



School's clean-up in full swing

CLEAN-UP

By VICTORIA MACDONALD

AS much as \$500,000, two semi-trailers, 30 specialists, and 21 days will be needed for Wodonga Senior Secondary College to be declared mould-free.

The mammoth project facing the school's clean-up crew was outlined yesterday by mycologist Dr Heike Neumeister-Kemp.

Sections of the school will be on lockdown for the next fortnight.

That is while the mould re-mediation plan is set in motion.

First, semi-trailers housing giant dehumidifiers will funnel hoses under the school.

That will be to structurally dry the buildings, while special plastic is strategically put in place to prevent contamination of any clean zones.

Sections of walls, ceilings and floors will then be removed.

Their surfaces will be wiped down with microfibre and methylated spirits or white wine vinegar.

Anything especially porous will be discarded.

Also discarded will be most of the carpet in the affected areas of the secondary college.

Tests will then confirm if the site is clean.

When the school has been certified as safe, the students will be allowed back in.

Specialists are expected to fly in from Melbourne, Brisbane, Toowoomba, Mackay, Adelaide and Perth to take part in the Wodonga project, with the whole team likely to be assembled by next Monday.

"They are not ordinary cleaners as in mop-and-bucket types," Dr Neumeister-Kemp said.

"It's not something you'd just do in an afternoon."

Dr Neumeister-Kemp said the task ahead was sizeable but that she had cleaned larger sites in the past.

The Mycologia Australia director left Albury yesterday and will return by the middle of next week to oversee the operation.