

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result, areas in affected spaces will be vacated.

We wanted to inform you that we had our buildings surveyed in September 2022 and knew we were definitely not affected as we did not have RAAC in any of our buildings under the guidance provided at the time of our formal survey.

As the guidance has changed in the last couple of weeks, we have some checks to make but we do not have any confirmed RAAC in our buildings and have not been asked to close any areas. However, we want to take care and to be sure, and are currently working with the DfE to actively check whether RAAC has been used in the construction of any other parts of our buildings which were not surveyed. If RAAC is identified, we will let you know straight away, and we have contingencies in place.

We understand that parents may want to understand more about the support to educational settings to manage RAAC safely. You can read more through the article published by the DfE on the Education Hub.

Rest assured that the safety of children and staff is of paramount importance to all concerned.

I hope that this offers reassurance.

Yours sincerely,

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Charlene Gethin (CEO)