



Hayle Academy

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 and recently, 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.

We have continued to work with experts and our Trust and school teams in the assessment of our school buildings. Following an initial visual inspection, we have decided as a precautionary measure to restrict access to a few areas of Hayle Academy buildings whilst we wait for a full inspection to be done. The areas affected are the top floor of the main block, the hall and a small number of offices. I would like to emphasise this this is a precautionary measure until further specialist engineering surveys can be conducted. RAAC **has not been confirmed** in these spaces, and we are taking a cautious approach until such time its presence can either be ruled out or confirmed.

The classrooms and corridors in the floors around these areas safe and these will continue to be in use as usual. The ceilings of these areas are definitely not constructed of RAAC.

While we accept that relocating classrooms and offices will inevitably cause some short-term disruption, we will do our utmost to minimise the impact on children. It will mean using some other areas of the school (such as the Hub and SEN Base) as teaching rooms. With the full support of TPAT, we are confident we can remain fully open and we will be operating on a 'business as usual' basis. Parents can be assured that all our decision making is precautionary, and we will continue to take this 'safety first' approach in the best interests of our students and staff.

Parents interested in understanding more about RAAC can find more information from the Department of Education in the Education Hub.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and carers for their ongoing support and understanding.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Lock', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Melissa Lock

Headteacher