



Children's Services

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13 February 2020

To parents and carers of Falcon Junior School

Dear Parent/carers

I am writing to you concerning the ongoing issues that are being experienced at your child's school in Sprowston and to express Norfolk County Council's appreciation for the incredible patience from you as parents, from the children, and also staff of both Falcon Junior and White House Farm Primary Schools. These are exceptional circumstances and all parties are working together with us to ensure that the children can continue to receive their learning while the main building is out of action.

We have been working hard with a team of surveyors and contractors to address the issues of flooding, and for a number of months have looked at all possible causes. We have commissioned a number of surveys of the building and also remedial works have taken place. These remedial works include:

- Replacement of the connection to foul drainage system on Falcon Road
- Replacement of some internal rainwater pipes which were older and leaking
- Fixing a waste pipe in the staff toilet which was leaking

You will be aware from the Headteacher's regular letters that we have also been looking at whether the heating system is leaking, or the wider site has any issues which could cause the building to flood, and these have both been discounted now.

We are continuing to work hard to look at whether there is any wider issue with drainage beyond the school site and also test both the main building and the new classroom block to find out the cause of the water ingress.

Alongside these ongoing investigations, work is underway regarding temporary accommodation. We are looking at whether mobile classrooms can be brought onto the site to allow the children and staff to come back to Falcon Junior and reduce the impact on time for learning and travel. This will take a little while as we need to make sure that any action of this sort does not create more issues whilst we are still ascertaining the cause of the flooding. As soon as we know whether this is possible and can provide timescales, we will communicate these via the Headteacher.

We are very grateful to everyone involved for their continued patience and support in these challenging circumstances and would like to reassure you that every effort is being made to resolve the issues and bring the children back to the school site on Falcon Road.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Gasse', written in a cursive style.

Sebastian Gasse
Assistant Director Education Strategy and Infrastructure
Children's Services