



Thursday 24th November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to personally update you on the school situation and thank you all support and patience over the past few days.

On Monday evening, our school was affected by the torrential rain. The roof above the school office and entrance area took in a tremendous amount of water, causing an electrical power failure to part of school. The roof above the teaching corridor (that is currently being repaired) also let in a great deal of water, meaning that the area was not safe for pupils. A number of classrooms were also badly affected by the rain.

As all teaching staff were in the building, a decision to evacuate the school was made in line with the school's Emergency and Business Continuity Plan.

The emergency was reported to Wakefield Council's Emergency Response Team. An electrician was sent to the school to assess the situation. He concluded that all power needed to be turned off across school until the intake of water had subsided and to remain so until roofing professionals could come to site on Tuesday morning. Therefore the decision was taken to close the school to all staff and pupils.

On Tuesday 22nd November, the Leadership Team and School Business Manager worked alongside the roofing/electrical teams and officials at Wakefield Council to assess the wider impact of the water ingress. On Tuesday evening a joint inspection of school was carried out and it was decided that school had to remain closed to pupils on Wednesday 23rd November so that temporary repairs could be made to the affected areas.

At 3pm on Wednesday 23rd November, it was agreed that the internal and external temporary repairs had been completed. A electrical safety test was also carried out and the building was deemed to be safe to open to pupils on Thursday 24th November.

The decision to close a school is never taken lightly. As you know, we believe that children need to be in school every day so that they can access the social and educational opportunities available to them. However, in this circumstance the safety of your children, our pupils, had to come first.

We sincerely apologise for any disruption to parents' work routines that may have been caused by the school closure. We are now working closely with Wakefield Council to produce a long-term plan for the roof repairs.

Yours sincerely,

L. Sennett
Headteacher