

**Department of Children and Services**

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Dear Parents and carers,

Despite all efforts to complete the accelerated programme which would have ensured completion of the new school site by 22 October 2021, the contractor appointed to build the new school facilities for Silsden Primary School, has now informed Bradford Council, that it was facing further delays which would not allow the school's move by the intended date.

Following a meeting with the Chair of Governors last week, we are writing with an updated position in relation to the planned move to your exciting new school premises.

As you will all be aware, Silsden Primary school were hoping to be operating on the new school site from the 8th of November 2021. However, due to reasons beyond the control of the school and the local authority, regrettably the planned opening will no longer be possible and will be slightly delayed.

The remaining building works are now scheduled to be completed by the end of November the latest. However, on the basis that the revised handover date does not align with the school's academic date, Bradford Council has made the decision to delay the move of the school until after the Christmas Holidays..

Once the building works will be completed by end of November, there needs to be a period in which the building is then fully equipped for its use as a school and is ready to welcome the children. These works are crucial to the new school meeting the high standards that we require for our children and young people in the Bradford District and can only be delivered safely with the premises remaining unoccupied. The works include the setting up of the new IT system, installation of outdoor play equipment for Early Years and Key Stages 1 and 2, delivery of new furniture and the carrying out of all of the appropriate and required Risk Assessments for the new school to open.

Due to the unforeseen circumstances, the previously agreed five closure days that were scheduled to take place after the October half term break will now be cancelled. A five-day closure period will now take place after the Christmas break.

The school will close for October half term break on Friday 22nd October and will re-open to pupils on 1st November 2021 in its current site.

We appreciate that you and your children may have booked a holiday during the first week of October and we confirm that no action will be taken since this matter is outside your control. we apologise for this delay but like you, we are wanting to make sure that your children will only go onto their new school building when the building is ready and at time which does not affect their education.

We thank you in advance for your patience, understanding and ongoing support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Mariam Haque  
Deputy Director – Education and Learning



Ben Middleton  
Assistant Director Estates & Property