



21st September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

No RAAC in our schools

I would like to update you on what we have done about inspecting your child's school for Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC).

Earlier this year, at the request of the Department for Education (DfE), we carried out a visual survey of your child's school using the DfE's guidance document. This survey was to see if there was any RAAC concrete in the school as there was a growing national concern that RAAC concrete was failing in some schools in England. In late August the government instructed some schools with RAAC to close - you will have seen the difficulty this has caused some schools in England.

We reported to the DfE that our visual inspection indicated that we didn't have any RAAC in our buildings - but it seemed proper that we went further than the DfE guidance and get a professional opinion.

We commissioned Buildings and Structural surveys. These have now been completed and *I am pleased to inform you that surveyors have not found RAAC in our buildings.*

I am very disappointed in the government's handling of this situation. What is clear is that for many years there has not been enough time given to thinking about ensuring that the nation's children are taught in buildings that are well-designed and well-constructed.

We will continue to lobby the government for more capital investment in your child's school buildings. We will also be asking them to reimburse us for the cost of the extra survey work we have carried out.

Yours sincerely

PP 

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The logo for Thrive is a blue circle with the word "thrive" in white lowercase letters and "co-operative learning trust" in smaller white lowercase letters below it.

