

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023

RE. Important notice for the start of term- REINFORCED AUTOCLAVED AERATED CONCRETE (RAAC)

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are well and have had a great summer.

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. Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result areas in affected spaces will be vacated.

In line with the DfE guidance, an initial survey of Prince Albert Primary School took place, it was revealed that the presence of RAAC was found in a small area of school. This area includes the main school office, the conservatory which leads into the office off the main school playground and a small area of one of the Year five classrooms. Across the summer holidays the DfE issued guidance to close those areas of school.

We appreciate the concern this may raise, and we will always prioritise the safety of your children and our staff. There is no confirmed RAAC in any other part of the school.

**I am pleased to say that despite this, we will welcome pupils into school as planned tomorrow.  
Wednesday 06<sup>th</sup> September 2023 with the following changes:**

5S (Miss Shaukat's class) have been relocated to a different classroom. Pupils need to use the middle door at the top of the playground to enter the building.

If your child is late (arrives after 8:55am) they will need to be taken to the arches to be signed in. There will be members of staff to help and support you with this, the back gate will remain open until 9:10am for late arrivals. The gates will be locked after this time. Any children who arrive after 9:10am will need to be taken to the main school entrance where they will be signed in. It is important that all children arrive on time as the beginning of the day sets the scene for the rest of the day and I appreciate your continued support with this.

If you need to access school at any other time, e.g. for appointments, etc, please use the main school entrance as usual.

**The conservatory area of school will be shut at all times – please do not attempt to gain access to school from this entrance.**

We ask that you are patient and supportive with any forthcoming disruption and ensure that staff are available, on the playground, to answer any questions on the first day.

Thank you for your continued support during unprecedented times.

Kind regards,  
Mrs S. Patel (Head of School)