



# Sherburn High School

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Dear parents, carers and students,

## **RAAC – The STAR MAT**

Following the widely reported issue of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) in schools across the UK, we wanted to communicate and provide an update regarding the status at our Trust.

Earlier this year the Department for Education (DfE) requested that all Trusts with buildings constructed between 1930 and 1990 complete a questionnaire. This was fully completed and returned on time.

On receipt of our completed questionnaires, external surveys for relevant STAR MAT schools were commissioned through Hibbert Smith Consulting Ltd, concluding that the 'likelihood of RAAC panels being utilised as part of the building structure at the schools in question is considered to be very low.' The DfE confirmed that no further action was required by the Trust. Despite this response from the DfE we have conducted additional inspections in our schools earlier this week - all of which concluded with the same outcome.

We continue to monitor the situation and the ongoing risk assessment in line with all guidance around this and all other aspects of compliance, Health and Safety. The safety and welfare of our students, staff and families is paramount.

## **“What three words?”**

In assemblies this week I updated students on the results of the Student Leadership Team's creation of three words that embody Sherburn High School's vision and ethos. Students voted on these words at the end of term and I am proud to share with parents and carers that the three words agreed upon are:

**Ambition:** We are aspirational; we challenge ourselves and others to exceed expectations

**Respect:** We are kind to ourselves, others and our environment; celebrating our differences

**Community:** #Team Sherburn - We build relationships to improve our school, local and global community

I am sure you will agree, the students have chosen three words that sum up our vision and ethos extremely well.

## **Behaviour for Learning Policy**

Students have also spent time in their extended Personal Development lessons this week learning about our new Behaviour for Learning Policy. The new policy has been created to strengthen the school's commitment to being a Trauma Informed School and commitment to inclusive practice. It has also been changed to reflect updated government guidance.

The policy in full can be found on our website but in summary the key changes are:

- The system of C1, C2, C3 has been removed and replaced with “Remind – Tell – Consequence – Referral – Isolate”

- Isolation is to be used as a last resort and is one step away from a suspension from school

A consequence might be a restorative meeting, a change of seat within a classroom, removal to another room or even a teacher, department or whole school detention.

In relation to school trips and visits we are very clear that for educational visits, that is a trip or visit that is directly linked to a subject and in particular a course of study for example a geography field trip at GCSE, every effort will be made to ensure all students are able to attend. However, for our Reward Trips such as Flamingo Land, students who are in Isolation more than twice in an academic year will not be able to attend. The criteria for being invited to prom remains as previously, that any student who receives a suspension from school will not be invited to attend the Year 11 prom.

**And finally...**

I'd like to thank our students for the amazing way they have returned to school. Despite the heat, their attitude to learning has shown their ambition to succeed. Their impeccable uniform has demonstrated their commitment to our school community and the respect they have for our rules. I know that behind the scenes this has only been possible because parents and carers have supported this; so thank you! It makes me very proud to be Headteacher of Sherburn High School and extremely positive and excited about the year ahead.

Kind regards,

Miriam Oakley

Headteacher