



Abingdon Learning Trust, Hendred Way, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 2AW
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Wednesday 13 September 2023

Dear parents and carers,

I thought that you would welcome an update on what we have been doing since I wrote to you last week with the news that John Mason School has had to close due to the presence of RAAC. I know that you have regular communication from Mr West on the education side.

Over the weekend, we had phone and email contact with the RAAC response team at the Department For Education (DFE), and on Monday a Caseworker was appointed for the school. He is the key contact for us, along with a Project Director who visited the school on Tuesday afternoon.

We have been assured that costs will be met by the DFE, and we are following their guidance.

Next steps are to undertake a fully invasive and detailed survey by an appropriately qualified and experienced professional – to determine exactly where the RAAC is, and the amount. There are seven different roofs on the main block, and each needs to be surveyed, and we will be checking the other (currently closed) blocks, at the same time.

The Project Director has walked the site, with Mr West, looking at where temporary classrooms could be placed, if needed – and that hasn't yet been determined. And we have been offered support by two schools and the college, again if we need it.

Until we have the definitive survey report, we will not be able to decide on exactly what the next steps are. But as soon as we have this, I will be in touch again.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Fiona Hammans
CEO
Abingdon Learning Trust