



Executive Director of
Education
Douglas Hutchison

Education Services
Glasgow City Council
City Chambers East Building
40 John Street
Glasgow G1 1JL

4th September 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

I am writing to reassure you following the recent media coverage about concerns around Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in school buildings. We were first alerted to concerns about the lifespan of RAAC in 2019 by the Standing Committee on Structural Safety, an independent, representative body for structural engineers in the UK.

As a result, surveys of our secondary school estate in Glasgow were carried out to find out which buildings may have used the material in their construction. The survey identified that the material has been used in Whitehill Secondary school and since identifying RAAC in the building, significant steps have been taken to monitor and ensure the continued safety and structural integrity of the school.

The steps taken in Whitehill Secondary include:

- Initial site investigations by experienced independent consultants
- Further investigations of the roof using multiple, detailed photographic images
- These found no evidence of defects which could affect the overall integrity of the RAAC planks
- Remedial works that include additional fixings to brackets for projectors, an alternative means of support to some equipment, additional support around points where pipes penetrated the RAAC
- Visual inspections every three months to establish whether any change in condition can be observed
- A planned programme of detailed inspections by structural engineers to review routinely the overall condition of the RAAC planks
- Additional bracketry installed at localised areas identified within the survey report. These brackets were designed by the specialists who carried out the initial surveys and fabricated through site sizing, prior to installation in August 2022.

I know this news will be concerning, given the recent publicity, but I want to reassure you that every indication we have is that the use of RAAC at Whitehill Secondary is not affecting the safety of the school.

We will, however, continue with the robust monitoring regime in place for Whitehill Secondary that has been detailed in this letter and take any steps necessary to ensure the continued safe running of the school. We will also follow the advice and expectations of the Scottish Government on the potential effects of RAAC.

We will keep you updated on any developments and do our best to answer any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely

DOUGLAS HUTCHISON
Executive Director of Education