



Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **RE: Safety Protocols Update**

I would like to take this opportunity to praise the incredible way that your children have coped with their return to school after such a long absence. Attendance is very high, students are observing our safety rules and have been engaging well with their learning – a very positive start!

It was with great delight that 'hot chocolate with the head' made it's return this morning (I always value meeting students who are doing the right thing, I also like Mrs Farndon's hot chocolate!). I really enjoyed meeting with the first two students to be nominated this year, **Conor McNiffe** and **Kristian Bell**, who have both demonstrated their ambition in lessons this week. I will be continuing to meet students every morning who demonstrate our values (family, ambition, integrity and respect) as follows:

Year 7: Tuesday

Year 8: Thursday

Year 9: Monday

Year 10: Friday

Year 11: Wednesday

Sixth Form: during students' free periods

As we complete the first full week back, now is the right time to review our processes and refine them where appropriate. Therefore, the following changes will take place from Monday. All changes will be communicated to students during registration on Monday.

### End of the Day

Students will now be dismissed in three phases:

2.45pm School bus students will be dismissed (all years) – they must show their bus pass to be released by the class teacher.

2.50pm Remaining Year 7 & 9 will depart

2.55pm All remaining students will depart

If students want to meet siblings from other year groups to walk home together then the meeting point is the wide path outside the headteacher's office window. Please remind your children that as they leave they need to move away from the front of school and not congregate.

Please encourage your children to make their way home responsibly and avoid gathering outside local shops and businesses.

### Bike Shed

A one way system will be introduced to manage the flow of students more effectively.



### Sixth Form Area

Owing to the significant rise in popularity of our Sixth Form (now over 50 students larger than this time last year) we will be investing in additional seating and work spaces to expand the capacity of the Sixth Form area. We are working on this as quickly as possible so please bear with us in the meantime.

### Changes in Science

We will be altering the flow of students around the ground floor of the Science Block. This will be explained in more detail to the students.

### Rotating Canteen Access

We have been forced to limit access to the canteen to one break only during the day to keep year group bubbles separate. This means that certain year groups can only buy food during the morning break. We will begin to rotate this so that year groups spend a week with access in the morning and then a week with access in the afternoon. While this doesn't completely solve the problem, it will be fairer for all students over time. For next week, the arrangements will stay the same. More details to follow.

### Dropping Students by Car

I completely understand why car use has increased at this time but this is leading to some localised congestion around the school (particularly between 8.10-8.20am). Could you please consider dropping students on roads near to the school so that they can complete the journey on foot, as this would no doubt help alleviate the problem.

I am grateful to those students, parents and staff who have been offering feedback over the last week as it helps us to improve.

Finally, I was pleased to be sent a Facebook post thanking our students for litter picking in Spencers Wood. Sadly the students were not identified, so I cannot thank them in person, but it is great to see that Emmbrook students are as positive in the community as they are here at school.

Best wishes,

**Nick McSweeney**  
Headteacher

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