

26 May 2023

Dear families,

Wow! Another amazing week across the academy. Thank you for supporting us in ensuring children look smart; they really have raised the bar this week with every aspect of school life.

After speaking to a number of you at the gate, it has quickly become clear that the morning (and evening) routine of having to navigate down the narrow path (sometimes against the flow) to the Key Stage 1 playground is one that can, and should be avoided. With this in mind, we would like to reintroduce the one system and the soft start that we had in place during the pandemic. We believe that this will make mornings better for you and for the children: moving around the site will be easier; you will be able to get away quicker; and children will not line up meaning that they too have a better start to their day.

In the morning, please use the pedestrian gate and make your way to your child's classroom. Your child's classroom door on Key Stage 1 will be open and the class teacher will be inside ready to welcome them from 08:45. Both Key Stage 2 playground doors will be open for the children to filter in through. There will be a morning activity that the children can quickly and quietly work on whilst the class teachers register and order lunches. Where possible, support staff will be stood by the door to meet and greet the children and pass on any important messages to class teachers. Members of the Senior Leadership Team will, as always, be present around the site. Once your child is in class, please follow the one way system through the Key Stage 2 playground and exit through the car park. Members of the team will be able to direct you if needed.

In the afternoon, we will employ the same one system but in reverse. Adults should enter the site from 15:10 through the main car park gate at the opposite end to the pedestrian gate (if you have younger children with you, please keep them under close supervision whilst moving through the carpark), make their way to the respective playground and wait for their child to be released to them. Class teachers will be present at this time should you need to speak to them or alternatively, appointments can be made via the school office.

In light of the above, the car park will be closed to vehicular traffic between 08:40 and 08:55 and 15:05 and 15:15.

Another slight change that we will also be making to the school day, will be to have two assemblies rather than one. Having two assemblies will mean that: we will not need to squeeze the whole school into the hall; children will not have to sit and wait whilst the rest of the school makes their way to (and from) assembly; movement around the academy will be quicker and easier; and there will be less transitions meaning that less learning time is lost.

We will introduce these changes after half term and, as with any new initiatives, there will likely be teething issues and changes along the way to fine tune how it works but, in the long

run, we believe this will be a better solution. We welcome your patience on this while we get it right.

If you don't usually drop off or pick up, could you please pass this information on to those who do it on your behalf.

If you have any questions about this, please feel free to speak to one of us on the gate.

Once again, thank you for your continued support. We hope you have a lovely half term and enjoy the break with your family.

Warmest regards,

M Vickers
Lead Principal