

Cann Hall Primary School

Constable Avenue, Clacton, Essex CO16 8DA

Tel: 01255 420603

Email: chcontact@compassps.uk

Website: www.cannhall.compassps.uk

Head Teacher:

Sarah Crookes

Deputy Head Teacher:

Wendy Byrne



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Dear Parents and Carers,

I wrote to you in October to inform you that Cann Hall was one of a large number of schools in Essex which were built with Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC), and that remedial works were undertaken in 2010. This was a Metsec steel structure, which supports the RAAC. There is then a false ceiling below the RAAC with roof tiles.

Following a survey of these works by a structural engineer, we were recommended to have some further mitigation works carried out. A temporary solution was put into place using Acrow props, as a precaution in a small number of classrooms, so that the classrooms continued to be safe for us to occupy. Acrow props are a vertical support system which are used to support overhead loads. They are manufactured in compliance with safety standards and offer a good safety record. The props were positioned carefully and installed properly to prevent them from being knocked or displaced, and cause minimum disruption to teaching and learning.

I am pleased to inform you that the Acrow props have now been removed from all the affected classrooms, following mitigation works to the Metsec steel frame that were completed over the last month. Throughout this time period, we have had regular inspections from a structural engineer to ensure we are safe to be open, and have been rigorously monitored by the DfE and our Trust. We will continue to meet with the DfE and the structural engineers to determine a long-term management plan for our school, which we expect to include annual surveys of the Metsec frame and the affected areas of the school.

As and when I have any further updates for you, then I will share these.

Thank you for your support and understanding with this situation. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.

Kind regards,

Sarah Crookes