



Sydenham Drive, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV31 1QH  
Telephone: 01926 743200 Fax: 01926 743201 E-mail: head@campion.warwickshire.sch.uk  
Web: www.campion.warwickshire.sch.uk

Headteacher: Jassa Panesar BSc (Hons), NPQH

Ref: JP/BL

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re. Use of the 'Back Gate' as a means to access/leave the school site.**

Many parents/carers will be unaware that the school has a 'back gate' which is located at the far corner of the perimeter of our school field to the rear of the school site. This back gate gives access to a muddy footpath which follows the railway line fencing until it subsequently leads to a railway bridge which in turn leads to Church Lane and eventually to St Margaret's Road in Whitnash.

For many years this back gate has been opened by the schools site team for a period of time before and after school to enable pupils to access/leave the school site. However, due to the deteriorating condition of the off-site footpath (overgrown brambles, lack of adequate lighting, fly-tipping of rubbish, use by non-Campion related groups etc.) in recent years this route has become seldom used. The school conducted a survey of our pupils at the end of last half-term which identified that less than 3% of the pupil population now regularly/occasionally uses this route during term time.

The route outside of the school site and beyond the back gate is not owned by the school and as such cannot be maintained/managed by it. Over recent times a number of our pupils have expressed their concerns about this area and the fact that they do not feel safe using this unlit (in part) and poorly maintained route. The school, unfortunately, does not have the staff, resources or permissions to patrol and/or make safe this area outside of the school grounds.

Therefore, the school leadership team have decided to **discontinue the use of this route to access/leave the school site with effect from Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March**, meaning that the back gate will no longer be accessible after the Easter Holidays. We would, therefore, ask parents/carers to discuss the safer alternative routes for their child/children to use to arrive at/leave from the schools main school entrance at the top of Sydenham Drive. This entrance is always supervised by a number of school staff before and after school each day.

Whilst this may be slightly inconvenient for some of our pupils and possibly add 5 to 10 minutes onto their journey into/from school, I trust that you will understand that the safety of your child/children has been foremost in our decision process.

If you need to discuss this matter in any more detail, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly.

Yours Sincerely

Jassa Panesar  
Head Teacher

Brian Langley  
Business Manager