



8 July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may see a story on Essex Live today regarding mushrooms that were found in a single toilet cubicle at the school. We wanted to contact you directly to provide the full context and reassure you that there is no cause for concern.

The mushrooms appeared as a result of a small leak from a soil pipe behind the cubicle. Although the leak had already been repaired, the combination of residual moisture and warm conditions allowed mushrooms to grow in that isolated area.

As soon as we were made aware of the issue yesterday, at the end of lunchtime, the affected cubicle was taken out of use, and the matter was dealt with immediately. The issue was confined to one cubicle only, and there is no ongoing leak or wider problem. We are satisfied that no further action is required, and the facilities remain safe for use.

We are disappointed that, rather than bringing the matter directly to the school's attention, a student breached our mobile phone policy by filming inside the toilet area. We are equally disappointed that the footage was shared externally instead of any concerns being reported to us so that we could address them directly. As always, we encourage parents and students to contact the school if they have any concerns so that we can respond promptly.

We wanted to ensure that you had the facts before seeing any media coverage. Most importantly, there is nothing for parents or students to be worried about, and the matter was resolved swiftly and effectively.

We hope this provides reassurance should you come across any reports today. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs H Barnes
Headteacher