



September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Phase 1 of our building project is almost complete and I'm writing to let you know how this will impact on how we operate across the Partnership. From September, The Junior building will now become the main Parsons Down Partnership building and will be the central hub of the Partnership. It will be referred to as the main PDP building and children in Foundation Stage, Years 2,3,4,5 and 6 will have their classrooms in the building. It will also be home to the school offices, dining hall, library, ICT suite, library and Twilight Club. Year 1 will have their classrooms in what was formally the Foundation Stage building but will come down to the main building for lunch, assemblies, the library and other Partnership events. It is important that they feel a connection with the main building and friends and siblings whilst also enjoying the outdoor space and learning in what will now be called the Year 1 building.

There will be 3 entrances onto the site for all pupils and families to use: Paynesdown Road, Herons Way and Lower Way. The Herons Way entrance will be open from 8am to 6pm and will be the entrance for families using the Twilight Club. The rest of the site will open between 8.30am until 9am with staff available at the Paynesdown Rd, Herons Way and Lower Way gates and from 3 until 3.30 pm. **If you need to access the site between 9am and 3pm the only entrance will be Herons Way and you will need to report to the main PDP office.** The popular kiss and drop facility from Herons Way will continue to operate daily from 8.30 until 9am but we ask cars not to park on the roundabout. The Park and Stride car park at The Lakes will continue to be open and the Lower Way gate will be reinstated. There are bike/scooter racks at the Lower Way, Herons Way and the Paynesdown Road gates and we ask that bikes and scooters are not ridden across the Partnership. Children will be able to move across the Partnership at the beginning and end of the day and we will send out our permission letters so we know who is allowed to collect children and whether children are allowed to leave unaccompanied.

With only one office, you may have noticed a change in letterhead for this year. **There is one telephone number for Partnership, 01635 866700, but we have retained the two email addresses and the PDP website.**

The new Foundation Stage play area is unfortunately not yet complete and work will continue in this area until it is hopefully completed in October half term. We appreciate that this will be a disappointment to many. The new canopy is ready and the children starting with us in Foundation Stage will still have opportunities to learn



outdoors. The area has been secured with fencing and the children will be safe whilst the remaining works are completed. We will just need to be a little more creative with our curriculum.

Phase 2 of the project is due to begin in mid-September and you will notice that the contractors have set up ready at the infant school and a compound has been fenced off. In Phase 2 the infant building will be demolished and an all-weather pitch (MUGA) will be constructed and a wildflower meadow seeded. We are very mindful that the infant building will hold many memories for our families and community and we are considering how we can mark this historical event and will communicate in due course.

The Paynesdown Road entrance is still open for all, but the gate to the playground has moved and you will need to walk through the Year 1 play space, out the green double gates gates and walk down past the school garden if you want to walk to the main PDP building. This is the route the Year 1 children will take each day for lunch and to access the main building.

I've included a few photos on a separate sheet to give you an idea of what to expect on Monday if you're in Year 1 to 6 and from Tuesday for our first intake of Foundation Stage children. We're really looking forward to seeing you all again. It has been a huge team effort to get the school ready for the children. It is sparkling clean and ready for lots of learning and we're looking forward to sharing what we've been up to in our weekly newsletters.

With my very best wishes,

Mrs Catherine Bull
Headteacher
Parsons Down Partnership