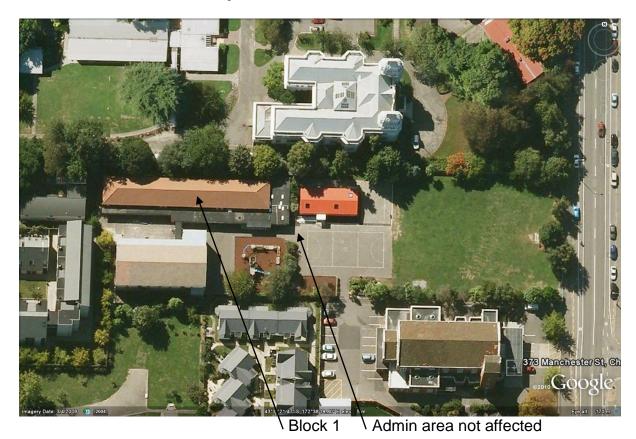
St Mary's School Christchurch North



A preliminary engineering assessment of St Mary's School has revealed that the classroom section of Block 1 is earthquake prone and requires remedial work in order to meet appropriate building standards and be able to be re-occupied.

Accordingly the classrooms in Block 1 have been closed for occupancy forthwith.

The following actions have been and/or will be undertaken:

- 1. Four marquees (with associated flooring) will be installed at the school this weekend.
- 2. Portaloos will be installed at the school this weekend.
- 3. A security company will be on site after school hours.
- 4. Hann Construction will be on site on Monday morning to commence the appropriate temporary bracing work that the structural engineers from Opus International have detailed and specified.
- 5. The strengthening scheme entails installing plywood bracing walls internally over existing walls to improve the capacity of the building, and remove the lines of weakness through the clear storey windows.
- 6. This bracing work will improve the seismic capacity of the building to as near as practicable to 67% of the new building standard.
- 7. When this bracing work has been completed the classrooms in Block 1 will no longer be considered earthquake prone and will be able to be re-occupied for teaching and learning.

- 8. It is anticipated that this bracing work will be completed within 7 10 working days.
- 9. Following the completion of this temporary bracing work the Diocese will commence the process of providing for a permanent and more cosmetically pleasing strengthening solution.

Mike Nolan Manager Catholic Education Office 17 February 2012