

It's been a HUGE week in the media for the COUGH campaign.

With 12 separate items on radio, TV, newspapers and media blogs, including the front page of the Herald.

1. [Asthma Foundation NSW Supports Greens stance on unflued gas heaters](#)
2. [Kids gassed while Keneally govt sits on report](#)
3. [Unflued heaters halted for classrooms](#)
4. [Gas heater installation stopped amid concerns](#)
5. [Report on safety of school heaters kept secret](#)
6. [Health fears hit school heater plan](#)
7. [Teacher's Federation Call to replace unflued gas heaters](#)
8. [Flueless: heater study still a secret](#)
9. [Unsafe heaters must be removed](#)
10. [School health risks](#)
11. [Fri 21 May: Art, School Heaters, Mining Fees & Aboriginal Jockeys](#)
12. [Parents query use of unflued gas heaters](#)
13. [Latest media updates, Follow us on Twitter... COUGHvDET](#)

Asthma Foundation NSW Supports Greens stance on unflued gas heaters

Media Release

Date: May 19, 2010

Asthma Foundation NSW has come out in support of the Greens move to obtain the results of a 2009 NSW Department of Education (NSW DET) study into the safety of unflued gas heaters in NSW schools through the Freedom of Information Act.

□ In March Asthma Foundation NSW formally told NSW DET that the 51,000 unflued gas heaters currently being used in NSW schools should be replaced and it's unacceptable that this issue which has serious health implications for the 1:9 children who live with asthma should be allowed to drag on for another winter.□

[Read the full story \(word doc\) »](#)

Kids gassed while Keneally govt sits on report

As winter approaches, the Keneally government has sat on the findings of an independent report into the health effects of unflued gas heaters in classrooms, according to Greens NSW MP John Kaye.

[Read the full story >](#)

Unflued heaters halted for classrooms

2UE | 19 May, 2010

Tracey Spicer on the halting of unflued gas heaters for classrooms

Installation of unflued gas heaters in classrooms have been halted. Tracey Spicer has uncovered warnings on heater dangers posted years ago on health department websites, so were the dangers known?

[Read the full story >](#)

Gas heater installation stopped amid concerns

7pm TV News NSW

Wednesday, May 19 (Expires: Tuesday, August 17)

The New South Wales Education Department has halted installation of unflued gas heaters in schools until a report into their possible health effects is released.

[Read the full story >](#)

Report on safety of school heaters kept secret

BEN CUBBY ENVIRONMENT EDITOR

May 20, 2010

The NSW government is being accused of a cover-up after refusing to release test results it admitted showed "health effects" from unflued gas heaters on children in public schools.

It insisted fumes from the heaters did not pose "major health dangers". But the Asthma Foundation of NSW attacked the government's "vague comments" and said the results of an unreleased study should be made public urgently in the interests of tens of thousands of students and parents.

"Existing scientific studies do not support the thesis that these heaters are safe to operate in NSW classrooms," said the Asthma Foundation's chief executive, Greg Smith.

[Read the full story »](#)

Health fears hit school heater plan

Lanai Vasek
The Australian
May 20

A PLAN to install potentially harmful unflued gas heaters in NSW public schools as part of the Building the Education Revolution program has been halted.

The health impact report, undertaken by the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, is expected to be tabled in NSW parliament today, however authorities revealed yesterday they had already shelved the plan to install the controversial heaters in new BER projects.

[Read the full story »](#)

Call to replace unflued gas heaters

20 May 2010
By Joan Lemaire, Senior Vice President, NSW Teachers' Federation

The announcement that no more unflued gas heaters will be installed in new classrooms is welcome but will do nothing for the thousands of students and teachers in public schools who have suffered the damaging effects of unflued gas heaters.

[Read the full story »](#)

Flueless: heater study still a secret

BEN CUBBY AND LOUISE HALL
May 21, 2010

THE state government has asserted privilege to suppress a report that shows unflued gas heaters have unspecified health effects on children in NSW schools.

The report remains secret but is understood to contain data showing that, in some cases, levels of nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and formaldehyde in classrooms exceed World Health Organisation guidelines.

[Read the full story >](#)

Unsafe heaters must be removed

Maitland Mercury, 21 May, 2010

With a growing body of evidence to suggest that unflued gas heaters are bad for people's health, it is alarming that they are still found and being used on a regular basis in school classrooms across the Hunter.

The Department of Education has confirmed that there are 250 schools across the Hunter and Central Coast with the unsafe heaters and the Mercury can reveal that Lochinar Public School is one of the schools that still uses them.

The heaters are banned in Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and the ACT and for good reason.

[Read the full story >](#)

School health risks

BELINDA-JANE DAVIS

Maitland Mercury, 21 May, 2010 08:25 AM

Students at Lochinvar Public School are being exposed to harsh chemicals that can cause respiratory illnesses from unflued gas heaters in their classrooms.

The NSW Teachers Federation raised concerns about the heaters for more than 20 years and the Department of Education has confirmed to the Mercury that 250 Hunter and Central Coast schools have the heaters despite dire health warnings from the State Government.

[Read the full story >](#)

Fri 21 May: Art, School Heaters, Mining Fees & Aboriginal Jockeys

21/05/2010, by Meg Strang
702 ABC, Sydney

GAS HEATERS IN SCHOOL

The Woolcock Report commissioned by the State Government to investigate health concerns about unflued gas heaters in schools, was released in NSW Parliament last night, but under parliamentary privilege laws it can't be discussed outside the House.

However the Asthma Foundation says the Report was paid for by tax payers and the findings should be released publicly.

Assoc Prof Peter Wark from the National Asthma Council says there's already more than enough evidence to demonstrate that unflued heaters should be removed from classrooms.

[Read the full story »](#)

Parents query use of unflued gas heaters

Summit Sun, 29 Apr, 2010

Unflued gas heaters create an indoor air pollution hazard according to a 2004 NSW Department of Health fact sheet on the subject. Berridale's new school library is heated by unflued gas.

Berridale Public School Council spokesperson Fiona Suthern said ventilation was their top priority until the new Berridale library's heating system was flued.

“It's a concern definitely. The only option its left us with is to leave those louvered windows open all the time which makes heating ineffective,” Mrs Suthern said.

[Read the full story »](#)

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