

02 / 09 / 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

**RE Temporary entry and exit point for Y3 / 4 children**

I hope your children have enjoyed the first day back; with many returning for the first time in a number of months. The day has run very smoothly and the children were very excited to be back; it was wonderful to see so many children enjoying learning again.

I very much appreciate the support the school has received from parents during such a difficult period. Planning the return has taken a lot of staff time and dedication and we have taken careful steps to ensure that parents and children felt confident in the safety procedures we have put in place.

Today I have received a couple of complaints regarding the Y3 / 4 entry and exit over the school field. I am aware that this is certainly not ideal, but I felt it was a necessary short-term measure for several reasons outlined below.

The safety of the children and parents is of paramount importance and following government guidance, by increasing the number of entry and exit points we have been able to prevent a 'bottle neck' forming which could prevent parents being able to apply 2m distancing.

Prior to the summer a number of parents shared concerns about 'pinch points'. I have listened to these concerns whilst planning the risk assessment. We want our children and parents to feel safe being on the school site.

We were advised by our grounds people to leave the cut grass on the field as this would become compacted and help keep the ground from becoming muddy.

I have enquired about having a hard path installed on the field, however we have been unable to source a company that could complete the work prior to the return today.

We were uncertain about how many children would return today and also how effective the staggered start / end of the day would be. Attendance today has been fantastic, the best in years. I have witnessed for myself the start and end of the day arrangements and feel confident that what we have put in place has been effective, but also that I can make changes to improve it further.

Whilst I start to plan these changes, I ask that you bring your child in old shoes or wellies to come across the field, changing into their school shoes once you arrive at the Y3 / 4 area.

I kindly ask that that you are patient whilst we get the children back into a routine and I review further our safety procedures. I hope to communicate the changes by the beginning of next week.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Mrs Emma Levers

Head of School