

4 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Reinforced, Aerated, Autoclaved Concrete (RAAC)

You will all be aware of the national news which has been talking about RAAC in schools in England over the last few days. This is a subject which the government have been aware of for some time and Cumberland Council has been working with the Department for Education to check which schools in our area have any RAAC in them.

We responded to a survey before the summer which confirmed that none of the schools which Cumberland Council is responsible for maintaining had any RAAC which would pose a concern.

Subsequently, a small amount of RAAC has been discovered at Cockermouth School, which as an academy also submitted a return to the survey in good time. Due to the increasing concern nationally caused by a RAAC failure in a school outside of Cumberland, just over 100 schools nationally have been mandated to close or partially close whilst mitigations are put in place.

There are no schools in Cumberland, other than Cockermouth which will open a day later than planned, where RAAC has been identified and therefore all other schools will be able to open as planned.

The council and relevant schools will notify parents and carers if the situation changes in the coming weeks and months.

Yours sincerely



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