



**Fylingdales C of E Primary
School**

Fylingthorpe,
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North Yorkshire,
YO22 4TH

Tel: 01947 880429



**Hawsker-cum-Stainsacre
C of E Primary School**

Hawsker,
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5th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this letter finds you all well.

We would like to update you on the current situation with the aftermath of the flood at Fylingdales School. The damp expert visited the school on Friday after cancelling other appointments due to the urgency of our situation. He has advised that the floor covering in the hall and both Ash's classroom and Birch Class's room will need to be taken up. Both classes are still showing damp readings of 100%. He confirmed that the toilet cubicles in both these classes will also need to be removed and some of the plaster in Ash class will need to be removed together with some of the other fixed units in the class. The staff room is recording some damp in the walls, so will need the paper taking off and the carpet in the corridor and staff room also needs to be taken out. Once these strip-out works are completed, contractors will bring in even more dehumidifiers and leave them running for a week initially and then return to assess the damp levels. The EYFS class has much lower readings and may not need any strip out works but will need cleaning and a few other minor issues will be addressed. The walls in the hall will be examined once the strip- out works are completed, as the damp expert cannot say whether they will need to be replaced yet. It is likely that the skirting boards will be removed and then any secondary damage will be examined to decide what happens. It is also possible that a surveyor will also need to specify the extent of the reinstatement works, but the damp expert would be present during this survey to ensure that everything is included as it is a significant amount of work. Unfortunately, we do not have any timescales for this as the loss adjuster must give instructions to the contractor rather than the school. In one piece of positive news, the damp expert is firmly of the view that Mrs Thompson and the entire staff had prevented a significant amount of secondary damage due to the actions they had taken immediately the flood was found. There would have been significantly more to do if they hadn't brought in the dehumidifiers and started the drying process immediately.

We would like to reassure you that everyone is working extremely hard to speed up the process and have all the children back in the building. We are all very conscious of the impact of this on the community and we are pulling out all the stops to get as fast a resolution as possible.

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We would also like to take this opportunity to address some of the issues that have been brought to Mrs Thompson's and our attention. We understand that there is some concern that Fylingdales School will be permanently closed. There is absolutely no basis for this concern and the matter has never been raised or considered. We are also concerned that there is a view that the flood was caused by someone carelessly leaving a tap running. This is certainly not the case and we feel that it is important that you are aware that the flood was caused by a pipe from a cold water inlet coming apart under an enclosed sink unit. This happened over the weekend period, as staff were in school until teatime on Friday evening. A staff member found the leak on the Sunday, as they had come into school in their own time to prepare for the start of term. School took all the necessary steps immediately on that Sunday afternoon to stop the leak and minimise the damage and continue to put pressure on the relevant agencies to ensure that the situation is resolved as soon as possible.

However, there are some significant positives which have arisen from our current situation. The Federation of Hawsker and Fylingdales Schools has given us the ability to continue to provide a very positive learning experience for the children by using the Hawsker building for most of the children from Fylingdales. They have created new friendships; the staff team have created excellent working relationships and had the opportunity to share expertise at first hand. We are confident that these close working partnerships will continue when staff and children return to Fylingdales. This will bring a lasting benefit to all the children in our schools.

We would like to thank you for your support as we work through this, and we would also like to recognise the hard work from the staff to ensure that all children have a first-class learning experience even though the circumstances are not as we would have wished.

We will update you as soon as we have a timescale for the repair works.

All good wishes,

Andrea Dickinson-Back
Julie Matthewson

Co-chairs of Governors