

16th June 2026

Dear Parents,

Roof Replacement, LED Lighting and Fire System Upgrade Project

Now that I have confirmation of funding that has been secured and a start date, I write with news of an exciting and significant project that will begin soon at Grendon.

Over the next 12 months, we will be having our entire roof replaced, with upgrades made to our fire system and lighting secured as part of this project. As a Birmingham City Council Maintained School, both funding and the operational plan is led by BCC and their team of contractors.

The team have huge experience of working on live sites and of course, all risk assessments needed and safeguarding requirements have been completed and are compliant in line with health and safety and premises requirements.

The project is split into phases, with each being completed in an area of school before the focus shifts to the next. We will have contractors on site from 29th June in order to start their preparation, including the erection of scaffolding, in order for work to start as soon as children finish for the Summer holidays on 17th July.

While this is a major project and will last for a relatively long period of time, I am delighted to tell you that we don't anticipate that there will be any impact on the school curriculum, teaching and learning, enrichment activities, or events planned during this time. We have managed to rule out the prospect of having to work off site or for porta cabins to be erected in school.

It will mean 3 changes that I will make you aware of today and that we will follow up with more detail between now and the end of term, again in September and then throughout the 2026-2027 academic year.

1. At some point between September 2026 and July 2027, all classes except Reception and Year 1 will spend roughly half a term working in another classroom in school, while work is taking place in and above their actual classrooms. We are fortunate that falling birth rates and admitting one form into Reception in recent years, has meant that we have the scope to do this. All resources and furniture needed for this time, will be moved with them and teaching and learning will continue uninterrupted; they will just be working in another area of school. Entry and exit routes and fire escape routes will obviously be adjusted accordingly. Once work is complete in the targeted area, classes will move back and the next group of classes will move for the next phase.

2. We will lose use of most of the side playground where KS2 children currently enter and exit the building for the whole year. This is because it will become the welfare and storage area for our contractors. Again, because of the outside areas that we have available to us, we are able to accommodate this without any disruption, beyond changes to entry, exit and collection points.
3. Although we will have access to our library books for use in school, we will not be able to run our before school Library Clubs from September 2026 as we will not have our usual Library space available. We will have a range of other clubs running throughout the year as usual.

In preparation for September and because contractors will be onsite from 29th June, there is some preparation and changes that we need to make you aware of for the last few weeks of this academic year.

From 29th June:

- All routes into school in the morning will remain the same, except for Year 5 and 6 children, who instead of walking up the ramp and into the doors at the top of the school, will enter school through the KS2 hall door from the side playground.
- Some routes out of school and some collection areas for children at the end of the day will change:
Year 1 and Year 2 will come out of the door by the side of our library, into the fenced area in front of the Library and 1T classroom. They will be dismissed to you from this area.
Year 5 will leave through the KS1 hall door and will need to be collected from the area under the canopy in the front KS1 playground.
Year 6 will leave through the main school entrance by our school office and should be collected by the steps/ramp area in the front KS1 playground.
Year 3 will be brought to the carpark area behind the bike shelter and parents should wait in that carpark area.
Year 4 will be brought to the area in front of the bike shelter and zebra crossing. Parents should wait in the area where I usually stand before and after school, to collect children.
Reception route and collection area will not be changed.

From 10th July:

- We will begin to move some classes out of their current classrooms and they will spend the last few days of term in another classroom.
- Children currently in Years 1, 5 and 6 will move during this time and changes to routes and collection points will be communicated directly for each class prior to this time.

From September 2026:

- Phase 1 of the project will have begun and this means that we will have no access to current Year 5 and 6 classrooms. That area of school will be entirely closed off to children.
- Children in Years 5 and 6 will start the year working in a different classroom and will move back to their actual classroom once work is completed. This is estimated to be around October half term. All classrooms will already be set up and all furniture and resources will already have been moved.
- Year 1 will spend the whole year working in our spare Reception classroom. This will mean that our youngest children, (Reception and Year 1), will not move at all during the project and have their own access to toilets and outside areas throughout 2026-2027.
- More detail about entry, exits and collection points will be shared before the end of term and again on 1st September.

Many thanks for your time and patience in reading this. As said throughout, we will keep you updated throughout the project. Many of you will know from past 'disasters' including flooding, gas and covid, that Grendon's response is always efficient and effective, keeps everyone safe and minimises any disruption to teaching, learning and the curriculum. This will be no different. We just need your support to ensure that as and when changes are made, everything runs smoothly. As we always show, together WE CAN!

Best wishes

Mrs Ridley