

Monday, 4 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we start the new school year tomorrow, I wanted to share with you an update regarding the SCSP school your child/children attends. I trust you have had a relaxing summer holiday with your child/children, despite the variable weather we have had.

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 and concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. The 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 no SCSP schools are affected by this updated guidance. As a Trust we had already undertaken all necessary surveys related to this matter so we were confident this was not an issue for any of our schools. SCSP schools will open as planned and continue to function as normal. We acknowledge 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.

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2023/08/31/new-guidance-on-raac-in-education-settings/>

I hope that this offers reassurance following the media stories over the past few days.

We look forward to welcoming your child/children back to school tomorrow, Tuesday 5 September or if starting Nursery or Reception at one of the schools, on the date they have been allocated.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Shipman Chief Executive Officer SCSP