



Shacklewell Primary School
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Executive Headteacher: Ms Nicole Reid
Headteacher: Mr Rory McGrath

Wednesday 24th May 2023

Dear Shacklewell Families,

Re: Safety and Safeguarding

As communicated last week Shacklewell is a place where all children, families and staff should be safe. Shacklewell continues to be an excellent place for our whole community but this does not exist without the collective hard work of the entire school community to keep it that way. Unfortunately, a small number of safety related incidents have occurred recently which need to be addressed in order to reduce any chance of them being repeated.

When parents and carers have collected their children from members of staff it is vital that they continue to uphold the high levels of safety that we expect. It has become clear that too many children are being allowed to go ahead of adults towards the front of school- this needs to come to an end. In addition, groups of adults must not congregate in communal areas, assuming that their child is safe when in fact they are not being supervised. Children being under close supervision from parents and carers is especially important when approaching the school gates.

The school would also like families to review their pick up arrangements. This is to ensure that any informal arrangements with child minders, neighbours or other parents in the school community meet the needs of the children. Too often colleagues on the front gate have to step in to remind the children to wait for the adults who are collecting them.

The pupils have also been reminded about the importance of keeping themselves safe when coming in and out of the school site. They have been reminded to stay with their adult and not leave the school premises without them.

A final point about safety in and around the school site is the use of bicycles and scooters. Unfortunately parents who use bicycles to come to the school will no longer be able to take them into the playground or leave them leaning against a wall on the school grounds. This is causing unnecessary delays and congestion. Parent and carer bikes must be secured to an appropriate bike rack, inside or outside the school gates. Children should also not be cycling or scooting through the gates because it is unsafe. Several near misses have occurred because children have sped through the gates and collided with other children, adults and buggies.

I appreciate this is the second of these sorts of letters you are receiving in a week. However we will not compromise when it comes to the safety of our children.

Kind regards,

Rory McGrath
Headteacher