

Tuesday, 05 September 2023

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 because of safety concerns and as a result areas in affected spaces would be vacated.

We wanted to inform you that **our Trust does not have any confirmed RAAC and we have not been asked to close any schools**. Due to the age of some of our buildings, we will continue to monitor as necessary and will carry out further ongoing inspections. We will continue to work with the DFE and will monitor the situation nationally.

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.

https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2023/09/04/new-guidance-on-raac-in-education-settings/

I hope that this offers reassurance.

Yours sincerely,

Antony Hughes

CEO

Chief Executive: Mr Antony Hughes The Harmony Trust, Northmoor Academy, Alderson St, Oldham, OL9 6AQ 0161 260 0482 | info@theharmonytrust.org | <u>www.theharmonytrust.org</u>

The Harmony Trust, an exempt charity and company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 08840373