

4th September 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) – Not Affected

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.

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 wanted to inform you that none of the schools within Dudley Academies Trust are affected by this decision. We do not have any confirmed RAAC in our buildings and have not been asked to close any areas and therefore they will continue to function as normal.

The Trust has invested around £15m in capital projects since 2017 to improve the condition of our estate and further significant investment is planned during 2023/24, including Beacon Hill Academy's inclusion in the School Rebuild Programme.

Full condition surveys of all sites were undertaken last academic year and a 5 year investment plan has been developed, including further assessments to check for RAAC in areas that are not immediately visible in our previous surveys.

We understand that parents and carers may want to understand more about RAAC. You can read more through the article published by the DfE on the Education Hub. Alternatively, should you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact info@dudleyacademiestrust.org.uk.

I hope that this offers reassurance.

Yours faithfully,



Kevin Tranter
Chief Operating Officer