



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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Tuesday 5th September 2023

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will be aware of the national news reports regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in a small number of 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 to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result areas in schools affected are being vacated.

The Department of Education (DFE) are working closely with Local Authorities, Academy Trusts and Dioceses who are the responsible bodies for school buildings to address this issue and any school where RAAC has been identified has already been informed to take action by closing those buildings affected.

This type of concrete was used in some school buildings built between 1950 and 1990 so the responsible bodies (in our case The Diocese of Guildford) are checking all those buildings built in this period to ensure that these buildings are safe.

Our main priority is the safety of children and staff so we will continue to work closely with our responsible body to ensure that our school is a safe environment for everyone.

We will keep you informed of any developments however we wanted to reassure you that our school is not one of those identified at this time by the DFE for closure.

Kind regards,

Emmeline Lawlor, Headteacher and Jack Foster, Chair of the Governing Body.

Headteacher: Mrs Emmeline Lawlor
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Clare Quinn