

TLA / GPA

10th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been heartening to welcome all year groups back to school this week and I am delighted to see so many students embracing their return to school in a positive, excited and enthusiastic manner.

Over the coming days, and weeks, I will be reviewing the measures we have put in place to ensure that they are continuing to keep our school community safe and working well in the current circumstances. In the meantime, this is a timely opportunity to thank you for your support in encouraging your children to adhere to our new rules and guidelines. We have already made a couple of slight adjustments to our one-way system to facilitate the flow of students around site whilst still keeping everyone safe.

One area of immediate concern, however, is the increased traffic in the vicinity of the school at drop-off and pick-up times. Whilst I fully appreciate that you may prefer to drive your child(ren) to school, we would encourage children to walk or cycle to school wherever possible. Social distancing guidelines should of course be adhered to at all times and children should ensure they walk to school with children in the same year group as them to maintain their bubble. The same applies to parents gathering at the front of the school – please do maintain a safe gap between yourself and other parents.

Should you need to drive to school to drop-off and/or pick-up your child, we recommend that you agree a rendezvous point at a distance from the school itself. This should reduce congestion on Stubbs Lane and will mean that the pavements, driveways and entrances around the school site are kept clear.

Please also note that parents/carers are not permitted to enter either of our car parks to drop-off or pick-up children. There is a small drop-off/pick-up area at the front of the school, but this is to be used only on a 'drive through' basis and parking in this area for longer than a couple of minutes is not permitted.

A large proportion of our student cohort walk or cycle to school and a high volume of parked cars presents an additional hazard to both pedestrians and cyclists. I should also like to highlight the importance of cycling in a safe and appropriate way when travelling to and from school along with the need to dismount at the gates rather than riding through the car park. Students who are witnessed riding their bikes in a dangerous manner will receive a warning letter, followed by a bike ban if there is any further incident of this nature.

Furthermore, we have noticed that, with the staggered start times, more students have been congregating in front of the school in the mornings. Hence, from today, we have been directing students on arrival toward designated 'waiting zones' in the playground with one for each year group. They can remain in these areas, away from other year groups, until they need to go to tutorial. Students have been given full details about this by their tutors.

Thank you once again for all your understanding and support with these unfamiliar arrangements.

Yours sincerely,



Mr T. Lawn
Headteacher