

Thursday 7th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may be aware from media coverage that the government has asked some schools to close or partially close due to the presence of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) in their school buildings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. We understand that this is an unsettling news story and that it may naturally have led you to wonder about the safety of our school buildings.

We do not have any confirmed RAAC in our buildings and have not been asked to close any areas. During the last 18 months we have reviewed condition surveys and spoken to our architecture and building consultancy services who have vast knowledge of our buildings and have completed a nil return for all sites to the DfE.

For information, 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 [Everything you need to know about the new guidance on RAAC in education settings - The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](https://www.blog.gov.uk/2021/09/07/everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-new-guidance-on-raac-in-education-settings/)

I hope that this provides reassurance as we look forward to welcoming all students back in the new term.

If you have any questions, please contact Jayne Firth, Chief Operations Officer at the MAT offices: j.firth@greatheightstrust.org.uk

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely,

S. Mansell

Mrs S Mansell (Principal)

