

4th September 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Colleagues

Re: RAAC Update

First of all, I do very much hope that this communication finds you well and having enjoyed the summer break.

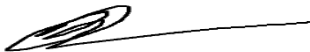
I am writing as I am sure you will be aware of the recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC), and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete and is deemed to be weaker than regular concrete. Concerns have been raised about its long-term durability and the Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC. The DfE is now advising schools to adopt a more precautionary approach and as a result areas in affected spaces will be vacated.

I feel it important that we inform you that our estates team has recently carried out examinations in all Waterton academies in line with Government guidance, and I can confirm that we do not have RAAC in any of our buildings. Therefore, Waterton academies will not be affected by this change in guidance and all sites will continue to function as normal.

I understand that you may want to understand more about the support to educational settings to manage RAAC safely. You can read more through the article published by the DfE on the Education Hub.

I hope that this communication offers some reassurance and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Yours Sincerely



Mr D Dickinson OBE
CEO
Waterton Academy Trust