

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are all very much looking forward to welcoming your children back to school tomorrow. I hope you have all had a wonderful summer break.

You will have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) used in schools.

RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete and is weaker than regular concrete. Therefore there are concerns about its long-term durability.

The Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to schools on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach asking schools to vacate confirmed affected spaces.

We do not have any confirmed RAAC at St George's and have not been asked to close any areas. However, I want make absolutely sure that no parts of our school have been constructed using RAAC. I am therefore currently working with the DfE to actively check whether RAAC has been used in any part of our school. If RAAC is identified, I will let you know straight away, and I will make sure that contingencies are in place.

The change in guidance is precautionary in nature, and only affects schools where the presence of RAAC has been confirmed. The DfE is offering school access to surveyors who are helping us to carry out these checks quickly.

Any contingency plans will prioritise the continuation of education and ensure that, if RAAC is identified, any impact on children, parents and staff is kept to an absolute minimum.

Thank you for your understanding. Kind regards, Dee Statham Headteacher

## To Be The Best We Can Be~Together

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