



Dear Parents/Carers,

Being in school on time

Just a reminder to all children's families to emphasise the importance of being in school on time as there have been a few incidents of some pupils arriving at school at 9.00am or later.

The school gate opens at 8:40am every day. The gate closes at 8:55am so children can start their lessons promptly. The first lesson of the day is phonics/reading and this is a vital skill in the curriculum to allow all pupils to learn best in every subject.

Children who arrive late are greatly disadvantaged because they miss starting the day with their friends – this is a key socialising time where children complete morning activities such as handwriting or social/emotional development activities together. This crucial routine at the beginning of the day ensures all children are ready for their reading learning at 9am. Any child who arrives after 9am are missing the speed sound sections of their phonics lessons (crucial in order to put sounds together to read words) or are missing the beginning of their taught reading lesson in VIPERS. This means that late children are often unsettled and/or confused about tasks and can begin to fall behind in their learning. This may mean that missed learning needs to be caught up in vital social times such as breaks and assemblies.

It is also very important that children establish good routines and habits in preparation for the rest of their lives. Punctuality is a life skill that they need to develop whilst they are young.

Please support school in ensuring your child arrives at school on time to prevent disruption to your child's own learning and that of others.

We are required to monitor children's punctuality and attendance. On-going lateness (after the class register has been taken) is classified as an unauthorised absence and this is contrary to The Education Act. The minimum expectation of attendance for each child is 95%.

We understand that there may be rare occasions when you are unavoidably late due to unforeseen circumstances. **On these occasions please make sure that you report to the school office directly when you drop your child off at school, not your child's class teacher. Please do not leave children at the gate, they must be accompanied to the office.**

Thank you for your continued support.