

QC schools to use 'bug repellent' paints vs dengue

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“Anti-insect” paints will be used in strategic locations in Quezon City public schools as part of the local government’s campaign against dengue-carrying mosquitoes.

Mayor Joy Belmonte has signed a partnership with Pacific Paint (Boysen) Philippines, which donated 100 gallons of its upcoming Bug Off anti-insect paint, which was developed to combat mosquitoes and other insects.

“We are aware that damp and dark corners of school restrooms and underneath the sink of hand wash areas are breeding sites of mosquitoes, and we saw the need to address that to protect our schoolchildren,” the mayor said in a statement on Friday.

“We are very happy that Boysen Philippines has made this anti-mosquito paint available for us this early. The original launch date of this product is by end of the year,” she added.

The paint will be applied to entrances, restrooms and handwash areas of public schools and daycare centers, according to the city government.

It works by disrupting the bug’s nervous system when it touches the painted surface, reducing its ability to remain on walls or from flying too far away and resulting in it being “knocked down.”

Belmonte also vowed to continue implementing other measures to fight dengue amid the rising number of cases nationwide.

She earlier issued a memorandum mandating public schools to encourage students to wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants as a preventive measure.

As of Aug. 24, Quezon City has recorded 4,542 cases of dengue, four percent lower than the 4,723 cases recorded during the same period last year.