

Headmaster Update

Thursday 1st October

Dear All,

Given the varying developments that appear to adorn each week, this mid-week letter seems to be becoming a routine! Thanks to the many of you for the extremely buoyant and cheery responses to the various amendments we have been obliged to make. Though tree surgeons are due tomorrow, we are planning on the drive not yet being clear for use and so please find the staggered timings for the exeat departures tomorrow:

2nd Exeat Pick-Up Procedure: Friday 2nd October

4pm - 4.15pm

Pre-Prep children and their siblings in any year group – Parents should park by the Dean Courts. Pre-Prep parents will collect their child as normal. Siblings will be signed out and can join their parent by their cars.

<u>4.15pm – 4.25pm</u>

Individual Children – Years 3, 4 and 5 to be picked up from the Back Gate.

All Families with siblings - not in the Pre-Prep (i.e. Y3 - Y8) to be picked up from the Putting Lawn.

<u>4.30pm – 4.40pm</u>

Individual Children – Years 6, 7 and 8 to be picked up from the Putting Lawn.

Please ensure you arrive between the allotted time slots and at the correct locations. This may also be the moment for day children to take swimming kit home; I am afraid we have had to draw an early end to the half term's swimming programme.

Visits to Senior Schools

As I hope you can agree, our commitment to Covid-19 protocols has been meticulous and designed to minimise the risk of transmission. My thanks are due to everyone who has entered into this, such that we have been relatively free of disruption, compared to many. However, visits to senior schools by families, in the usual procedure of application, are important and after reviewing the variety of practices, we are reluctant to continue the blanket ban on this happening. If you do need to visit, please could you request from and then share with us the senior school's Covid-19 protocols in advance so that we can risk assess each individual visit. (For example, are tours given by pupils or staff? Are meals being offered? Are visits joint or singular?)

With confidence in these protocols we should be able to allow such a visit to take place. That said, if you are able to delays visits, stick to a virtual visit or timetabled visits to take place before long breaks (half term/ exeats/holidays) we would be much obliged and, in actual fact, many schools are holding as much of the assessment and pre-assessment virtually this year, so visits should be kept to a minimum.

Once again, thank you for your smiles and forbearance!

Best wishes,

Fred de Falbe