

CONIFERS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER
Mr A Johnson

12th July 2017

Dear Parent/Carers,

I would like to inform you all of some changes that will be happening from September 2017. Although the changes themselves are not hugely significant, we are hoping that the outcomes will be.

To start then, over the summer term, we are having some new fencing put up around the entrance/exit at the front of the school, in order to increase the safety for our children. We are also changing the current, low, double-gate, which provides access to the playground to a taller, single gate.

In addition to this and in light of new proposals made by Budmouth College to change the timings of their school day, we will also be restricting the large flow of students currently using our grounds as a 'cut through' on their way home. Many of these students are generally quite courteous and mindful of our younger children, however, increasing numbers are not, and several of you have shared your concerns about their use of inappropriate language and their lack of care towards our children, in this school.

To this end, from September, only students collecting their siblings will be granted access to the school. These students must report to the school Reception area, where their siblings will be brought out to them. Conifers children who know they will be collected by their elder brothers or sisters will congregate in the school library at the end of each day.

Students, who are collecting siblings, will be allowed to be accompanied by one fellow student, but no more than that. This will immediately alleviate the problem of large groups of students making the excuse of 'escorting' one younger child off the premises.

Please also bear in mind that students will no longer be able to use the excuse, 'I am meeting my mum', amongst other, more inventive justifications, as a way of crossing through the school. If, as a parent, you have arranged to meet an elder son or daughter after having collected your child, we would ask that you also make your way to the Reception area and meet them there.

Mrs Fortescue, Principal of Budmouth College has kindly offered to share this information with her students. Mrs Parker, Manager of Little Firs, has also copied a letter to parents.

Secondly, we intend to dramatically reduce the number of vehicles driving into and up to the school and or Little Firs, whilst our children are using the same designated areas. Despite numerous requests for caution relating to the way vehicles are driven on school grounds, these are, by some, still being ignored. Consequently, and again from September ~~2017. 31st Sept~~ **school gates will be locked and remain so between 8:25 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and again at 2:55 p.m.**

This will enable our children, who are not always the most vigilant, to move around the school, during two busy times of the day, with impunity. It will also allow you as parents, to walk safely into school with younger children when necessary, as it will for those attending Little Firs.

As a school, we have a Duty of Care to all our children and are responsible for their safeguarding. We believe that, by employing these strategies, we will increase our ability to uphold this.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Johnson
Headteacher

