Heathland Whitefriars Federation

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Headteacher: Mr P K Vekaria

11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was a pleasure to welcome our pupils, families and staff back onto the Heathland School site this week. This morning, it was wonderful to see so many families take time out of their day to visit our temporary school building. Your enthusiasm, encouragement and excitement were evident, and we were delighted to share with you the incredible new learning environment that our children will now call home.

As Headteacher, I could not be prouder of what has been achieved in such a remarkably short period of time. Following the devastating flood on Sunday 21 June, which left the Heathland School building unsafe and unusable, we faced an enormous challenge. Yet, in just 11 weeks and 5 days, we have successfully created a fully functioning three-storey school building capable of accommodating our entire school community. This is no small feat and stands as a testament to what can be achieved when people come together with determination, expertise and a shared commitment to our children.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to **RedS10**, whose dedication, professionalism and hard work have made this possible. Their teams worked tirelessly, often across seven-day weeks, to ensure that the building was ready for our pupils. I would also like to recognise our incredible school staff, who gave up much of their summer holiday to prepare learning spaces and ensure that every detail was ready for the start of term.

I would also like to thank our families. Throughout this challenging period, you have shown unwavering support, patience and positivity. Your understanding and encouragement have helped us navigate an unprecedented situation, and your confidence in the school has been greatly appreciated. The strength of our school community has shone through every stage of this journey, and we are deeply grateful for the partnership we share with you.

While we celebrate this important milestone, our attention will now turn to the next phase of our recovery. Work on the main school building will become our primary focus as plans progress to rebuild and repair the areas affected by the flood. We will provide regular updates as this work develops.

Further correspondence will follow next week regarding the opening of the school office to parents and carers, including information about access to this through the day.

Thank you once again for your continued support, kindness and belief in our school. Together, we have overcome extraordinary circumstances and achieved something truly remarkable.

With gratitude,

Miss F R Hopkins
Headteacher

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