



## **RACHEL NOLAN MP**

### **Member for Ipswich**

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#### **Raceview State School to have Asbestos Roof Replaced Under New Funding Program**

Raceview State School will be one of the first schools in the state to have a roof containing asbestos building materials replaced in the next financial year as part of a \$120 million new State-wide program.

Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan welcomed the announcement made by the Premier in State Parliament today to remove all state school roofs containing asbestos.

The 10-year program will begin to be funded in the 2005-06 Budget to be unveiled by Deputy Premier and Treasurer Terry Mackenroth on 7 June.

Ms Nolan said she was pleased Raceview State School would be one of the first schools to have its asbestos roof replaced under the new program.

“Raceview State School will be part of an initial group of 70 roofs at 61 schools across Queensland which will be replaced as part of the \$120 million Asbestos Roof Replacement Program,” she said.

“It’s important that work is carried out when staff and students are not present and all contractors will be required to adhere to strict guidelines for the management of asbestos materials.

“By working during holidays and other student-free times, the safety of workers and the school community will be assured.

“I can understand parents concerns about the presence of asbestos materials in school roofs. But it’s important to remember that asbestos in building materials does not represent a safety threat unless it is disturbed, becomes airborne and is inhaled deeply into the lungs,” Ms Nolan said.

The Asbestos Roof Replacement Program represents a significant acceleration of roof replacement work at state schools and the State Government has allocated an initial \$7.2 million for the first 70 roofs at 61 state schools scheduled for replacement in 2005-06.

The new program will more than double the current pace of school roof asbestos removal. During the 10-year program more than 1100 roofs containing asbestos materials at more than 370 state schools will be replaced.