

Wednesday 6th September, 2023

Dear Parents

Update – RAAC and partial opening of school

First of all I would like to say thank you to all of you for your patience and understanding and for the words of support/encouragement we have received today.

Today was a mixed day in terms of emotion. It was wonderful seeing some of our children return and meeting parents again felt like meeting old friends; however, there has been a real tinge of sadness at not being able to welcome all of our children back for the school year.

Online learning

Parents of pupils in Years 2,3 & 4 should have received an email today from their child's new teacher with their child's username and password. This information is to enable you/your child to log on tomorrow and see their teacher on a face to face meeting.

Parents of these pupils should also have received an email today with a summary of how to log on to see the teacher face to face and how to access work. Each year group has been allocated a time slot to ensure that families with more than 1 pupil can access their teacher during the day.

If there are any problems please call the school and we will help. Please be aware that the school office is busy at the moment fielding calls so we will answer as soon as we can. You may hear a ringing tone when actually all of our lines are busy.

RAAC update

Create Partnership Trust is working very hard with DfE and Birmingham Local Authority to secure a full survey of the original school building so that we can confirm if RAAC is present and if it is, where in the building. I shall keep you updated daily.

Attendance

We take our duty of care very seriously. If your child is expected to attend the site and doesn't attend, we will follow our usual safeguarding procedures which is a phone call. If we cannot locate a child via a phone call, we will conduct a home visit. Following a home visit, if we still cannot locate the child, we will contact other partners which could be the Police or Social Care.

Frequently asked questions

How do I know the rest of the building is safe?

RAAC is only suspected in the original parts of the school that were built in the early 1950s. The school offices, staffroom and link corridor were built in the early 2000s when the original infant and junior schools were joined to form Hodge Hill Primary. The Reception classes, 2 x Year 2 classes and Years 5 & 6 block were built after this

...putting children at the heart of all we think, say and do

when the school was extended from a two form to a four form school. RAAC was no longer used as a building technique.

When will my child be able to return to school?

This will depend on the timing of the survey and Create Partnership Trust receiving the outcomes of tests. Once the outcomes have been confirmed, the Responsible Body of Create Partnership can decide what happens next.

Why doesn't the school's name appear on the Government's list of school affected?

The name of our school isn't listed at the moment as the presence of RAAC remains inconclusive.

We are both working parents, what provision can school make to support us?

School Leaders are working on the information as it is available. Contingency plans are being worked on constantly. At the moment the contingency plan in place supports provision until Friday 8th September.

Further contingency plans are being considered which include supporting families where both parents are in work and who are key workers as defined by the Government guidelines during the Covid-19 lockdown.

I cannot access online learning

Please telephone the school office on 0121 464 2189 and we will do what can to support and help.

Is there help with providing food for my child during remote learning?

The School is working with the Local Authority to support with this. Further details will be sent asap.

Create Partnership Trust is working collaboratively with the Department for Education and Birmingham Local Authority in order to address the situation.

If either yourselves or your children think you might need support with your emotional and mental well-being, please contact school. We have our Pastoral Team on hand to support. All conversations are treated confidentially.

Yours sincerely

Miss C Lucas
Headteacher

...putting children at the heart of all we think, say and do