

Seghill First School

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07 March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Important information about improvements to our school site and changes to access arrangements

A number of changes are being made to our school site to improve security and safeguarding. Our school is more than 80 years old, and some of its features need to be updated. The following work is being done in a number of stages. The first stage of work has started today, and this will include-

- removing the brick pillars and gates at the main entrance;
- removing some sections of railings in the fence on the internal path between the bottom yard and the top yard;
- demolishing and replacing the brick wall that separates the bottom yard from the rear yards of the neighbours who live on Main Street North.

When this work has been completed, additional work will be done, including-

- removing the railings and dwarf wall on the internal path between the bottom yard and the top yard from the office to near the Year 1 classroom door;
- erecting a new fence from the railings on Cheviot View across to the Year 1 classroom door;
- removing the railings from the bottom yard and replacing them with a new fence down to the exit gate at the bottom of Cheviot View.

This work is being funded by Northumberland County Council as part of a capital build project. The cost of this work is not coming from our school budget.

In order to ensure the safety of our children, parents and carers, we have had to make some changes to access arrangements. Please note the following changes-

Change 1

Until further notice, the **internal path that runs from the bottom yard to the top yard will be closed** and cannot be used before, during or after school.

New arrangements

Please **use the external path on Cheviot View to enter the top yard, green class classroom or the school office via the gates on Cheviot View.** Access to the top yard via Barrass Avenue and the gate next to the kitchen will continue as normal.

Change 2

There will be no access to the red class classroom door on Thursday 07 March at 3:15pm and Friday 08 March at 8:35am.

New arrangements

On Thursday 07 March at 3:15pm and Friday 08 March at 8:35am parents and carers of children in red class are asked to use the small gate (usually locked and not used) at the top end of the bottom yard next to the wooden fence and use the internal path to get to the red class classroom door. This is the

only part of the internal path that can be accessed. Staff will be there to collect the children in the morning and hand them over to you at hometime.

Change 3

From Friday 08 March at 3:15pm and until further notice, the bottom yard will be closed and there will be no access to the bottom yard or the internal path that runs from the bottom yard to the top yard.

New arrangements

Please continue to **use the external path on Cheviot View to enter the top yard, green class classroom or the school office via the gates on Cheviot View.**

On Friday 08 March at 3:15pm and until further notice, **access to the red class classroom door will be via the access area that the builders are creating from Cheviot View straight across to the red class classroom door.** This is where a set of locked, blue gates are situated and which may have been removed by the time you read this. An access area in front of the red class classroom door will be made. Parents and carers of children in red class should use this at 8:35am and 3:15pm.

These changes have been put in place to ensure the safety of our whole school community and visitors to our school while the work is being carried out. If you see anything that concerns you while any of this work is being carried out, please report it to me immediately. If any of these arrangements change I will inform you.

Thank you for your patience. I'm sure these changes will improve the safety and safeguarding of our site and the appearance of our school.

Yours sincerely

Miss Chappell
Headteacher