



President Road | Aylesbury | Buckinghamshire | HP18 0YA
Tel: 01296 326320 | e-mail: admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk
Website: www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk | Twitter: @GreenRidgeR2

Headteacher: Mr. Aaron Wanford MA, B.Ed. (Hons), NPQH

Thursday, 7th March 2024

Site & Premises Changes

Dear Parents and Carers,

As most of you will already be aware, the school is expanding in size this year to accommodate one additional class in every year-group. Whilst we already have additional Reception and Year One classes, we are now at the point where further classrooms must be built to accommodate the numbers of pupils moving forwards. This was already built into the designs and planning permission for the school when it opened back in 2017, and now that pupil numbers and demand is as such, there is a need to put in place an additional eight classrooms, a new changing room/toilet block and set of offices (*see below where the red lines indicate the footprint of the new extension from the rear view and front view of the school*).



The new extension to the east of the building is anticipated to be completed in readiness for September 2024, and construction works are due to start in the next couple of weeks with contractors and mobilisation works on-site. As you would expect, doing such a large building project whilst we continue to operate within the school daily will present some challenges. The safety of all our pupils and community during the building works is paramount, and we have

worked with Buckinghamshire Council, REAch2 and the building contractors, Morgan Sindall, to ensure that the least disruption occurs and that pupils can continue with their education uninterrupted.

We anticipate that there may need to be tweaks and changes to systems once building works begin, but in the meantime, we want to let you know specifically about the next few weeks and the impact this will have on access to the site.

Week commencing Monday, 11th March 2024

What is happening?

The Upper Key Stage Two entrance will be **CLOSED** from Monday, 11th March until further notice. This entrance is going to be the main entrance/exit point for all construction work and vehicles and will be inaccessible to non-building work staff. This entrance will re-open once all building works are complete in the Autumn term.

The current bike/scooter stand/shelter by the UKS2 entrance will also be removed during the building works to facilitate ease of access to the building team and the temporary cabins for contractor staff.

What does this mean for me?

If you and/or your child use this entrance for entering or exiting the school at either the start or end of the school day, you will no longer be able to do so. There will be no access to this entrance either from the rear of the school, where parents/carers can currently walk around from one side to the other. All parents/carers will need to use the main entrance where the rest of the school enter (see photo below).



Pupils in Year Five and Six who bring bikes or scooters to school will now need to leave them in the main bike/scooter stand by the Year One classrooms, adjacent to the car park.

What else are we putting in place?

We are putting in place a one-way system for parents/carers/children at the main gate, (see *appendix 1*) due to the volume of people using this area of the site to ensure that it does not slow down the movement around the site. Parents/carers/children will enter through the main gate, but must exit via the rear car park gate, and return to the entrance down the car park pedestrian footpath. We are asking for everybody's support in this so that people can get to where they need to in the quickest and safest way.

Week commencing Monday, 18th March 2024

What is happening?

The car park will be **CLOSED** for use to parents/carers from Monday, 18th March. Building contractors have been allocated spaces in the car park for the duration of the building programme, which will reduce capacity in the car park for parents/carers to be able to park. The original design, approved by Buckinghamshire planning department was never designed or intended for parents/carers to use. As the car park was built to serve a 3- form-entry school, we facilitated parent/carer parking to ease congestion on the road. Other schools do not offer a car park for parents/carers, and we have been fortunate in the last six years to be able to continue to use the car park in the way we have. However, the number of spaces available alongside the number of vehicles wanting to get in and out is leading to greater problems daily for access and safety.

What does this mean for me?

Parents/carers will no longer be able to drive into or out of the car park, and the gates will remain closed and locked throughout the school day. We anticipate that with most parents/carers living less than 0.3 miles away, parents/carers will choose to travel to school sustainably via foot, bike, or scooter. Where parents/carers have no other alternative, they will have to park safely and considerately within the local area and walk into the school grounds.

What else are we putting in place?

There are currently two accessibility spaces at the front of the school for parents/carers to use for those with a blue badge. As we are losing two of the accessibility spaces in the car park, we will be putting another two temporary spaces at the front of the school, which will be marked up with signage (see *appendix 1*). We ask for parents/carers support in ensuring these spaces are only used by those with accessibility needs.

We will be restricting access onto the school site from President Road, and only be permitting those parents/carers requiring an accessibility space to enter the site. Due to routine deliveries to the school, coaches for trips and other visitors to the school, we want to keep as many parking bays as possible at the front of the school free should they be needed, or else this will only lead to further congestion and blockages on the school entrance/exit.

For those parents/carers using Busy Living, they will still be able to access the visitor bays for pick-up and drop-off before 8.15am, and after 3.45pm.

Next steps

We appreciate that the next few weeks will take some adjustment to, and the team and I will do whatever we can to ensure that our new systems and arrangements run as smoothly as possible. We will keep the procedures under continual review, and should we need to make tweaks or changes, we of course will communicate accordingly as they happen.

If you have other friends or relatives who drop or collect your child on your behalf and who are on your child's authorised to collect list, it would be most helpful if you could pass on these changes to them so that they are aware and prepared.

Thank you for your understanding and support with this during the summer term. We very much look forward to having the new extension completed!

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher