



## LAURA FARRIS MP

*Member of Parliament for Newbury*

AnnMarie Dodds  
Executive Director - Children and Family Services  
West Berkshire Council  
Council Offices  
Market Street  
Newbury  
West Berkshire  
RG14 5LD

29 February 2024

Dear AnnMarie,

As you are aware, I have been keeping in regular contact with you - via my office - in order to keep you updated of the very deep concerns parents and teachers have raised with me regarding the recent leak and subsequent disruption to children's education at Falkland Primary School.

Parents have been very clear about the tremendous hard work and dedication of the school's staff in navigating their way through the crisis on behalf of the children they teach.

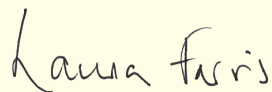
Significant concerns remain however around how the crisis has been able to occur, the council's response to the crisis, and about the current conditions children are facing on the site in the current buildings.

Whilst the council has eventually adapted to rectifying some of the very deep concerns I raised on parents' behalf regarding the urgent need for a generator at the school and amending the council's capital programme to ensure building works start on the new classroom project in 2024/2025 rather than 2025/2026, in order to provide affected families with much needed clarity moving forwards please can you clarify:

1. What remedial works have/are being undertaken; and when will these all be completed?
2. When can the school fully re-open, with all pupils back on site?
3. Are the existing relocation arrangements meeting the needs of students and staff; and how sustainable are these arrangement whilst repairs are undertaken at Falkland Primary School?
4. Can you confirm that safeguarding requirements are being met at all sites under the temporary arrangements?
5. Can the local authority provide assurances that health and safety inspections have regularly taken place at Falkland Primary School?
6. What support is the local authority providing to Falkland Primary School to support their School Business Manager with the additional workload that has arisen as a result of the school closure and subsequent temporary arrangements?

Thank you for your very close attention to these pressing issues of concern - all of which are of huge importance to affected children and families (who remain deeply concerned about the disruption caused by the current temporary arrangements and about the ongoing conditions for children at the school).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Farris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laura Farris MP