



27th September 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians

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Punctuality, Safety and Access to School Site Information

I wanted to write to you to request your support in stressing to your children the importance of a few key areas of school where we have some concerns.

Punctuality

Throughout these first 4 weeks of term, we have seen an unusually large number of students who have arrived late for school. The vast majority of whom are arriving 2-5 minutes late. The incidents of lateness increase on wet days as there is more traffic on the roads and commuting can take longer; we would, therefore, ask that you allow extra time for your journeys to school on such days to avoid late marks.

The frustration of this situation is that this can be so easily remedied; those students aiming to arrive at 8:39 to be 'on time' are regularly a minute or two late and consequently are accruing strikes and detentions. Our message to students, as shared by Mr Burke on Monday, is that punctuality is a life skill. In the world of employment, persistent lateness can turn into a disciplinary meeting. We would appreciate your support with this by ensuring that your children leave home in sufficient time to be in school on time. Please remind your children that if they arrive after 8:40am they are late (9am on Wednesdays).

You will be able to track this easier in the future via Edulink as we begin to issue a behaviour point for those children who are late for school or lessons.

Safety

We have again this year already had a small number of near misses with students crossing roads at inappropriate places; on one occasion this resulted in a collision between two vehicles as they had to take action to avoid the child in the road.

Staff presence at the start and end of the day is supporting students to use the crossing directly outside school and not to try and dart in between cars that have paused at the lights. Please can you reiterate this to your children as the last thing any of us want is for one of our children to be injured whilst crossing the roads.

Access to school site

Again, we must stress that **vehicles should not be on the school site for collection or pick up of students after 8am and before 4.30pm**. We have seen an increase in vehicles on site, despite reminders, and this is making the school site at the start and end of the day congested and unsafe. If we continue to experience drivers being on site, we will take a decision to close the school gates between 8.30-9.00am and 3:25-3:40pm to prevent any unauthorised vehicle access. We will keep this option under review over the next two weeks before deciding if this action is necessary. As always, those who have been given specific permission to drive on the school site, may continue to do so, but please ensure you drive slowly and carefully and be prepared to provide your child's name if challenged about being on site.

Many thanks for your help and support in these matters.

Yours sincerely

Mr Warwood
Associate Headteacher

