



Abbey Meads Community Primary School

Hugo Drive, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN25 4GY

Head Teacher: Mr Robert M. Buckley

Telephone: 01793 723239

Email: admin@abbeymeads.swindon.sch.uk

Website: www.abbeymeads.swindon.sch.uk

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Dear Parents,

Please read on very carefully as there is important information throughout this letter.

Since there is little distancing and mixed age group crowding happening outside the gates from around 8.10am for an 8.30am start, we have decided to move this hazard onto the school playground rather than the streets around school. So, we will return to the **8.20am opening of the school gates** on Monday 27th September 2021, but please do not start arriving even earlier!

The **classroom doors will open at 8.30am**, in the same way they have done for the last two decades (pre-covid) and children remain your responsibility until the teachers welcome them over the classroom threshold around 8.30am. However, children walking by themselves, or being dropped off at the turning circle, should still come **after** 8.30am, as they will then be able to come into the classroom without being left alone, either outside the gates or on the playground before 8.30am.

From Monday 27th September the main gates **opening at 8.20am and locking at 8.45am**.

Please be aware of some issues with respect to this change.

- **PLEASE CONTINUE TO USE A ONE-WAY SYSTEM THROUGH THE MAIN GATES AND AROUND SCHOOL.**
- **Masks are still required.**
- **You remain responsible for your child until they are in the classroom.**
- Only come at 8.20am if you are going to look after your children until they enter the classroom. Please do not let them run around or climb on school equipment, ramps etc. This is not a play time and they should stay with you until the classroom doors open.
- If your child walks alone or is dropped off in the turning circle – please come between 8.30-8.45am.
- Whilst Mrs Cunningham and I will remain on duty at the gates, we are regularly in conversation with parents and cannot watch all children make their way into school. It remains your responsibility to ensure your child gets to the classroom and is your decision to allow them to walk in alone if you choose to do so.
- If your child is in Years 2, 3 and 4 – there is the possibility you will block access to the playground, or as it bends around the school, **please leave access to the pathways, gates and the bicycle park.**
- Please wait by the classroom doors – affording space for the teachers on the door – and remember that we will still be looking for a quick drop off once the doors open at 8.30am. Teachers do not have time at 8.30am for lengthy discussion, as they need to care for 30+ children. Quick messages only please at this time.
- **If you are concerned about social distancing, please come between 8.32-8.45am when at present the flow of pedestrian traffic is lighter.**
- **Gates will now lock at 8.45am**

The staggered afternoon exit times remain in place until we see how the morning adaptations work.

Many thanks for your understanding and support as we try and emerge from the last two years of lockdowns and restrictions with sufficient caution to keep your children's safety and welfare a priority.

Bob

