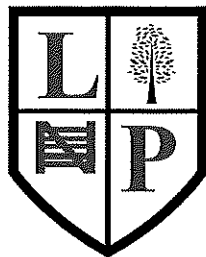


LARCHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr. R. Duff

9th December 2019

Lateness

Dear Parent / Carer

Firstly, can I thank the overwhelming majority of parents for ensuring your child is on time for school every day. Punctuality and good time management is an essential life skill that you are instilling at a young age. You are also giving your child the best chance of success, as learning starts the minute the bell goes at 8:30am.

Unfortunately though, some of our children are still arriving late. I have been accepting of this due (to a point), as the school timings changed but from hereon I am expecting all of our children to arrive on time. The transition period has now come to an end. Additionally, children who are arriving late, are being sent in without an adult to sign them in. This is to stop from today.

Just to reiterate, the school gates open at 8:15am and the bell to start the day rings at 8:30am. Every child should be in for 8:30am. There is a 10 minute window until 8:40am but this should not be used as a backstop. Children arriving at 8:40am have already missed 10 minutes learning compared to their peers. That is nearly an hour of lost learning over the week.

I understand traffic and individual morning routines but the expectation is that every child arrives before 8:30am ensuring they are here for the start of the day. If you were booked on a train and it was scheduled to leave at 8:30am, you would arrive at the station with plenty of time before departure.

Moving forward, if children continue to be late, unfortunately this will lead to further actions from the school. At the very least, children will not enjoy the same access to the extracurricular clubs as others. This mirrors the rule regarding parents who take their child on term time holidays. As a school, this is not something I want to do but I am not making this choice, parents are.

I will finish this letter how I started it. Thank you to the overwhelming majority of parents who bring their child to school on time, each and every day. I very much appreciate your support in what we are always aiming to achieve at Larchwood – that every child has equal access to the same learning time as their peers.

Mr R. Duff
Headteacher

