Asbestos

Do Schools need to comply?

Yes - if your school consists of any materials containing asbestos.

Conditions of compliance:

The Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Regulations 1995 (SA) aim to prevent asbestos related disease among employees likely to be exposed to airborne asbestos in the workplace.

If you have to comply, what do you have to do?

The Regulations require employers and occupiers with fixed asbestos in buildings or plant to undertake a process of using a competent person:

- To identify whether asbestos is present in the workplace and whether it is in an unstable condition and a risk to employees’ health.
- To develop a register of all asbestos on site. This is also a requirement of the Non-Government Schools Registration Board.

The Regulations also require that policies and procedures are developed in consultation with employees to ensure that safe working conditions are maintained including the correct labelling of all asbestos on site and that a copy of the Register is provided to any contractor working on site.

If asbestos has to be removed all work must be carried out by a holder of a current asbestos removal licence. Schools are advised to seek appropriate professional advice before undertaking any work that might disturb existing asbestos.

A detailed register must be kept of any work carried out on asbestos. This includes the names of the persons carrying out the work and the dates on which it was carried out.

Schools would be advised to have any such work carried out during the school vacation or while there are no students at the school.

What are the consequences if you don’t comply?


You may place your school’s registration as a non-government school in jeopardy.

Useful links:

Office of Non-Government Schools and Services
Work Health and Safety Act 2012
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012