



Monday, 02 September 2024

Dear Parent / Carers,

We are delighted to welcome back our pupils and parents to Sparken Hill Academy for the new academic year. We hope that everyone has had a restful and rejuvenating summer break. As we embark on this new chapter, we are excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. Our dedicated staff are committed to providing a safe, supportive, and stimulating learning environment for all our pupils. We encourage you to stay involved in your child's education and to communicate with us regularly. Your partnership is essential in ensuring your child's success. Please note that our school website and app will be updated with important information throughout the year, so please make sure to check them regularly.

We also have a couple of important updates as we start this new year.

Firstly, we will be increasing staffing on the playgrounds in the afternoon. Gates will open no sooner than 3.00pm and will have a member of staff remaining on duty at each gate until the end of the school day. The primary aim of this is to ensure that supervision is increased on site. However, they will also be tasked with reminding parents that we are a 'no scooters / bicycles' on school site. Please respect these staff members if they remind you of this strict rule and please leave any scooters / bikes outside the school gates.

Secondly, we are also intending to trial locking of the playground gates from 3.45pm in order that after school clubs can occur in relative safety. Club dismissal details will be communicated with you by the individual club leader / teacher. We therefore would ask that you vacate the playground before this time (we'd hate to lock you in!!). We will continue to keep this under review but we are prioritising safeguarding of your children at all times.

Thirdly, we will be introducing a traffic marshal in our car park to ensure that visitors park in a considerate manner. We hope that this will reduce incidents of inconsiderate parking including parking in our disabled bays. Please be reminded that last year's parking permits are now void and you will need to reapply for a permit for this year if you still require it. We prioritise parents / carers / pupils with mobility difficulties as parking spaces are exceptionally limited.

Finally, a piece of lovely news... we have completed a refresh of our FS play area – introducing an AMAZING sandpit area! We hope our FS pupils love it as much as we do!

We look forward to a wonderful and productive year together.

Kindest regards

Mr Richard Lilley (Principal)

