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28<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following a number of queries from families regarding the message recently sent by Farlingaye regarding access for family members to sports events taking place on the school site, I would like to clarify the school's position and to update you on the support we can offer to those families who wish to spectate at sports events.

The reason why we cannot allow families to have free access to the school site to watch sports events is that, from a safeguarding perspective, having unsupervised and unidentified adults walking around the school at a time when students are still on site is highly problematic. This is not because we have had any specific incidents of concern. I can assure you that we have not had any such incidents. However, it is part of our safeguarding duty to manage risk and to make sure that the site is as safe as possible for all of our students at all times. This involves us having secure knowledge of which adults are on site at any time, and knowing where they are and what they are doing.

I noted in the message sent yesterday that the PE team would – at times – invite groups of families to key fixtures. We anticipated that this would be at times when the PE team had staff available to sign families in as they arrived, and to then supervise families on site. However, it has become clear that the management of such invitations is likely to become problematic. Therefore, we have been able to agree on a more practical solution. The protocol we will use from now on will be as follows:

- The families of students involved in school sports events can come onto site without invitations
- All those attending events will arrive **between 3.45 and 3.55** on the day of the event. Family members should not arrive earlier than this, as their arrival will clash with the end of the school day and the exit of students and staff
- All family members attending a school event must go to reception on their arrival
- All family members will be signed in at reception and then taken as a group by reception staff/senior staff to the area of the school where the event is taking place. They will then be supervised by the PE team
- Once in place to view the event, family members must not leave this location to move around the site unless directly supervised by a member of staff
- All family members attending the events must behave in a supportive and reasonable manner, being respectful to all students, staff and officials.

I hope that all of the above is clear, but – if you do have any questions – please contact me at Farlingaye.

Yours sincerely,

Dr A Sievewright  
Headteacher