



Friars Primary School & Nursery

Part of the Portico Academy Trust

Principal - Mr C. McClay

Vice Principal – Mr S. Roche

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CEO – Mrs C. Woolf

Wednesday 23rd September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: End of the Day

Since Friday we have noticed that, unfortunately at the end of the day, not everyone is adhering to social distancing or following our guidance around collecting children. This has been echoed by some parents we have been speaking to. Although the vast majority of grown-ups are doing all of the right things, there have been instances where adults have not kept a safe distance from others, have entered through incorrect gates and have not queued for collection. We have also had occasions where foul and abusive language has been directed at staff who have been doing their best to keep everyone safe. This will never be tolerated and individuals who think this is acceptable, risk having to find other people to collect their children. Schools are within their rights to restrict individuals from accessing their sites and this is something we will act upon as I am sure you will understand.

We know that many schools are using very long staggered starts and finishes to the school day. With regards to the end of the day, we have heard that across different settings children might be collected well before 3:00pm or almost up to 4:00pm. Some of these schools are unable to offer any provision for families with siblings, meaning some parents and carers are forced to wait for very long periods between collecting children from different year groups. We did want to avoid a system like this; however we may have no option other than to move to something similar if the picture does not improve.

The safety of children, staff and parents is of course paramount at all times.

Below is the guidance we shared in last week's newsletter.

Covid & Safety Updates

To help keep our school community as safe as possible at collection time, please continue to follow our social distancing rules;

1. Maintain a two-metre distance where possible and if you cannot keep a two-metre distance, reduce the risk to yourself and others by maintaining at least a one-metre distance.
2. NO bikes or scooters to be brought onto site.
3. Only **one** person to enter the site.
4. Arrive at your allocated pick up time – 3:15-3:30pm for Reception, 3:00pm for KS1 and 3:15pm for KS2.
5. Enter through your **allocated gate only**.
6. Please do not pass people who are queuing on the pathways unless it is absolutely necessary. Use another route if you can.

7. Collect swiftly and leave the site as soon as you have collected your child – please do not congregate in or around the school site.
8. Messages should not be passed on at the school gates. Please use year group emails, the office email or call the school office on 01702 294837 if you need to contact us.
9. Only essential visits should be made to the school office. Please wear a face covering if you do need to enter the school.
10. When crossing the road, please use the zebra crossing or the underpass where possible.
11. When waiting, please keep to your family groups and try to avoid mixing children from different bubbles. This includes supervising your children to ensure they do not go on the grass or play areas.

We are sorry that we have had to write this letter but it is vital that **everyone plays their part in making our arrangements a success** otherwise we will have little choice but to change what we are currently doing.

Once again, thank you for your support and understanding. We continue to live in challenging and uncertain circumstances but by working together we can make the very best of the situation we find ourselves in.

Yours sincerely,

C. McClay

S. Roche

Mr. C. McClay
Principal

Mr. S. Roche
Vice-Principal