Minister for Education and Early Childhood
Minister for Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Phone: +61 2 6205 0233 | Email: berry@act.gov.au
[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | www.yvetteberry.com.au



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Ngunnawal people, and pay my respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Situation Report

<p>Incident Name/Identifier: Contaminated Sand</p>	<p>Date/Time: 19 Nov 2025 – Meeting 8; 1745hrs</p>
<p>Situation Update:</p>	
<p>The ACCC has published a recall notice over children’s sand products that may contain asbestos and were sold at various retailers including Officeworks. The recall was issued by supplier Educational Colours for colourful children’s sand products sold at Officeworks, Educating Kids, Modern Teaching Aids and Zart Art.</p> <p>There are reports that the recall list may be expanded to include other decorative sand products sold at K-Mart. The ACT Education Directorate is assessing this new information to ensure the continued safety and regulatory requirements are maintained.</p> <p>The ACT Education Directorate is continuing to assess the impact on service delivery and to the safety staff, students and the community and that we exercise the PCBU Obligations under the WHS Act for all decorative sand products. Efforts include the remediation and re-opening requirements to ensure regulatory compliance and appropriate approvals have been achieved.</p> <p>The CMT strategy focus will include the review of recovery principles and Directorate BCP against actions which will support remediation and clarity on critical pathway to re-opening and resumption of operations and service delivery in schools and the Education Support Office. A recovery risk assessment will guide decisions and tasks with the intent of smooth transition for staff and students to business as normal.</p> <p>Overview – CMT Lead</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Overview of the day – where did we land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School openings/closures for Thursday: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 schools closed ○ 13 partially closed ○ 76 open • Malkara School opened today but had to be subsequently closed when additional products were identified on site. Work will occur over next 4 days to remediate this site. Possible further SES support needed. • Planned 1230 announcement on school openings had to be delayed to 3pm due to need to seek clarity from assessors in relation to clearance certificates. • Meeting with assessors confirmed clearance certificates received were for full site clearance. They confirmed our current approach and requirement when product is identified- isolate (if it is in a cupboard or drawer then close and label, if open in a room then close the room and label), our staff should not touch the product and an assessor should be called to remedy. • Schedule of works progressed and continuing to operate under advice of the assessors and regulator. If additional products identified we isolate can call assessors back in. • Challenging day for response staff and wellbeing impact noted. Positive acknowledgement of efforts and work of all staff involved. 	

Situation Report

- Additional products being identified as students return to school: 496. This is creating risk of cyclical loop with reputational and cost implications.
- Union concerns raised about what staff are being asked to do in terms of safety, PPE. All schools were requested to undertake detailed site inspections again today and feedback information. Facilities officers were asked to assist with this work.
- Tomorrow
 - triaging 496 identified so far and prioritising with specialist schools top priority and youngest to oldest
 - Strategy discussion for management of additional identified products
 - Ongoing remediation work
 - Review of CMT/IMT roster for next 4-5 days to support staff wellbeing and manage associated risks with continuity and transition of staff in and out of roles. Consider minimum operating level over the weekend.
- Discussion of risk management
 - Managing risk of students access places where materials have been isolated and stored
 - Risks associated with schools operating for extended period with isolated/secured products on-site
 - Psychosocial risk management - ensuring staff are clear on what is required - not asking unreasonable actions re identification, clear guidance on what to do if they identify and log with us. It is expected and we know what to do.
 - Reviews treatments and controls when additional products found – loose sand, sandpit sand and clarity on what BSOs can do with each category
- Work Safety Group documentation going to the Worksafe Commissioner which could result in regulator posture change in next 24hrs
- Comms approval process has improved significantly – good repeatable process
- Additional clearance certificates expected overnight
- Two matters flagged for consideration as part of Recovery phase:
 - Future policy of ensuring safety of products in schools
 - Sand has been valued sensory product for many students – what will replace the product/function?

Execution: (Actions to be taken to resolve the incident).

- REFER to Action Register in TEAMS file for comments, and status

[Action Register CMT.xlsx](#)

Administration and Logistics: (include frequency and types of meetings? resources required. including learning arrangements? school closures? financial etc;)

Where possible staff have been asked to work from HBCTL

Brooke Walsh – POC with EEL's

Whole of Govt. – Mark Huxley
0930hrs

CMT

CMT Lead – Mark Huxley

Situation Report

Admin Support – Tracey Allen
CMT Manager – Kristen Laurent
IMT Lead – Peter Steele
Infrastructure – Anthony Bailey
Stakeholder – David Matthews
WHS – Jessie Atkins
DG – Jo Wood
DDG - Angela Spence
ECEC Liaison – Michael Crowther

IMT

IMT Lead – Peter Steele
Admin Support – Madeline Wynn & Nathan Henderson-Smith

Prepared by:
Kristen Laurent, CMT Manager

Approved by Incident Controller/Lead (IC):
Mark Huxley, CMT Lead