



Eastway Primary School
Rossall Road
Moreton
Wirral
CH46 8TA

Headteacher: Mrs Emily Morris

☎: 0151 677 1235

✉: schooloffice@eastway.wirral.sch.uk

🌐: eastway-primary.eschools.co.uk

11th March 2020

Access to School - Beginning of the School Day

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to clarify our current position regarding the start of day organisation and why the gate system has been changed since half term.

The security of the school and public access to the playgrounds is the overall reason that the school gates are monitored so tightly and that we made the decision that we would not have access at the start of the school day. Safeguarding of pupils and school staff is paramount and the primary purpose for our robust gate monitoring system. We maintained the two gates from September to allow a smooth transition for our youngest pupils and allow parents/carers the opportunity to take their children directly to the door of their classroom to be greeted by staff.

At the midway point in the year, it has always be our intention that we would move to one gate. The key purpose is to promote more independence for our pupils in preparing them for transition into Key Stage One when they are ready and lessen the risk with only one gate accessible.

I apologise that this may not have been communicated in a way in which parents found acceptable and that it is reported children have been upset and underprepared for the change. This would never be our intention. The staff of our more vulnerable groups were told to prepare children and be available to speak with any parents who may have a concern. If this has not been the case or you feel this has not been as thorough as you would have liked, I can only apologise.

As an interim measure I will ask staff to support the transition for all pupils and be available for those pupils who may be struggling with the change or have significant needs.

I would urge you that if you have any concerns relating directly to your child, that in the first instance, you always speak to your child's class teacher, they are best placed to be able to offer you an immediate response and action. The end of the day is a different circumstance as children are supervised by school staff and will only be released from their care when an adult is there to collect them.

I hope that this has answered your questions and given clarity around the decision that we make to ensure that our school is a safe place and that we promote a positive start to the school day for all pupils. I would ask again that parents/carers do not access the playground in the morning, unless this has been agreed prior as a transition arrangement. I would also like to ask that all staff are treated in a polite and courteous manner. I have been deeply saddened to hear the awful negativity that my staff have endured and the confrontational and aggressive attitudes that have been displayed in front of children. If any incident is reported to me I shall take further action.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Emily Morris
Headteacher