

24th June 2021

Dear parents, carers and guardians

Re. On-site and Local bus service changes

On Monday we received notification that the local arrangement for buses to access the school site will be discontinued (with one exception*) with effect from Monday 28th June.

Behind the scenes we have been trying strenuously to change this sudden arrangement – and have been petitioning councillors, safeguarding officers and LA agencies. At this stage, while we want the current arrangement to continue, or at the very least to allow more time for families to be able to prepare for further changes, to date there appears to be no change in the bus provider's resolve.

While we will continue making representations on your behalf, I need to make you aware of the latest communication from Morebus (see email on page 2) outlining both alternative bus routes and new routes. The 401 service will continue under the current arrangements for the rest of term.

I apologise for the significant inconvenience this will bring at such short notice. Please feel free to communicate with Morebus directly.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Gray
Headteacher

We have followed government guidance throughout the pandemic and during mid-May, we were guided to increase capacity on all service vehicles such that although we don't carry standing passengers or have people facing each other on rearward facing seats, the majority of seats are now in use. Through discussions with BCP Council, funding for "Covid extra" school services will therefore cease in the majority of cases at the end of the week, and we are asking students to return to the normal network.

We are aware some students who joined your establishment in this academic year will not be aware of the prior arrangements, so the equivalent service that they should now use is listed on the table in the link below.

<https://www.morebus.co.uk/changes-to-school-bus-services>

I have also copied the relevant journeys to Poole High, below:

Route	Area	Alternative Route
404	Broadstone, Waterloo, Creekmoor	4
405	Canford Heath	5 or 6
407	Kinson, West Howe, Wallisdown, Alderney	14, 16 or 17
408	Hamworthy, Turlin Moor, Upton	8 or 9

We will continue to operate the 401 service until the end of term in July, as this has proved very popular and we feel better than putting that number of students onto the m1 service all at once, so we would still like to access the school grounds with this one service.

Apologies once again that notice here is short.