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South Hobart Primary School - Drainage Trial

As part of the school playground, a large area was developed for fixed climbing equipment and swings. This area was levelled for the installation. Pine bark was used as 'soft fall'. Unfortunately, in winter the area was often placed 'out of bounds' as water would 'puddle' under the swings and the pine bark retained water so the area became quite boggy.

The school needed to investigate improved drainage for the area.

Geoff initiated a conversation with the school and the School Association about his drainage product. With approval from the Department of Education it was agreed to trial the product in this area of the playground. At the end of 2012, the school was having a new building installed near this area of the playground; therefore work was delayed in installing the 'drainage belts'.

When the work was started it went smoothly and the drainage belts were installed in a specific pattern, designed by Geoff. The results were immediate. The surface water and sub-surface water was removed. A pump in the drainage pit ensured the water was removed to the stormwater system.

The students were able to use the area throughout the year. On some days of heavy rain the swings were out of bounds for short periods as puddles developed under individual swings. Importantly the water drained away quickly and the swings were back in use very quickly.

From a school perspective we could not be happier with how the drainage belts have worked.

It was due to this success that we engaged Geoff to install a further drain at the other end of the school. A banked area, pine bark old and broken 'drainage coil'. The school was experiencing a boggy, wet area regardless of rain. Water flowed over a netball court, causing safety issues when it froze.

Geoff installed his new drain down the side and across the front of the play area and within a few days the area had clearly improved and the surface had started to dry out.

Both the Capiphon belt and Capiphon pipe products used by Geoff worked, as demonstrated, and improved the school's playground. Importantly, they will be long lasting and maintenance will not be a major concern.



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