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Head Teacher: Mrs Vicky Barron B.Sc(Hons) GTP Primary

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have some key messages to share with you in relation to safety and safeguarding, including stranger danger and also drop off and pick up from school. These messages are not designed to make life more difficult for you as parents/carers but are related to safety aspects and supervision that we, as a staff, feel we need to address within school to tighten up our established procedures a little further.

#### Stranger Danger

This week a grey VW golf has been seen loitering around a couple of schools in the Stroud and Cirencester area in a suspicious manner. This information has been circulated to schools and so we are passing this information on to parents and carers so that you are also aware. Over the weekend please take some time to re-iterate to your children the message about 'stranger danger' and remind them never to get into a car with a stranger, no matter how plausible the story.

#### Breakfast Club

When dropping your children at school in the morning please do not leave them before 8.00 which is the start time of breakfast club and when staff supervision begins. Before this time, children are under the care of parents and carers and should still be adequately supervised.

#### Departure from school

We've noticed over the past few weeks a marked increase in the number of children running a long way ahead of their parents/carers following pick up and heading back towards their vehicles - both along the top road above the school and also down towards the village hall. Whilst we do not want to prevent children developing their independence, we are concerned for their safety particularly at a busy time of day. If you let them go ahead we ask that you ensure they are aware of how far away from you they are allowed to be, and also when and where they should stop and wait. If your children do run ahead, then as a guide to distance we suggest that they can be easily asked to stop when asked, without you needing to shout.



### Pick up by friends and family

Please could you ensure that Mrs Powell is notified in the office if someone other than yourselves as parents (or regular carer/family member that is known to us) is picking up your child/children from school on any particular day. We understand that many of you lift share and swap duties to take multiple children home but we do need to know in advance who that is so that teaching staff are aware. Children tell us that they are sometimes not sure who they are being picked up by. It is important that children do know this, so please tell them each morning who is fetching them that day, and make sure we know that too! If you find you are running late and have to make last minute arrangements with other parents, for example at Bentham pick up, please also telephone Mrs Powell at the time of making that arrangement and she will notify the relevant staff members. This also applies to children who may be walking home so that staff are clear about discharge arrangements in advance. Thank you.

### After School clubs pick up

Due to the popularity of our after school clubs and to ensure that we are working within our school guidelines we will be changing the way in which children are discharged from after school clubs, starting on Monday next week. All clubs will finish at 4.15 promptly (only sewing club is a little later). We would like parents to wait in the playground and at 4.15 children will be brought to the playground with their belongings to be discharged by staff to their parents/carers in the same way as the end of school at 3.15. This will ensure that the member of staff who runs the club ensures that all children are accounted for at 4.15 p.m.

Although this may seem like a long list of requirements, it is important for the safety of your children and others that these measures are implemented. Many thanks for your support with this.

Kind regards

Mrs Vicky Barron

Head teacher