



19<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## **Re: Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete in School Buildings**

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. The Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance for education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach. As a result of this, areas in affected spaces will be vacated.

The DfE has been helping education settings and responsible bodies (such as local authorities and multi-academy trusts) to identify and manage the potential risks of RAAC since 2018. You can find more in the Education Hub article published by DfE.

Currently, we do not have confirmed RAAC in any of our school buildings and have therefore not been asked to close any areas. We will, however, continue to monitor our buildings and follow the DfE guidance as it is updated.

If RAAC is identified, we will notify you immediately and implement contingency plans that will prioritise the continuation of education and ensure that any impact on children and staff is kept to an absolute minimum.

We appreciate the concern this issue may raise and would like to reassure you that the safety of your children and our staff is of paramount importance to all concerned.

I hope that this letter provides you with sufficient reassurance.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Amarjit Cheema OBE

Chief Executive Officer