Safety Alert



SUBJECT: Sand in Schools/educational settings

RECIPIENTS: All Council Services

ISSUE DATE: November 2026 REF: HSA28 (Updated)

HSE has re-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

Schools/educational settings should:

- Seek assurance from suppliers that they have effective arrangements in place to manage the risk of asbestos contamination.
- Ensure supplier assurance arrangements are robust, including oversight of raw material sourcing, manufacturing controls and product assurance processes.
- Recognise that testing alone is not sufficient. While suppliers may undertake sampling and testing for asbestos, the limitations of sampling mean that testing should form only one part of a wider supply-chain assurance approach.

Where products subject to an OPSS recall have been supplied directly to schools or educational establishments, suppliers should notify affected customers and support them through the recall process. Additionally you should:

- Monitor OPSS product recall notices and ensure arrangements are in place to identify affected products promptly.
- Ensure schools are informed without delay where a recalled product has been supplied or may be in use by them.
- Work with suppliers to ensure affected products are removed, returned or otherwise dealt with appropriately.