

Safety Alert



SUBJECT: Sand in Schools/educational settings

RECIPIENTS: All Council Services

ISSUE DATE: May 2026

REF: HSA28

The Governments *Office for Product Safety and Standards* has issued an alert for the recall of some sand related products due to the potential for them containing small amounts of asbestos.

The link below will take you to the Governments Product Safety Alerts, Reports and Recalls page that details all the known affected products:

[asbestos - Product Safety Alerts, Reports and Recalls - GOV.UK](#)

If you have any of the products identified within the recall list, please cease using them immediately.

The following page Asbestos in consumer products provides guidance for consumers:

[Asbestos in consumer products - GOV.UK](#)

The guidance it contains includes:

Disposal guidance for consumers

Businesses should be accepting recalled products at their stores. It is both legal and safe to dispose of these products in household waste if you are not able to return products to store. Please use the following instructions for safe disposal of contaminated products:

- Stop using the product immediately.
- If the sand is still in its packaging, place in a heavy-duty plastic bag, double tape it securely, label it clearly and store in a secure location out of the reach of children.
- If the sand has been used or exposed, clean-up sites where the product was used using wet cloths to avoid generating dust. Wear gloves and a mask. Double bag the sand, gloves, mask and cloths.
- Keep children and other people away from areas where the sand has been used until the area has been cleaned.
- Return the product to the store specified by the retailer, who will provide a full refund. If you are unable to, or your product was purchased via an online marketplace, dispose of the product in your general household residual waste.
- For further information, or questions, contact the retailer you purchased from.

It should be noted that whilst there is a list of products for recall, there is not currently any recalls for play, non-coloured, outdoor sand e.g. sand found in a sand pit. Therefore, the advice currently is, whilst the likelihood of harm is low, if you cannot be sure that the play sand was purchased from a reputable source, then this sand should be disposed of responsibly - and replaced with sand from reputable supplier.