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Learn and Grow Together

Mrs Theresa Thornton
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17th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will have seen the timings and arrangements for the school day return in September. These plans have been put in place to maintain a cautious approach and keep everyone safe. To give you as much notice as possible, our plans were sent out on Wednesday. On Thursday morning schools were advised by the LA, speaking on behalf of the DfE that school times as much as possible should revert back to 'normal' for September. It would appear that all schools including Wheatfields that wanted to re-structure their school week to allow for PPA as a whole school in light of the pandemic are not allowed to do so from September. This clarification of guidance from the local authority was unexpected and has arrived very late in the day.

It would seem that all of our timings need to be adjusted so that we can return as much as possible to our provision prior to lockdown. We will review PPA arrangements and of course do our best to keep the risks reduced. Had we continued in the approach that we wanted, the school would not be insured and would not have local authority support.

The timings for the school day attached to this email will remain in place until the school is advised to make any changes. In September, Kids Club times will remain the same as prior to lock down apart from a 5.00pm finish on a Friday remaining in place. Please delete the plans sent to you on Wednesday and replace them with the whole school structure attached. You will be receiving a letter for your year group(s) later on today.

For such a long time, we have been fire-fighting and reacting to the latest guidance rather than being able to forward plan which we know provides comfort. Frustrated does not come close and I apologise to you all for further changes that need to be made at such a late point in the term. This is not what I wanted for our school community and I am really sorry.

I am very glad to be part of such a great community. Thank you for all you have done during lockdown and for your continued support. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all and your families a really good break over the summer.

Take care,

Theresa Thornton
Headteacher
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Wheatfields Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

