



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Archdiocese of
Birmingham

26th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

'Sometimes the right thing gets done for the wrong reason and sometimes, unfortunately, the wrong thing gets done for the right reason'.

Firstly, thank you to those of you who have sent in your views on the times of the school day and drop off and pick up issues. The Zoom meeting on Friday 20th January was very useful and when I then met with leaders, it has led us to consider further the issue with the time between and the difficulties for those parents with a child in each key stage.

I really want to get this right and we are not there yet. Teachers value every second of time in the classroom for your children and it is important that we protect their learning time as well as making drop off and pick up a more enjoyable time for you. There is nothing worse than cold children waiting for a sibling. There is also consideration of the picking up from one gate and then the other.

The staggered times do help with parking and local residents which is a consideration we need to bear in mind. I am in regular contact with the local police regarding this.

At the zoom it was discussed about walking through with your Key stage 2 child but after further consideration, this poses a safeguarding concern. We need to think about this as a school. It is important to me that we take the time to make the right decisions. Any decision that is made, is not made quickly or on impulse. Many areas have to be considered. We have learnt a lot from the experience of the pandemic and as you already know, we have taken the time to consider what works and to carefully journey from it effectively. You have and continue to be a big part of this.

We will therefore continue with the arrangements as they are for now. However, with a few tweaks on positioning in the Key stage 2 playground (which was discussed) both gates will be opened to allow a flow of parents into and out of the playground. I will continue to include this as a regular item on the Parent Forum Zoom and we will review in the summer term to see if any permanent changes can be made before the next academic year.

Thank you for your communication and honesty as we continue to work together for our children.

Yours in faith and partnership

Mrs Louise Bury

Headteacher





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