

Woodlands Academy, Hathaway Gardens, W13
ODH

Head Teacher: Ms C Hasker

Together We Achieve

Friday 14th March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Behaviour and supervision of children before and after school

As a school, we expect children to model positive behaviour at all times, and we regularly discuss this in assembly and in individual classrooms. As a school community, we need to all work together to ensure we set consistent expectations for our children. Unfortunately, we have noticed an increase in unsafe behaviours around school recently and would therefore like to remind everyone of the expectations we have for behaviour.

The playground

The playground can become very busy at the end of the day and there many of our families bring younger siblings to school at home time. This is always lovely to see, but it is also important that the children leaving school behave sensibly to prevent any potential risk to smaller children or others in the playground. We have had an increase in children chasing each other around the playground, play fighting and riding on scooters/bikes, often out of sight of the adults collecting them.

We would therefore like to remind all parents/carers of the following expectations to discuss with their children:

- Children must stay with their adult calmly and adults must supervise their children.
- No running/ chasing games
- No balls/ equipment (if you do find something left in the playground, please notify the adult on the gate and hand it over)
- No use of scooters in the playground. Children must wait until they leave the gate to go on their scooters/ bikes.

Dismissal time is usually very busy and the safety of the pupils is our priority. Therefore we would really appreciate your support so that we can make the playground as safe as possible at the end of the day. If children are running around, this can become dangerous and may lead to collisions/accidents which could easily have been avoided if children stayed with their supervising adult.

Before the gates open:

We have also become aware that some pupils are not being supervised by adults before the main playground gate opens at 8:30am. For safeguarding reasons it is essential that adults stay with their child/ren before the gates are opened and not leave them unattended. Our school is next to Castlebar Station and there is no physical barrier between the bridge and the track.

Furthermore, there are many unfamiliar people who will be getting on and off the trains; we must ensure that children are supervised to ensure their safety.

Even though at the school gate there are families around, other parents can't be responsible for children who do not have adults with them. Year 6 children who have permission are the only children who could have walked to school alone and must show good behaviour while waiting for the gates to be opened. Any children in other year groups who are at the gate unsupervised will be questioned in the upcoming weeks by SLT as we begin to monitor this more. As a parent/carer, if you notice any children left unsupervised please report it to a member of staff on the gate.

Supervision in the foyer area

In the office area, please ensure that you are supervising your children while waiting in the morning for Breakfast Club or when collecting children from After school clubs. This is an area where parents have important conversations with the office staff and therefore noise level should be kept to a minimum. In order to keep children safe, children must not be running around or climbing on furniture.

Thank you for your support with this matter.

Ms Moxom
Assistant Headteacher

Ms Hasker
Headteacher