

# The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School



Kingsland Gardens, Kingsthorpe, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN2 7BH



**HEAD TEACHER** Mrs Carmel Dodds **DEPUTY HEAD TEACHER** Miss Dominique Smith

**PHONE** 01604 714399 **EMAIL** [office@tgs.nor.olicatschools.org](mailto:office@tgs.nor.olicatschools.org)

**WEBSITE** [www.thegoodshepherdprimaryschool.org.uk](http://www.thegoodshepherdprimaryschool.org.uk)

 @Thegoodshepherdnorthampton  @TGSNorthampton

Tuesday, 17 December 2024

## Important Headteacher Update - Start of the Day & Policy Change

Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you so much for all the support you have shown us thus far this year. It has been wonderful to see so many of you attend our Maths and Reading workshops, Parents' Evenings as well as Christmas events.

The children have settled really well in to all year groups and are already in a clear routine for their learning.

Staff have shared that there seems to be some confusion around start times to the day.

We expect all children to have coats off and be in their phonics group/classrooms with their group teacher at 9am.

To ease this process, we are requesting that the children arrive to their class door by **8.55am at the absolute latest**. This will enable your child to be registered and sent straight to their phonics group, ready to learn all by 9am. I know many children are already in lessons and working from 8.45am which gives them a great start to their day.

I am sure you will appreciate that while you may just have one child to drop off the teachers are dealing with 30 children in each class. In addition to this, the support staff all run phonics groups so need to be in front of their group, ready to teach them at 9am.

We understand traffic can be difficult on occasion and would ask that you leave early to accommodate any traffic challenges along your route.



### Website

[www.olicatschools.org](http://www.olicatschools.org)

### Strategic Executive Lead

Mr Tony Bishop

Registered Office: Our Lady Immaculate  
Catholic Academies Trust, c/o St Thomas  
More Catholic Secondary School, Tyne  
Crescent, Bedford, MK41 7UL

Company Number: 09436283



We also want to bring breakfast club to your attention. We are aware a large number of you are dropping older siblings at their schools and if it would help, we could look into supporting you with breakfast club. Breakfast club is open at 7.45am. Traffic around school is significantly quieter at this time and children have a smoother start to the morning, as do the rest of the family members who then in turn, do not need to suffer the stresses of rush hour traffic.

Please do chat to the school office if you would like to know more about Breakfast Club.

Lastly, we are extremely keen to work together and as a Catholic school, we would remind everyone that we are all responsible for upholding our virtues. Kindness and love towards each other are at the forefront.

We want everyone to have a positive start to the day and by working together we can achieve this.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please arrange an appointment to see either myself, or Miss Smith with the office staff.

Please find attached our updated School Attendance Policy with section 8 amended in line with the new start of the day timings.

**Any children arriving to school after 08.55am will need to sign in via the School Office and will be marked as 'late' on the school attendance register. This will come into effect from 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

Today we had 22 children arriving late to school. In total, 117 minutes of learning lost this morning.

Thank you as always for your continued support and understanding.

God Bless,

Mrs Dodds  
Headteacher