

Farmor's School
The Park
Fairford
Gloucestershire GL7 4JQ
Tel: 01285 712302
Fax: 01285 713504
Website: www.farmors.gloucs.sch.uk
Mr M S Evans, BA, MA



9th September 2021

Key information for the new academic year

Dear parents/carers

Welcome back to all our students. In particular, I would like to welcome new students to the school, from Year 7 to Sixth Form. We are very pleased to have you at Farmor's School.

I am writing with some important start-of-term information and news.

The start and end of the school day

Please note that students should not be on the school grounds before 8.30am.

Our driveway is very busy at the start and end of the school day. Please help us manage this by observing the following:

- **Do not drive onto the school site at the start or end of the day.** Please drop or pick up students in town, at the end of the back drive. This rule is in place for the safety of students.
- If you are walking to meet students, please wait somewhere near the entrances to the school but do not come onto the school site unless you are signing in as a visitor.

Visitors

We pre-book all meetings with parents. If you arrive unannounced it may be that the person you wish to speak with is not available. Please call ahead or email first.

If visiting during the school day:

- You may park in either car park at the front of the school.
- There are disabled and designated visitor parking spaces in the far right corner of the closest car park, towards the reception.
- No cars should be parked on the roundabout at any time.
- Please use the roundabout to turn around and do not perform U-turns on the drive
- Please drive slowly and with caution when approaching, leaving or when on the school premises.
- The Ernest Cook drive at the back of the school is not to be used by students or parents for vehicular access.

Open Evening

This year our Open Evening is on **Thursday 30th September**. The school will be open between 4.00pm and 7.00pm for visitors to meet teachers, witness students at work and view the facilities. Please help us spread the word about this important event. We also welcome parents of younger children who want to see what the school has to offer.



There will be restrictions on numbers inside rooms due to Coronavirus. Further details will follow.

School closes at 2.20pm on this day to give us time to prepare for the evening. The designated school buses will leave at 2.30pm. However, the service buses (see below) will run at the normal times, therefore these students will either need to be picked up or be supervised in school until the normal school finish time. Please let us know if your child will need to remain at school under supervision so that we can make arrangements.

The service buses are:

Stagecoach 77: Cirencester; Ampney Crucis; Quenington

Stagecoach 76: Highworth; Lechlade; Southrop; Eastleach; Hatherop

Pulhams 855: Cirencester; Barnsley; Arlington; Bibury, Coln St Aldwyns

Uniform

Please support us by ensuring your child is in the correct uniform.

As students may wear PE kit to school on days they have a PE lesson, please ensure they have extra layers if needed. Please purchase a new kit if your child has grown out of theirs, particularly in the case of PE skorts.

If you have any nearly-new uniform which your children have grown out of (including PE kit) which you would like to donate to our nearly-new uniform shop, please drop it into the school office. It would be really helpful if this was washed and ready to pass on.

Photographs

Photographs of students will often be used in publicity material and the media. If you would like to withdraw consent for your child's image to be used in this way please let us know, in writing.

Holidays and absence

I would like to remind parents that all holiday absence must be recorded as an 'unauthorised absence', by law. Taking a holiday during term time does damage your child's education. I appreciate the cost differences, but I would ask you to consider the hidden cost in terms of children falling behind in their studies. I am, however, able to grant permission in exceptional circumstances, for example travelling to attend a funeral. Please download a form from the website to inform the school / request permission if you intend to take your child away from home for a period during term time.

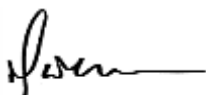
Our expectation is that most students should be able to attend over 97% of school days, unless there is a serious or persistent medical reason for their absence. Please help us in ensuring your child is a regular attender.

Home-school communications

We send a Parent Bulletin every Friday. Please look out for this. If you are not receiving this, we may have an incorrect email address. Please update us.

Contact details for staff are on the school website. Please note that our email filters are set high as schools receive large amounts of spam email. If you have not emailed that member of staff before, your email may go to their 'junk' folder. Please follow up with a phone call if you have not received a response within a reasonable time period.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Evans
Headteacher