Hydesville Tower School

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29th March 2018

Dear Parent or Carer.

In the last two months, we have been looking at ways to ensure the safety of our pupils is not compromised by the nature of our setting. There have been two main areas of concern related to the playground during evening clubs and activities, and to access to the inner sections of the school by adults delivering or collecting their children. Thus, we have considered how we can improve these parts to minimise possible risks.

The playground barrier will only come into operation from 3.40pm each afternoon, and will then return to being upright at the end of the last club (usually about 4.45pm). This will mean that pupils using the playground or Astro for their club will not be at risk of cars manoeuvring for space and inadvertently being hurt due to being unseen.

Nursery parents, or parents whose circumstances require special consideration will be able to purchase a fob to enable access to the playground for collection of their child. This can be purchased via the Office. The fob will cause the barrier to rise at the time of arrival, hence allowing access to the playground for collection. We anticipate that the numbers using this at the time of clubs will be sufficiently small to ensure that safety of the children is not at risk.

Alternative parking will be possible at the usual locations – Broadway North, Charlotte Street, Rowley Street and Arboretum Road – but we recognise that there will be some time of adjusting to the new situation.

The barrier will first come into operation on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, to allow everyone a couple of days at the start of term to ask any questions about the process and procedure. Alternatively, feel free to email me at <a href="mailto:warren.honey@hydesville.com">warren.honey@hydesville.com</a> and I will clarify any details.

All schools have to take careful account of who they allow within the buildings when children are around. Whilst we know the chances of harm from members of our community is negligible, it is vital that we maintain a security that safeguards the children.

Parents who are dropping off children in the morning wrap-around care or whom are collecting children in the evenings from this provision should go to the Lower Prep playground gate and press the button on the intercom unit. This has a video link, and will enable access to be provided to the Cedar Tree Room, as per our current provision but now via the Lower Prep

playground. We would ask that the gate is always closed behind each family unit, so people are not able to access the site without having been allowed through by the supervising staff. Exit from the site will also occur through the Lower Prep playground gate.

Parents wishing to attend the Breakfast Club will be able to do so via the main playground pedestrian gate, and will be allowed in to the Dining Room by the supervising staff member. Exit from the Breakfast Club will be by returning back into the playground and out of the main gates.

The Office will remain available for those parents wishing to make enquiries or deliver items for children or staff attention.

Again, this system will come into play on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, to enable time to check on any details and clarify operational requirements.

Your child's safety is of paramount importance to us. Whilst these steps may create a little additional effort for some parents or carers, I hope you will appreciate that the reasoning is absolutely appropriate.

With very best wishes

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