

Starting the day in a positive way at Shirley Primary

Dear Parents and Carers

I have very much enjoyed the start of the year, meeting many of you in the playground in the morning and seeing the children come to school ready for learning. I have also noticed how busy it often is, how little space there can be in some parts of the playground and have talked to many of you about how we might improve the start of the school day.

Staff have shared about how vital it is for children to be settled and ready for learning, as soon as they come to school, and how important the start of the school day is.

From Monday 1st October, we will be triallying a new system for mornings.

We have spoken to children already. It will run as follows:



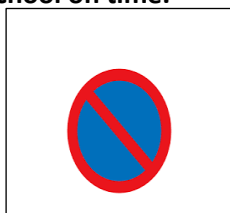
- **8:35am – School Gates open** (Senior Staff will be on the playground)
- **8:45am – Classroom doors open** (Teachers at the door to speak to if necessary)

Children will go into class and get ready for the day. They may start some early morning learning, respond to marking or read. A Teaching Assistant will be in class.

- **8:55am – Registration.** Classroom doors will close. *If your child arrives after this time, they will have to go to the main School Office and be marked as late.*

There will no longer be a bell and children will no longer have to line up outside class. They will come in calmly when the door opens, and parents are free to leave, or speak to the teacher if necessary.

The importance of being at school on time: being on time for school to start learning is really important. It gets your child's day off to a good start, and puts them in a positive frame of mind. It also sets good patterns for the future, helps your child be more settled and confident in the morning and therefore do better at school. Good punctuality leads to good attendance and better achievement. **Please see over the page for further information on arriving at school on time.**



No Waiting
8:30-9:30am
3:00-4:00pm



Shirley Primary will trial this new system for the next three weeks up to half term. If you have any comments and would like to share them with the school during the trial period, please contact the School Office at office@shirley.cambs.sch.uk

Parking at school I have also been out with Mr O'Connor, our Caretaker, to look at parking. Yesterday a child was hit by a car on Nuffield Road because someone had parked on the pavement. They were very lucky this was not more serious. We would like to remind parents of the following:

- It is illegal to drive on the pavement.
- Nuffield Road has clear 'No Stopping' signs and yellow lines. You cannot park in these zones.
- Parking is prohibited near to the road crossing, where the zig zag lines are.
- You cannot park or turn in the staff car park – it is too busy and not safe.
- Please park in the bays outside our school or further along Nuffield Road, past the school, where there is more space and no lines - it is safer, and is only a very short walk.

The front of our school is very busy and congested. Safety will be increased if more children walk or come to school on a bike or scooter. Please try to come to school in a different way than car if you can. It is also cheaper, healthier and a fun way to get to school, whatever the weather! ***We want all of our children to be able to come to school safely in the morning.***

Thank you for working with us.

Yours faithfully

Mr Cattermole



The Importance of Arriving at School On Time

If your child is 5 minutes late a day they lose:				
25 minutes a week	1 hour 40 minutes a month	2 hours 30 minutes a half term	5 hours a term This is equivalent to 1 full day	16 hours 15 minutes a school year This is equivalent to over 3 days

If your child is 10 minutes late a day they lose:				
50 minutes a week	3 hours 20 minutes a month	5 hours a half term This is equivalent to 1 full day	10 hours a term This is equivalent to 2 full days	32 hours 30 minutes a school year This is equivalent to over 6 full days

If your child is 15 minutes late a day they lose:				
1 hour 15 minutes a week	5 hours a month This is equivalent to 1 full day	7 hours 30 minutes a half term This is equivalent to over 1 full day	15 hours a term This is equivalent to 3 full days	48 hours 45 minutes a school year This is equivalent to over 9 full days

If your child is 20 minutes late a day they lose:				
1 hour 40 minutes a week	6 hours 40 minutes a month This is equivalent to over 1 full day	10 hours a half term This is equivalent to over 2 full days	20 hours a term This is equivalent to 4 full days	65 hours a school year This is equivalent to 13 full days

It is important for your child to arrive punctually for school so they do not miss out on valuable learning experiences