

Safety Health & Welfare Acts & Asbestos Management

Obligations under Safety Health & Welfare Acts

Please be advised that the School Authority as Client for the project has responsibilities under the Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 and the Safety Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2006 - 2013. The main responsibility is to ensure the appointment of competent individuals or corporate bodies to act as Project Supervisor Design Process (PSDP) and Project Supervisor for the Construction Stage (PSCS) and to ensure that they have adequate resources to perform their duties. You should follow the guidance in Guidance on Procurement of Consultants for Small Works with regard to appointment of a PSDP. Failure to comply with Health & Safety Regulations is a criminal offence and may expose the School Authority to criminal prosecution.

Asbestos Management

A guidance document titled "Duties and Guidance for Board of Managements on dealing with Asbestos containing materials before, during and after School refurbishment works, demolitions and building works projects" is available on the Department's website: www.education.ie/en/Schools-colleges/Services/Building-Works/Remediation-Programmes/.

The School Authority must adhere to these guidelines when dealing with Asbestos containing materials and you should bring this to the attention of your consultant.

It is essential that once appointed the PSDP and Project Consultant review the School's Safety File and the School's Asbestos Register to establish the position relating to any health and safety issues such as the presence of asbestos. The School Authority must obtain written confirmation that the PSDP and Consultant are aware of the contents of the School's Safety File and the School's Asbestos Register. This requirement is to comply with Health and Safety Legislation and protect the Board from the possibility of criminal prosecution. Where there is a possibility of asbestos in the area of the school which will be affected by the works a Pre-refurbishment / Demolitions Survey (formerly a Type 3 Survey) may be required. This includes the following circumstances:

1. where the school building was built prior to 1990 and
2. where the School Asbestos Survey indicates that the approved works will interfere with asbestos containing materials or
3. where it is known or suspected that the approved works will interfere with asbestos containing materials.