

SPRINGVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Safety Systems- Important

Thursday 15th September 2022

Dear families,

Now that we have been back at school with the new timings and systems for a full week I wanted to write out to thank everyone who has read the details shared and complied so far but also remind parents, carers and other family members of their crucial responsibilities to keep themselves, their children and each other safe.

Unfortunately, we have had some feedback that suggests that some of the key guidelines are not being followed and if any parent or child in school do not feel safe then it is our job as school leaders to rectify that immediately.

We have ordered new banners to remind families of these guidelines and we shared them all with pupils too in assembly last week. The systems have been planned, as ever, with your feedback in mind so please do keep sharing any views or suggestions with us on how we can improve safety. Our safety record is excellent but we can always improve with the help of people accessing the school site every day!

The key guidelines are as follows:

- Parents must not park in the staff car park or use the disabled bays (unless you have a disabled badge clearly on display or have permission to use those areas from school leaders for safety reasons). Please park responsibly in the local community and drive carefully around the school community and surrounding areas.
- Dogs (of any kind or size with the exception of assistance dogs) are not allowed on the school site (this includes the drop off area or shelter) and we would ask that all parents who bring dogs to the school gates consider that some pupils have told us that they are scared of dogs so please be considerate of that and help us to keep the paths clear of dog waste as we have had some walked in to the school grounds recently.
- Bikes and scooters are not allowed to be used on the school site as there are over 200 families accessing the site at similar times. **Please dismount from bikes and scooters before entering the school site and do not ride them on the playground.** We have had reports of pupils riding through crowds of people on the narrow paths, which is incredibly dangerous for everyone and especially our youngest pupils.
- Pupils who walk to school or back home independently must behave impeccably and keep themselves safe- this includes not using a mobile phone. Pupils cannot have mobile phones switched on and/or on their person in school or on the school grounds. Using a phone on the way to school or back home compromises safety for pupils as covered in our Road Safety work and assessments.
- The long path down to the Y1-6 area is narrow, hence the concerns about using bikes and scooters, but if we have a simple system of keeping left when people are travelling in both directions it will be much safer for everyone. Could all parents/carers using the EYFS path or the Y1-6 path please keep left when there is 'traffic' going both ways.
- Pupils must be kept close to a responsible adult and they should not be accessing the play equipment/resources. Last year we had two incidents where pupils were injured on the school site whilst waiting for siblings and in the care of their own parent. Please keep children close by and do not allow them to play in the woods or on the trim trail for example.

We hope that this update is helpful to new parents and families and serves as a polite but important reminder to all families. **Crucially, could I ask that this is shared with all grandparents/safe collection list members so that they can play their part too?** The new banners will remind everyone of their safety responsibilities in a few weeks and we have reorganised some of our morning/evening plans so that even more staff can be present to enforce the rules as well as greeting the children and parents as we always do. We are all very lucky to come and work, learn and play in a fantastic building/facility so let's work together to keep everyone safe and everyone moving!

Regards

Mr L McClure

Headteacher