# Aspire. Create. Think.

Thursday, 5 September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are looking forward to welcoming you and your children back to school. We hope you had a fantastic summer break and are well rested and ready for the Autumn Term. We have been busy over the summer improving the school facilities for our children.

- Air conditioning has been installed in the upstairs classrooms in the KS2 block and in the learning lounge. This will have a significant impact on the pupils' ability to learn during the hottest days of the year.
- With thanks to the William Harding's Charity we have completely revamped the outside area in KS1, this will now no longer flood and is in line with our school ethos of utilising the natural outside world to enhance our learning.
- We have a new podcasting studio for pupils in Year 2 to Year 6 to use, which has been designed and decorated by the wonderful Dan from Decreate.

We are sure you will agree that these are all fantastic improvements that will benefit all the children for many years to come.

As it is the start of term, we have set out some reminders and have tightened up on a few practices for the new school year as follows:

## **Arriving for the School Day**

Regular school attendance is essential if children are to achieve their full potential.

The school pupil gates open at 8:40am and close at 8:50am. If you are late, please bring your child to the outside area near the school office. From here they will be escorted through the side gate to their classrooms and marked in as late by the Attendance Officers.

Please aim to **arrive on time through the main pupil gates** to ensure that your child has a positive start to their day and does not miss any valuable learning time.

## **Medical Appointments**

When booking a Doctor or Dentist appointment, please try and arrange them after 3:20pm or the during school holidays to avoid taking your child out of school. If the appointment falls in the school day, please email the proof of the appointment to <a href="mailto:office@esglt.co.uk">office@esglt.co.uk</a> prior to the appointment to be considered and authorised.

#### **Leave of Absence**

A student's attendance forms part of their official school record. If a child's attendance is 80% or less across their school career it adds up to them missing 2 years of education! Parents wishing to take their child out of school during term time must complete a Leave of Absence Form. The link is <a href="here">here</a>. The request will be considered on a case by case basis taking all the points written in the Leave of Absence Form into consideration.

#### **Walking Home**

If your child is in Year 5 or Year 6 and you wish to allow your child to walk home alone after school, please complete a 'Walking Home Consent Form' here. Please note only children in Years 5 and 6 are eligible for this. All other children should be brought to school and collected by an adult.





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### **School Lunches**

If your child has a school lunch, please book their meals on the School Food United App. Please make sure you order before the cut off time which is 9pm the evening before. Unfortunately, we cannot provide spare meals of your child's choice and we cannot guarantee that a spare meal will be available.

If your child has a packed lunch from home, this needs to be brought to school in a named lunch box and placed on the designated area (trolley or box) when they arrive at school. All children should bring their lunch with them in the morning. Any late lunches should be placed on the table outside the office, these must be named and will be taken to the hall when the office staff have capacity to do so. Additionally, please check your child's lunch box, water bottle and any containers are labelled clearly with the child's name and class. Lunches should **not** contain chocolate bars, sweets or fizzy drinks. **We have several children with nut allergies so please do not include any item that contains nuts in your child's lunch.** 

#### **Drinks and Snacks outside of Lunchtime**

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with a snack by the school.

Children in KS2 may bring a piece of fruit/vegetable e.g. apple, pear, banana, carrot sticks for breaktime and these should be kept in your child's bag in their locker. Children do not have access to their lunch boxes at break time.

We do **not** allow pre-packaged snacks such as brioche, biscuits or crisps for breaktime. This creates an unnecessary amount of litter across the school site.

Children should have a water bottle in school to have in the classroom and this must contain water only. Squash, fruit juice etc are not permitted as when spilt they can significantly damage school equipment and can cause a pest problem.

### **SENDCo Communications**

Should you need to speak with our SENDCo, please email the office office esglt.co.uk or call on 01296 481380.

If you have any questions regarding this information, we would love to help. Please email us at <a href="mailto:office@esglt.co.uk">office@esglt.co.uk</a> and we will aim to respond within 48 hours.

Yours sincerely

Mrs R Lee and K Needham

Co-Headteachers

