

FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
ROCHDALE OLD ROAD
BURY

10th November 2017

Dear Parents,

According to our Parental Questionnaire, 99.2% of parents feel that their children are safe at our school. However, we have had an issue of children going home when they should have remained in school. This has obvious implications for safety where parents think a child is at school and the school think the child is at home. Our school policy that Upper School (Y4, Y5 and Y6) are allowed to go home alone will therefore need to change.

- We would prefer all age groups to be met and this will be compulsory from September 2018.
- Y4 are the youngest children in the upper school and our policy that children in Y4 can go home alone will be stopped from now. We will now require that Y4 children are met by an adult (16+). We understand that some parents may have started jobs on the basis of not meeting children and in these cases a meeting with myself must be requested.
- As the clocks have gone back all children attending clubs, including Y5 and Y6, must be met by an adult as it is dark by the time children are dismissed.
- Within school, teaching time will stop earlier so that lists of club members are read out each afternoon.
- The Owl Club will have to recruit an extra qualified member of staff to meet children coming out of classes.

The changes reduce learning time and put the Owl Clubs finances into a difficult position. However, they are necessary as safety is our greatest concern.

In mentioning clubs, I must thank my staff. Parents are sometimes unhappy at short notice of changes but we provide lots of activities and all teachers plus most TA's provide extra-curricular activities unpaid, in their own time.

The Reading Gladiator club takes at least three hours preparation time. In taking children to sports fixtures I often pass schools with staff car parks emptied by 3.30! Our staff are here providing experiences for children. In considering the problems of children going home rather than staying for a club, I hope the fact that requiring an adult pick up will solve the problem. However, just going home

rather than attending the club shows a lack of commitment and courtesy in addition to the safety problems. A further change will now be a two strike policy.

- One chance will be given, but on the second occasion that a child goes home rather than attend a club they have committed for, their place in the club will be withdrawn. If a child is ill the person in charge of the club would be informed and so there would be no problem.
- It should be well known that if we do not give 24 hours notice for cancellation, then we still commit to look after the child in school until the normal club finishing time.

Your sincerely,

C. J. Ashley

Please complete the form below to help us enhance safety in school.

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KS2
End of School Arrangements

Name of child _____ Class _____

Allowed to walk home alone (Y5 and Y6 only)

Will be met by an adult

Named persons allowed to meet and relationship to the child:
