

Effie Demetriou - Headteacher

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6th September 2021

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to see so many of you today on our first day back at school. The children had a lovely day and settled well into their new classrooms. I held a series of year group assemblies, which provided me and the staff the perfect opportunity to welcome the children properly back into school.

Thank you for your support and patience with the new start and end of day arrangements. We are constantly reviewing our procedures to ensure they run as smoothly as possible, avoiding congestion at key points.

Therefore, we would like to make a few small, but important, changes to our end of day arrangements and share some reminders regarding drop off in the mornings.

Start of the School Day

Years 1 and 2

Children in Years 1 and 2 will continue to meet their teacher in Highworth Road playground at **8:45am** and be escorted up to their class at **8:55am**. Please do not arrive before **8:45am** to avoid congestion in the playground.

Years 3,4,5 and 6

The main gates will open at **8:40am** for Years 3,4,5 and 6 to enter the school independently. As of tomorrow, **parents will not be permitted** to enter the Stanley Road playground. This is to avoid overcrowding during drop off. Children in these year groups can arrive anytime between **8:40am – 8:55am** and walk up to class with their peers.

End of the School Day

We will continue to use the double gates on Highworth Road as the single entrance/exit point at the end of the school day. We are reluctant to open the double gates on Stanley Road playground due to concerns for the children's safety. As Stanley Road is a 'no through road' the turning point for vehicles is directly by the school gates. In the past, we have experienced vehicles using this area to turn around, park or as a waiting space. The road is also very narrow and will not allow for oncoming cars to pass, causing major stand-still congestion along the street.

Therefore, we have decided to stagger the end of day pick up times to avoid overcrowding and congestion in the walkway between the two main playgrounds.

Please see the table on the following page for all the details regarding new collection times at the end of the day.

Year Group	Playground	Collection Time
Reception (when they start)	Highworth Road	3:10pm
Year 1	Highworth Road	3:10pm
Year 2	Highworth Road	3:10pm
Year 3	Highworth Road	3:10pm
Year 4	Stanley Road	3:20pm
Year 5	Stanley Road	3:20pm
Year 6	Stanley Road	3:20pm

The gates will open for parents at **3:10pm** once the children (Reception – Year 3) are in the playground. Families who are collecting older siblings in different year groups can wait in Stanley Road playground after their youngest child has been collected.

Scooters and Bikes

Unfortunately, the school does not have the capacity to store a large number of scooters and bikes on the premises. Please can families ensure that any scooters or bikes used to travel to school are taken home after the morning drop off. This arrangement will be kept under review.

Lunches

There were a number of children who did not have their school lunch ordered for them this morning. If your child has school dinners, **please place your weekly order** via this link using your school login.

Thank you again for your continued patience and support during these times of change.

Best wishes,

Effie Demetriou **Headteacher**