

Asbestos Related Incidents

Gold Coast Primary school students exposed to asbestos

Students at a Gold Coast primary school have been exposed to asbestos after a contractor allegedly failed to comply with Asbestos Management Plan safety protocols.

Robert Swarten a Public Works Minister said the contractor had been immediately suspended from working in Queensland schools after the incident.

Robert Swarten said the contractor had failed to access the asbestos register, consult staff or draw up a work plan but had simply gone into a classroom at Ashmore State School and started drilling holes in an asbestos-lined ceiling.

"They basically went into a classroom with children in it, and none of those things should have occurred," Mr Swarten said.

"This contractor has been provided with all the information of how they go about undertaking work activities in Education Queensland schools."

Mr Swarten said Workplace Health and Safety officials would investigate. Education Queensland has also launched an investigation.