



ST JAMES CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEBBURN

26 March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

RAAC Update

Since our last communication to you in February, we have been continuing to work closely with our colleagues at the DfE to progress the work, to date a quick recap:

December 2023

- A specialist structural engineer has designed an appropriate and safe solution that will allow the school to become fully operational again.
- We are currently finalising the appointment of a suitably qualified contractor.
- The proposed build time for the works from starting on site is 12-weeks (depending on findings during the build).

February 2024

- School has now been packed up by contractors in order for work to begin.

March 2024

- Baines have been appointed as the contractors who will be managing the work to the school building.
- Work began on Monday 11th March and it is anticipated it will take 10 – 12 weeks.
- On Thursday 21st March Mrs Heslop had a site visit. Work is currently one week ahead of schedule.
- The repairs to the ceilings across the whole of KS1 have now been completed and work is now due to start on the hall and kitchen.

We will keep you informed every step of the way and update you with next steps to take place e.g. health and safety checks, moving furniture and equipment back in to school and most importantly a date to return.

As you know we have children in Year 6 preparing to sit statutory tests week commencing 13th May 2024. These tests by law must be delivered, securely stored and a decision made as to where they will be administered this week. With this in mind and in close consultation with the DfE it has been decided that it is in the best interests of the children that we ALL remain in our current settings until SATS have been completed. This means all tests can go ahead that week as planned with no disruption for children and staff at this very important time. We anticipate a return date soon after this.

Thank you for your continued support during what has been a truly unparalleled set of circumstances for everyone.

Kind Regards

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Head Teacher

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