



ASBESTOS

POLICY

Rationale:

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

Guidelines:

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

Implementation:

- All state school buildings have been audited for asbestos. This audit is known as a Part 5 Audit and identifies the presence of asbestos or any other hazardous materials.
- The school principal or nominated school asbestos manager can use their EduMail username and password to access their school's individual Part 5 Asbestos Audit reports at:
<http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/forms/asbestos>
- Relocatables moved on site since the school's Part 5 Audit was completed are also assessed for the presence of asbestos.
- Asbestos classified as a result of the Audit as Category 0 or 1 has been removed from school buildings. Any remaining asbestos in schools (ie: Categories 2 and 3) represent no danger to students or staff if properly treated during the conduct of works.
- Copies of the Part 5 Audit must be made available to the school's Occupational Health and Safety officer, interested community members, and consistent with OHS (Asbestos) Regulations the principal must consult with all employees when a building or structure containing asbestos is being demolished or refurbished before any action is taken to assess or control the risk.
- School Council will develop and implement a 4 stage Asbestos Management Plan consistent with the Asbestos Management document produced by BSA for Department of Education*, including the appointment of an Asbestos Program Manager.
- Prior to carrying out any construction or maintenance works, contractors are required to be provided with a copy of the Part 5 Audit related to that part of the building in which work is to be undertaken. If asbestos is present in the areas to be disturbed, the principal will ensure the contractor provides a Part 6 Audit prior to the commencement of work outlining procedures to be implemented while working in that area in accordance with Victorian Work Cover OHS Regulations 1992 (Asbestos).
- The Asbestos Management Unit of Sinclair Knight Mertz are engaged on behalf of DEECD to assist schools with asbestos management issues (ph: 9248 3100).

Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

August 2008