



Thursday 5th May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I trust that this letter finds you well and that you and your family have enjoyed a restful Easter break and an equally peaceful bank holiday weekend. I am writing to provide you with information regarding improvements to our site security and also next week's National Mental Health Awareness Week.

Improvements to site security

As has been the case since our school opened in 1972, our site is relatively open compared to most other school sites and whilst this does lend itself to an inclusive community feel, it also presents some obvious risks in terms of safeguarding. Since I joined the school, I have been monitoring this situation and recently took the decision to address this issue for the mutual benefit of pupils, staff and parents. As such, from **Monday 9th May** our school site will become completely secure between 8:40am and 3:00pm, with entry and exit to the site strictly controlled between these times. This will bring us in line with most other schools and will provide the necessary safeguarding assurances that you require as parents/carers, but equally that my staff require as employees.

Therefore, from Monday 9th May:

- The two pedestrian gates allowing entry and exit to the site for pupils and visitors on foot, will be locked at 8:40am and opened again at 3:00pm.
- The two larger vehicle gates allowing entry and exit to the site for vehicles, will be locked at 8:30am and opened again at 3:10pm.

As a consequence of the above:

- Any **pupil** arriving to school without a written note from their parent/carer explaining their lateness, will receive a 10-minute detention at breaktime on the same day as the lateness. Clearly, this will be escalated in the event of the pupil not attending the breaktime detention.
- **Visitors** (inc. parents/carers) to the school arriving on foot (between 8:40am and 3:00pm) or in a vehicle (between 8:30am and 3:10pm), will need to use the intercom to gain access to the school site, by speaking with our school reception. We politely remind you that if you wish to speak with a specific member of staff, then an appointment must be made in advance. There are three options on our intercom, one for each of: The Wordsley School Reception, The Wordsley Playgroup and Learning for Life.

I hope that any minor inconvenience incurred by you, is offset by the significant improvements to our site security, as outlined above and I thank you in advance of your support with this transition.

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The Wordsley School · Brierley Hill Road · Wordsley · Near Stourbridge · DY8 5SP
(01384) 816015 · info@wordsley.dudley.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr G M Burton BSc/BEd (Hons) NPQH

Mental Health Awareness Week 2022

All pupils have been part of an assembly this week, which was themed around the importance of prioritising our mental fitness, ahead of National Mental Health Awareness Week, which takes place between Monday 9th May and Sunday 15th May.

As a school, during Mental Health Awareness Week, we are challenging ourselves to spend at least 30 minutes every day doing something that is either physical, creative or relaxing. It could be as simple as going for a walk, reading a book, painting a picture, playing some music or going for a run. The concept, as recommended by the World Health Organisation, centres around finding time every day for ourselves to unwind and rebalance our minds and bodies, enabling us to cope better with the challenges of life.

We would be grateful if you would speak with your child about the assembly this week and encourage your child to get involved as much as possible next week. You may even wish to participate yourself, which would be great. As a group of staff, we will be doing so and you can follow what we get up to on our social media feed next week.

A wealth of additional support materials for pupils and parents/carers alike, can be found on the [wellbeing](#) section of our website.

As always, thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Gareth Burton
Headteacher

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