

HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL

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8th 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.

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.

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.

Morning wrap-around care

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.

Before school or Breakfast Club

If you are dropping off your child for “Before school” club or Breakfast Club after 8.00am, please access the Dining Room from the main school playground via the **pedestrian gate** adjacent to the main double gates; access to the Dining Room will be allowed by the supervising staff member. Please note there is no access in to the main school corridor from the Dining Room. Parents wishing to attend the Breakfast Club will be able to do so via the main playground pedestrian gate. Exit from here will be by returning back into the playground and out of the main gates.

After school wrap-around care

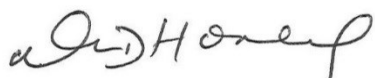
Collection of children from the “After school” wrap-around care will operate by the same system as above, using the **Lower Prep playground gate** intercom for attention, and departing through the same gate.

The Office will remain available between 8.00am 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



Headmaster