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Date: 27th February 2019



Education and Families

Derek Brown
Joint Interim Executive Director
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Dear Parent/Carer,

Following our previous communications to you about the water in some areas of the Buchanan and St Ambrose school campuses, we would like to provide you with a further update.

We appreciate that many of you have been concerned about the water and we thank you for your patience throughout the recent programme of repair works. The issue is likely to have been caused by corrosion in the pipework, but has minimal impact on the quality of the water. An investigation is ongoing into the cause of the corrosion.

A significant programme of work to replace over 1800 metres of copper piping with plastic pipes in all three buildings has been ongoing since October 2018 and is now complete. In addition, all water filters have been replaced and the entire system has been flushed and fully filtrated. These replacement works have been considerable and have taken place at the weekends and holidays when pupils were not present.

In order to avoid disruption to the school when accessing the internal main water supply, further work to replace one last section is scheduled in the summer break, again as a precautionary measure.

Samples from a number of the drinking water outlets across the facility have been taken by Environmental Health and the results show that readings are well within regulatory levels and drinking water meets the required standards.

Guidance issued by the Drinking Water Quality Regulator says that copper is an essential nutrient but consumption of very high levels can cause stomach upsets. As you will be aware, bottled water has been widely available to staff and pupils since November 2018 and free-standing water coolers will shortly be on site for the next couple of months until our monitoring is complete.

We will continue to undertake further water sampling to provide reassurance that the action taken has addressed the matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derek Brown".

Derek Brown
Joint Interim Executive Director Education and Families



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