

# HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL

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8<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Dear Parent or Carer,

Following a suggestion at the recent Parental Engagement Group, we have decided to reissue this letter regarding arrangements for safety, making it focused on each age section of the school. This should make it easier for everyone to discern the relevant points for them.

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.

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 before 8.00am 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. Collection of children from Nursery or the "After school" wrap-around care will operate by the same system, using the Lower Prep playground gate intercom for attention, and departing through the same gate. To try and increase further the

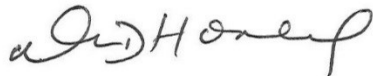
safety of the children and the comfort of the parent or carer, the dismissal will now occur through one door – the Nursery main entrance under the canopy. This will allow the adult to shelter from the elements, and only the relevant child with the school adult will be able to access the exit through the corridor.

The Office will remain available between 8.00 and 4.15pm for those parents wishing to make enquiries or deliver items for children's or staff's attention.

We would ask that gates and doors are always closed behind each family unit, so people are not able to access the site without having been allowed through by the supervising staff.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. J. Honey'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and 'J'.

Headmaster