

Question on Notice
No. 899
Asked on 20 August 2024

MR D PURDIE ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR YOUTH JUSTICE (HON D FARMER)

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (a) what long-term actions the Department of Education is taking to address the issue of the mould infestation in the demountable classrooms at Coolum State School to ensure the safety of students and staff and (b) when funding will be allocated to progress the urgent flood and drainage works which have contributed to the mould issue?

ANSWER:

The Department of Education works hard to ensure the safety of students and staff, including the provision of information, training, guidance and support for schools on the identification, prevention and safe removal of mould.

Remediation work of mould-affected classrooms at Coolum State School was completed in March 2024, with follow up cleaning occurring in Block Y (Room 3D) and Block J (Room 4S), in late July 2024. A qualified hygienist inspected these two spaces, including air quality testing, and a clearance report was issued in Term 3, 2024.

All mould-affected classrooms at Coolum State School have been remediated and have been returned for student use.

As the Member is aware, the Department is in the process of finalising the schematic design to deliver Stage 1 of the master plan for Coolum State School. This includes the provision of new administration, canteen and classroom facilities; refurbished facilities for student support; removal of three buildings (Blocks N, O and Y); and drainage works for greater flood resilience. This detailed planning will inform a cost estimate for the project.

The Department is concurrently undertaking a Ministerial Infrastructure Designation process to ensure works can begin as soon as possible after funding to deliver the project has been allocated.

Funding for delivery of Stage 1 will be considered once the detailed cost estimates are known.