



1 September 2020

Dear Families

Transport to and from the Academy

With the return of students to the academy next week, we are aware that some of our families and students may have some concerns regarding transport arrangements to and from school each day. To reassure you, KCC are making every possible effort to ensure all children can travel to school successfully in September and as a result have added a new 'returning to school using transport' page to their kent.gov.uk website – this can be found [here](#). This provides useful information about the measures that have been put in place, expectations and requirements of those using transport as well as an informative video. KCC have also asked us to share the attached 'Active Travel Newsletter' with our families.

We have also received an update from Thameslink Railway informing us that some train services have been changed since March 2020 and there are some small changes planned from Monday 7 September. If your son/daughter uses the train service to and from the academy, please check the current timetable ahead of their return to school – details can be found at: www.nationalrail.co.uk. They have also provided us with a short video to share with families, which can be found here: <https://youtu.be/3uNz-A1LUzs> and an 'Advice for Students' flyer (see attached).

Thameslink Railway are drawing particular attention to the arrivals and departure times for services along the route to and from Redhill/Tonbridge. These are detailed at Appendix A.

We encourage all families and students, where applicable, to read the content within the above links and watch the brief video clips. We will of course continue to provide families with any information regarding transport as and when it is made available to us.

We look forward to welcoming your son/daughter back to the academy this week.

Yours sincerely

Nicki Young
Head of Academy Administration/PA to the Executive Principal

APPENDIX A

Update on rail services on Redhill to Tonbridge route

This week

The national timetable change comes into effect from Monday 7 September. As a result, the two “school” trains in the AM for the rest of this week arrive at Tonbridge at either 07:34 or 08:31.

To fill this gap Thameslink, will operate a special rail replacement bus service, timed to arrive at Tonbridge at 08:00 from Edenbridge via Leigh and Penshurst. This will be operated by two single deck buses with a third as a contingency. This service is shown in journey planners such as www.nationalrail.co.uk to the following timings:

07:23 Edenbridge
 07:40 Penshurst
 07:45 Leigh
 08:00 Tonbridge

From Monday 7 September – Introduction of new services

07:34 Arrival (Redhill 07:03, Nutfield 07:08, Godstone 07:13, Edenbridge 07:19, Penshurst 07:25, Leigh 07:29, Tonbridge 07:34)

BUS 08:00 Arrival (Edenbridge 07:23, Penshurst 07:40, Leigh 07:45, Tonbridge 08:00)

08:17 Arrival (Redhill 07:46, Nutfield 07:51, Godstone 07:56, Edenbridge 08:02, Penshurst 08:08, Leigh 08:12, Tonbridge 08:17)

08:53 Arrival (Redhill 08:22, Nutfield 08:27, Godstone 08:32, Edenbridge 08:38, Penshurst 08:44, Leigh 08:48, Tonbridge 08:53)

Tonbridge PM departures from Monday 7 September 2020

15:01 Departure (Leigh 15:05, Penshurst 15:09, Edenbridge 15:16, Godstone 15:23, Nutfield 15:29, Redhill 15:36)

16:01 Departure (Leigh 16:05, Penshurst 16:09, Edenbridge 16:16, Godstone 16:23, Nutfield 16:29, Redhill 16:36)

16:17 Departure (Leigh 16:21, Penshurst 16:25, Edenbridge 16:32, Godstone 16:39, Nutfield 16:45, Redhill 16:49)

In addition, on a trial basis, Thameslink will retain the bus service detailed above to see if students / parents continue to use it to provide a 08:00 arrival – they aim to retain it if popular.

Please note, this change is not shown in journey planners such as www.nationalrail.co.uk just yet.

In December Thameslink plan to revert to the provision of the 07:53 and 08:23 arrival at Tonbridge.