

Installation of Temporary Classrooms - Fact Sheet

What is RAAC

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete is a form of lightweight concrete used in construction in many buildings between the 1950s and 1990s.

RAAC is highly aerated with different material properties to conventional concrete. It is mainly found in roofs, occasionally in floors and walls.

It is less durable than traditional concrete and there have been problems as a result, which could have significant safety consequences, that is, it's liable to collapse.

Why do we need the temporary buildings?

When the RAAC was identified we had to immediately close the affected areas. These included two classrooms and toilets.

If we have been able to accommodate the displaced children in school since the closure without additional accommodation, why can't this continue?

In order to keep the children in school we have had to use the school hall as a classroom for one class, whilst another has been split into 2 across two smaller spaces, with an additional teacher brought into school to allow this. These arrangements long term are not conducive to effective teaching and learning, and we are unable to deliver a full curriculum if they continue.

Furthermore, the hall being used as a classroom is impacting all other pupils with events such as our annual Nativity unable to take place.

Why can't we put the classrooms on the yard?

There is no suitable access for portakabin to be able to bring the vehicles carrying the modular buildings onto our yard.

What is actually being put on the field?

We are installing a modular building, supplied, delivered and installed by Portakabin. This is a single storey, flat roofed block containing two classrooms and toilets. It will sit in the northwest corner of the field. It will have a single main entrance facing the school, and two emergency fire exits on the west facing side.

To ensure pupils are safe, and the site is secure, a fence will be erected around the building with gated access.

There will be groundworks to level the foundations and also pathways and a ramp installed to give safe access. Services to the building will be brought over the road from the main school at high level.

How big is the temporary building?

The modular building is 3.512m tall, a footprint of 164m², and an internal floorspace of 156m².

How long will the temporary building be in place?

We want to have our children back in the main school as soon as possible, but this is dependent on the timescales to remove and replace the roof. Our Trust is working with the Department for Education to deliver this, and it is our hope that the modular buildings will not be needed beyond the 2024 summer holidays.

Did the school seek planning permission before proceeding?

All planning matters, including any exemptions, are being dealt with by the Department for Education.

How will services be provided to the building?

Power, water and data will be supplied at high level across the road from the school. The building will be connected to the sewer system.

How will the building arrive at the site?

The building will arrive in modular sections on HGV's. There will be a crane to lift the modules and place them onto the foundation base. This part of the project will take a single day and has been scheduled for a Saturday to minimise disruption. The crane will only be on site for the day of the installation, and again when they are removed.

What are the key milestones and timescales?

Monday, 29th January 2024	Groundworks commence
Tuesday, 30th January 2024	Welfare facilities brought to site
Saturday, 10th February 2024	Modular building arrives and is craned into position.
Monday, 12th February 2024	Fit out begins.
Wednesday, 28th February 2024	Fit out completed and handover to school.
Thursday, 29th February 2024	Classes move in.

The installation of the fence is yet to be programmed but will be completed before 29th February.

Who is the main contractor?

The main contractor is Portakabin. They have been commissioned by the Department for Education who are managing this project.

Who do I contact if I have concerns?

In the first instance please contact the school. If required they can then connect you to others managing the delivery of this scheme.

St Oswald's
C of E
(voluntary aided)
Primary School

185.0m

46 44

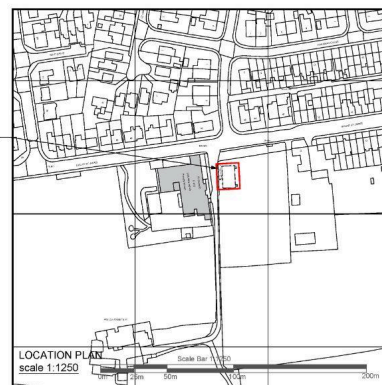
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BLOCK PLAN
scale 1:200

Scale Bar (1:200)

0m 10m 20m







	
Proposed Location & Block Plan	
Knuzden St.Oswald's School at Mount St James, Blackburn BB1 2DR	
Date: 19.01.2024	
Scale : 1:200 & 1:1250 @ A1	
Drawing Number DLRAACKSS	

NOTES:

- Site plan is based on existing Ordinance Survey information
- Responsibility is not accepted for errors made by others in locating from this drawing. Contractors must check all dimensions on site. Discrepancies must be reported to the drawing owner before proceeding

KEY:

	Application boundary
	Area owned by client but not in application
	Existing fencing 1.8m
	Proposed foot drainage route
	Proposed grey water drainage route
	Proposed surface water drainage route
	Proposed fencing

Rev.	Date	Notes	

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