

## The School Day



### Travel to and from school

We offer a walking bus for children from Furzton Bridge to school every morning. This is led by two members of Emerson Valley School staff and leaves from the bridge every morning at 8.40am. Members of staff are present at the school cloakroom entrances from 8.40am every morning. Before this time children on the school premises remain the responsibility of their parents or carers. The school gates are locked at 8:50am and the register is taken promptly at 8:55am. Children arriving after this time will be marked as late. School finishes at 3.20pm. Any child not collected at this time will be put into After School Care and parents will be charged accordingly.

In the mornings and at the end of the day there is a lot of congestion at the front of the school. Parents are asked to park considerately when they drop off at the front of the school to allow their child to exit the car safely. At the end of the school day this drop off area is closed to traffic. Please be considerate to pedestrians and local residents and do not double park, park on the double yellow lines or block residents' driveways.

Children may use a bike or a scooter to travel to school with parental permission. Children need to obtain a bike/scooter pass which can be applied for through the school office.

### Morning Break

All children have a 15 minute morning break. During this time all year groups have access to a healthy tuck shop. Children can purchase fruit, rice cakes and other healthy snacks from 10p. Children are advised not to bring more than 30p per day. There is no afternoon break.

### Lunchtimes

Our outsider provider for our hot school meals is Chartwells. Parents and carers are issued with an activation code as meals must be ordered online. Orders need to be made by 3pm on Tuesday for meals the following week. To apply for free school meals, via Milton Keynes Council, please visit <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schools-and-lifelong-learning/information-for-parents/schoolmeals> Once approved, you will need to show the office your eligibility email and we will then be able to process this for you.

Children can also bring a packed lunch to school. Please ensure that this is in a named lunchbox. We recommend a healthy, balanced lunch and ask that you do not send children with fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate. We have children in school with nut allergies therefore we ask parents to ensure that they do not send in any nut-related products, including peanut butter and chocolate spread.

## School Uniform

There is an expectation that children wear our uniform to school. This consists of black trousers, shorts or a skirt, a school logoed or dark red sweatshirt or cardigan and a white polo shirt or shirt. Children in Year 6 wear a black or school logoed sweatshirt or cardigan. In the summer time red gingham summer dresses can be worn. All children are expected to wear sensible black shoes.

Our PE kit consists of a jade logoed t-shirt, black or navy shorts and black or navy tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirt for outdoor lessons. Indoor PE will be bare foot but children will need trainers for outdoor lessons. Samples of uniform can be viewed at school but needs to be ordered online from [www.talk2me.co.uk](http://www.talk2me.co.uk)

Jewellery should not be worn to school with the exception of stud earring and a watch. These should be removed for PE, or tape should be used to cover earrings.

## Communication

Our aim is to work in partnership with parents and carers to ensure the best outcomes for all children, and we believe communication between home and school is at the centre of this. School staff are visible around the school in the mornings during drop off and at the end of the school day. Enquiries can also be emailed into the school office using the following email address: [office@emersonvalley.org.uk](mailto:office@emersonvalley.org.uk)

### Parentmail

Parents and carers are encouraged to register with Parentmail as this is our most effective method of communication. Parents and carers can then receive texts and emails informing them about school trips and events at school. This method of communication can also be used by parents and carers to communicate with the school to advise of a child's absence. Throughout the year Parents' Consultation appointments will also be organised through Parentmail. Payment for clubs can also be made via this system. Our weekly newsletter, Inform, will be emailed to parents on a Friday via Parentmail.

### Absence from school

Parents are expected to ensure that their child attends school every day that the school is open. Parents are asked to inform the school office either by telephone, Parentmail or email before 8.55am to advise the school if their child will not be attending school that day and the reason why. This needs to happen on every day of the absence. An accumulation of late marks or unauthorised absences may result in fines or legal intervention for parents. Please see our attendance policy on the school website for more details about this. If you would like support with your child's attendance, please arrange to speak with our Learning Mentors who are able to offer support and guidance with this.