

# Bottisham Community Primary School

Interim Head: Lisa Perry  
Deputy Heads: Christine Sheppard and Debbie Heijne



Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019

## No access to school through Nursery gate

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to let you know about a change in arrangements for dropping off and collecting your children at school. **The Nursery and Reception area gates will no longer be open for parents to use as access before and after school.**

We have been spending time looking at the children's learning experiences in the Early Years Foundation Stage – that is to say in Nursery (Acorns) and Reception (Oak and some of Ash). In order to enrich their outdoor learning opportunities we intend to re-fresh and re-organise our outdoor space.

This investment in their outdoor learning is a fantastic opportunity to promote inquisitive problem-solving skills, develop a love and appreciation for nature and the outside world and encourage children to take responsibility for their outdoor environment. We want children to be confident in communicating and working collaboratively in their indoor and outdoor learning. There are so many positive health benefits, physically and mentally, not to mention the development of their fine and gross motor skills.

We are fully committed to providing the best opportunities for our children and feel that setting-up time and resource investment in these areas, prior to children arriving at school, is essential in making more positive and consistent use of our outdoor spaces for the Early Years.

**Children attending Nursery (Acorns), Reception (OAK) and Reception/ Year 1 class (ASH) will now need to wait on the Key Stage One playground** in the morning where they will be met at the Reception gate by staff to begin the day. Collection will also be on the Key Stage One playground at the end of the day where children will also exit through this gate.

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As we all adjust to this change, we do ask that you consider the parking implications and practicalities. Where possible, please avoid driving children to school as we are aware of the challenges relating to parking arrangements. Those who are parking a car, please be mindful of our residents and surrounding roads. It is essential that we work collaboratively with our local community and above all, ensure the safety of children and adults travelling to and from school at this busy time.

**This change will come into effect from the first week of March, Monday 4<sup>th</sup>.** If after a considered amount of time changes need to be made, we will re-evaluate across the term and may make relevant adjustments. Should you have some constructive feedback which supports our intention to enrich the learning environment then please get in touch via your child's home school journal.

**Although we recognise that this is a big change during such a busy time of the day, we hope you will join us in prioritising the children's learning opportunities.**

We thank you in advance for your support with this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Perry

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