



Respect, Courage, Compassion, Friendship, Trust, Perseverance

Head Teacher:
Mrs C. McManus

6 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I have spoken to the children today to check that they know the permissions required to walk home from school. Only children in Year 6 can walk home from school, and only once their parent(s) has/have considered that they feel they and their child feel ready to come home without an adult. There is no expectation to do so, and children mustn't walk home because they think it is 'grown up' or are worried that others in their class are.

There are numerous things that parents and carers will consider, and this needs to be discussed with your child. Additional factors will be your distance or the route between home and school that influence your decision.

It may be that you decide that:

- This is more appropriate in the summer term before moving to secondary school
- The distance and route mean that your child will only do so when they start high school.
- It is not appropriate because public transport is needed to get home
- When the days become shorter, and it is darker, more quickly
- An adult is always at home and knows when to expect them back.

The NSPCC advises:

'If you and your child do feel they're ready to come home alone, it helps to go over some rules about staying safe.'

These are, the charity says:

- Make sure they know their address and your telephone number by heart, in case they get lost or have to navigate home from somewhere new.
- If they have a mobile phone, remind them to fully charge it before leaving the house, and make sure they have all your contact numbers saved.
- Talk to them about road safety. They should always look both ways before crossing the street, and never be on their phone whilst crossing a road.
- Remind them never to accept a lift from someone they don't know, or let a stranger into the house. They should never give personal information away – in real life or online.
- Remind them that if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable at any time, they can call you or a trusted adult

Mobile phones are only permitted in school if children have written consent from a parent to walk home without adult supervision. Our strict mobile phone code of conduct must be signed and adhered to. This will be sent home tomorrow, but I am emailing it to you now so that you can speak with your child if you are considering that they can walk home.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. C McManus

Headteacher

xdrive>letterstoparents>code of ...

