

Appendix 2 – chronology of asbestos surveys at CHS

2003	<p>Type 2 survey (visual inspection of all readily accessible areas) under Control of Asbestos Regulations 2002 commissioned by the Authority.</p> <p>The asbestos identified was largely rated as Category C or D (i.e. satisfactory and/or low risk). A few Category A hazards were identified (see Appendix 6) and these were remedied via the Corporate asbestos survey/management budget by the Authority at a cost of £346.</p> <p>The Authority’s policy and procedures on ‘The Management of Asbestos in Authority Owned Premises’ would not have applied to CHS as a foundation school but the policy was provided to the head teacher at CHS at the same time as the initial asbestos survey in 2003 as best practice.</p> <p>Note – the scope of Type 2 surveys was limited and the quality of the independent surveys commissioned by the Authority was poor (and indeed led to litigation between the Authority and the contractor).</p>
2004-2007	Type 2 resurvey commissioned by the Authority
2008	Following quality issues discovered with the Type 2 asbestos surveys in 2008, the Authority (with the approval of HSE) implemented a system of mini management surveys which required a survey of relevant areas before maintenance/ repair works were undertaken pending a resurvey of all premises.
2009	<p>Management survey of CHS (pursuant to The Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006 which came into effect on 13 November 2006) commissioned by Authority from Enquin Environmental Ltd.</p> <p>Survey commenced in April 2009 in accordance with HSE document ‘Methods for the Determination of Hazardous Substances, 100, Surveying, sampling and assessment of asbestos containing material’.</p> <p>All reasonably accessible areas of the site were inspected.</p> <p>The interim report was received by the Authority in December 2010. It was quality checked by the Authority’s health and safety team and delivered to CHS on 10 February 2011. In November 2011, it was withdrawn by Enquin due to concerns over quality of the surveyor’s work at other sites. It was quality checked and redelivered to the Authority on 8 March 2012 and hand delivered to CHS on 2 April 2012.</p> <p>This report highlighted asbestos debris in the ceiling voids above certain classrooms in Building A. The Authority issued a memo to CHS prohibiting access to those areas which was down to CHS to enforce.</p>
Sept 2011	Authority’s asbestos team established
April 2012	The Authority’s asbestos team began an investigation into 30 schools within the Authority (which included CHS) categorised as high risk due to the level of asbestos product at the schools and their type and year of construction.

August 2012	<p>Refurbishment survey undertaken by Santia on a store /tank room in advance of Legionella Priority Works to be undertaken during the summer holiday. Whilst CHS was responsible for capital expenditure works below £10,000, the quantum of risk over Legionella was so high that the Authority decided to take this issue out of CHS's hands. No recharge was made by the Authority for these works due to the financial status of CHS.</p> <p>This survey highlighted damaged asbestos lagging in the store room and the mezzanine tank room above the store room. The asbestos debris in the store room was removed under licence later that month and the mezzanine was closed off to contain the high level debris as this remedial work was more extensive and could not be undertaken at the time.</p> <p>Whilst these works were being undertaken and contractors were being supervised on site, Authority Asbestos Surveyors reviewed the void areas between ground and first floor in Building A, having been advised by the caretaker at CHS that ceilings had been removed (possibly in 2006).</p> <p>This inspection revealed debris (thought to be asbestos debris) in the roof void between the 2 floors above 2 classrooms.</p> <p>Concerns were raised for the first time that 8 heating cabinets within CHS contained asbestos insulation board.</p>
12 September 2012	Senior Management informed of findings and full asbestos investigation commissioned from Santia Asbestos Management Ltd.
17	Santia instructed to undertake further investigation.
22 September 2012	Dust and air samples were taken throughout both floors of Block A by asbestos officers employed by the Authority.
24-26 September 2012	<p>Dust sample results were received throughout the week. Positive asbestos samples found below ceiling level in 4 classrooms and a stairwell in Building A. All positive tests were below the control level of 0.01 fibres/cm³.</p> <p>CHS instructed on 26 September 2012 to close and seal the 4 classrooms and environmental cleaning was undertaken by Authority officers.</p>
25 September 2012	Further dust samples taken from ground floor of Block A.
27 September 2012	Meeting with head teacher of CHS and Chair of Governing Body and health and safety team to discuss the investigation and initial findings.
28 September 2012	Meeting with staff and leadership team of CHS and health and safety team to advise of initial findings and discussed further investigation to be undertaken by Santia to reassess findings of asbestos team.
27 September 2012	Stairwell sealed off by asbestos officers. Further air monitoring and inspection of heating cabinets.

4 October 2012	Authority health and safety officers met with Governing Body to advise current position of investigations.
12 October 2012	<p>Initial feedback received from Santia – based on debris contamination, access to the site should be restricted to allow for further investigations, abatement and removal works. For the first time, the Authority was advised that the rear of the heating cabinets were open to the ceiling voids which contained asbestos debris.</p> <p>This work could not be undertaken whilst the site was occupied and the risk of contamination spreading was deemed as significant.</p> <p>The Authority took the decision- based on the information available that the risk of exposure by further occupation was too high - to close CHS with immediate effect to undertake further investigations, abatement and removal.</p>
19 October 2012	Years 11-13 returned to CHS in Performing Arts and Languages block only.
23 October 2012	Special Council meeting – decision made to accommodate CHS at Coleg Gwent Campus in Ebbw Vale.
29 October- 2 November 2012	Half term
30 October 2012	Written report received from Santia (Appendix 12)
5 November 2012	Staff and pupils of CHS relocated to Coleg Gwent Campus in Ebbw Vale for remainder of the academic year 2012-2013.