



Eastway Primary School
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13th May 2024

Start of Day Arrangements & Safeguarding Everyone

Dear Eastway Families,

I have been saddened and disappointed to hear that a number of my staff have been subjected to abuse and complaints regarding the start of day arrangements and the actions that we take to safeguard children and adults in school. Having been on the gate this morning to meet and greet our early years and Key Stage One families, I can say that the system was well managed, children were happy to enter school this way, build their independence and staff were able to support where needed whilst ensuring the safety of all.

It is my understanding that Mr Haughey sent an email regarding our school expectations last week. To be completely clear:

- The gate opens at 8:40am and closes promptly at 9.00am.
- Eastway staff will be available to meet and greet you at the gates and ensure the safety and site security - if they request that you do not enter the playground, please treat them with respect and do as you are requested.
- No parents/carers are to be on the school yard at the start of the school day.
- Staff on the gate must not be distracted from supervising children and ensuring the security of the school site and safety of all. Please do not stand and chat or gather around that area.
- Dogs must not be brought onto the school site under any circumstance.
- Smoking or vaping is not allowed on school premises, including by our gated areas.
- The Gate E on Oundle Road will remain closed whilst the swimming pool is here to ensure safety and school security.

For children with additional needs or requiring support we will agree a short term plan agreed with our SENCo to help but this is a rare event and takes additional staffing so should not be an expectation. It is my understanding that this has always been the case and if staff have made changes that I am unaware of or not been strictly sticking to the rules that I set for families then I am incredibly sorry. I will ensure that this is communicated again to my team and that families are aware of our school expectations.

At Eastway we pride ourselves with working closely with our families and have strong relationships based on mutual respect. Thank you as ever for working with us, adhering to our rules and expectations and doing all we can to ensure our children are safe, happy and growing in independence.

Kind regards,

Mrs Emily Morris
Headteacher