



## Elton Primary School & Nursery

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**Headteacher – Mr Kevin Manning**

Our ref: PARL 0995

28<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents/carers,

I am just writing to inform you of a change to the school timings that will be introduced from the first day after the Easter Holiday – 19<sup>th</sup> April.

From 19<sup>th</sup> April **ALL CLASSES IN SCHOOL WILL FINISH THEIR SCHOOL DAY AT 3:15**

### Reason for the change

You may have heard on the news yesterday that the government is planning to make it a legal requirement from September for all schools to be open for at least 32.5 hours each week. That is equivalent to school being open 8:45-3:15.

- Currently our school opens for all classes at 8:45. We take the class register at 9:00 which is also the time the school gates get locked. If a child is not in class by 9am then they are marked as late.
- We currently close at 3:05 for infants and 3:10 for juniors. Therefore, we are just short of the 32.5-hour requirement that will be introduced and so need to make the change to 3:15.
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### Questions and Answers

*Q. I have children in Infants and Juniors; how can I pick them up at the same time?*

A. Teachers will not release their children until they see their adults. It only takes a few seconds to move from the infant side of the playground to the junior side so this shouldn't be an issue. However, this was the previous reason for having different pick up times for infants and juniors so is an area we will monitor to check it works well.

*Q. When will the gates open?*

A. We will still open gates at 8:45 and 3:00 so that parents can congregate on the playground which is safer than on the narrow pavement outside school.

*Q. Will Nursery close at 3:15 too?*

A. Nursery will officially close at 3:15 along with our other classes. However, we will allow any parent who wants to pick their nursery child up slightly earlier to do so once gates are open. This is to ensure parents and staff have enough time for any conversations before parents potentially pick up other siblings.



Q. *What time does school officially start then?*

A. Currently our official start to the day is 9am at which point all children must be in their classrooms for registration. We recommend the children arrive at 8:45 when the gates and classrooms open. This allows the children to settle in and begin their daily morning challenges. We will review this starting time during the summer term with a potential of making 8:45 the official starting time next year. However, for the upcoming Summer Term we will keep with the start times we currently have.

Q. Can children walk to and from school by themselves?

A. For safeguarding reasons we have a policy that children upto, and including, Year 4 must be collected by a person who is 16 years or older. Year 5 and Year 6 can walk home on their own if parents wish.

#### Summary of times

8:45 – School opens – children can enter all classrooms to start morning challenges

9:00 – Registration – gates are locked

3:00 – Gates open again (nursery children can be picked up from this time onwards)

3:15 – All classes end and children are handed over to their adults

Each class has a 15-minute break during the morning – taken at different times for different classes

Infants have an hour dinner break and juniors have 55 minutes.

Infants have an afternoon break – juniors do not.

Your truly,



Mr Manning

Head teacher

