Project 393: RAAC School Roof Reinforcement

Client: Holcombe Grammar School, Chatham, Kent

Programme: 4 Weeks

Construction Details: RAAC, School Improvement

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RAAC School Roof Reinforcement

We carried out the RAAC school roof reinforcement at Holcombe Grammar School before the summer holidays. Since reinforcing the hall roof there has been a lot of coverage in the media, both television and the press about RAAC.

What is RAAC?

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete was used in many schools and is, now known to be, prone to sudden failure as it ages. RAAC is a lightweight, bubbly type of concrete generally found in roofs. It can also be found in walls and floors. The product was initially used in the 1950s and used as recently as the 1990s. It looks like standard concrete but compared with the now traditional reinforced material which is typically denser, RAAC is weak and less durable.

How Did We Get Awarded the Works?

After receiving government advice in 2020, regarding the potential implications of RAAC, the school instructed structural engineers to survey the whole site. Two areas were identified as containing RAAC. There were two halls that contained RAAC ceiling, which could breakup and collapse at any time. Both halls were immediately cordoned off by the school meaning that no students or staff could be put at risk.

What Did We Do

The school asked us to install a support system designed by structural engineers. We installed the support timbers beneath the RAAC ceiling planks to remove the risk of the ceiling collapsing. The-ceiling was made safe and enabled the school to use the halls without any risk to students and staff.

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The building services we provide include smaller refurbishments through to extensions and new builds. The services we provide include anything that a school would require. This includes, toilet and kitchen refurbishments. We also install fencing, flooring and carry out complete new builds. Check out our website case studies to view projects that we have recently completed.

Glazing Services We Provide In Schools

In addition to building works, we also carry out works from window and hinge repairs through to

complete aluminium and uPVC window and door installations.

Contact Waller Building and Glazing Services

Based in Sittingbourne, Kent, we carry out works throughout the south east of England. If you would like a quotation on any size of building or glazing project please contact us. Telephone – 01795 424435. Additionally email mark@wallerservices.com

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Waller Associates Ltd
Web: www.wallerservices.com
Tel: 01795 424 435
Fax: 01795 424 812
sales@wallerservices.com