

Spring 2 Dismissal procedures

Dear Parents and Carers,

We currently dismiss pupils to their parents at the school gate at the end of the school day. This procedure was introduced at the time of the COVID 19 Pandemic in order to promote safety. Ever since we began operating in this way, we have noticed that there have been other positive benefits that have come with dismissing children from the gates at the end of the school day.

- Dismissal of pupils at the end of the day is calmer
- Children with high levels of special need are no longer over stimulated by large numbers of adults in the playground at the end of the school day
- Younger children are also more settled at dismissal times due to the calm in the playground
- It is now safer for pupils who need to return inside the building after school to do so
- School gates are able to close on time allowing staff to process late collections more quickly
- It is easier for teachers to keep track of pupils as they are being dismissed
- Class teachers are less likely to be drawn into extended conversations whilst simultaneously dismissing pupils
- It allows cover teachers enough time to identify adults collecting before children leave the line
- Staff confronted by abusive individuals are able to withdraw pupils and themselves from the situation with more ease.

We want to preserve these benefits as we believe that they are in the best interests of children and school staff but also understand that for many parents, coming into the school playground to collect pupils is also an opportunity to touch base with other parents, engage with Class Reps, members of the PTA and friends. It's also an opportunity for parents to familiarise themselves with school staff that are also present, whether premises officers, school leaders or members of the inclusion team that may be present at dismissal times.

Fridays from Spring 2

When we return to school after the half term, we are inviting parents to collect their children from inside the playground at 3:30pm every Friday. For Children in ground floor classrooms EYFS and year 1 classrooms teachers will dismiss pupils from the classroom door. All other pupils will be lined up in the playgrounds from which they are currently dismissed. This will begin on Friday 24th February. We will monitor the new procedures and consider the impact when we review it at the end of the term.

Thanking you in advance for your understanding and ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

K. Baffoe
Head of School

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