

**St David’s Primary School and Nursery Class**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* New School Gate Procedures \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

As you will be aware all of our pupils have been entering and exiting the school playground through the main Bruce Street gate now since we returned after the October break. Although we are certain that this arrangement has been a step forward in terms of reducing the restrictions that have been in place, we are also aware that both schools coming in and going out at the same time brings with it some problems, with the increased volume of children and parents and the number of cars that go along with that. Because of this we would like to make a change to the staggered start and finish times for each school in order to ensure the safety of all of our pupils.

From **Monday 1st November, ALL St David’s Primary pupils will start their day at 8.50am** and should go straight to their lines at this time. They will **finish at 2.50pm** and will be dismissed from the gate with their class. The classes will be organised in 2 lines with P1/2, P2/3 and P3/4 coming from one side (going to their right) and the older classes P5 – 7 being dismissed on the other side of the gate (going to their left). Pupils will now stay with their own classes when being dismissed and will no longer go with younger siblings. ALL Plains Primary pupils will now start at 9am and finish at 3pm. This new arrangement should make it easier for every parent to drop off and collect their children from school and it should also mean that there will be less congestion at the gates making it easier for class teachers to see the parents responsible for picking up each child. It is very important that your child arrives on time for school every day and enters the school with their class, please ensure that your child is punctual. This is just as important at the end of the day when you are collecting your child.

Hopefully this change will make a difference to the number of cars and people in the street at the same time and make it easier for everyone particularly at the end of the day.

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| School | Start time | Finish time | Gate for start and finish time  |
| ALL CLASSES St. David’s Primary | 8.50am | 2.50pm | Gate 3 – Bruce St. |
| ALL CLASSES Plains Primary | 9am | 3pm | Gate 3 – Bruce St. |

Staff will continue to take the pupils to their exit gate at the end of every day for now and we ask that when collecting and dropping of your child you ensure that you are still wearing a face covering and that you do not crowd together in groups. Please park safely and with due care and attention if travelling by car, and encourage your child to walk to school when possible. When children arrive at school before the bell they must go straight to their zone to play, the zones have not changed and every child knows where to go.

Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Kind regards,

Mrs Livingstone (Head Teacher)