



**WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL**  
Aim high... Work hard... Be kind...

**WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL**  
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**Head Teacher: Miss T Cotchin BA(Hons) PGCE NPQH**



26 May 2023

Dear parents and carers,

**Re: Parental responsibility for unsupervised pupils**

We have some Year 5 and 6 pupils who either walk to and from school without an adult or who are dropped at the gate and left waiting without an adult. We would like to remind parents that until pupils enter the school gates, they are still the responsibility of the parent. It is the parent who is responsible for the behaviour and safety of their child.

This week we have had a couple of complaints raised by parents about the behaviour of unsupervised pupils. As a school, we have the authority to put consequences in place for behaviour that occurs outside of school (see below). If we feel that a pupil requires supervision of an adult on their journey to or from school we may ask for an adult to accompany the pupil to ensure that they, and others, are safe rather than allow the pupil to travel alone.

The Department for Education updated its guidance for Headteachers in September 2022. The following is part of that guidance:

***Behaviour outside of school premises***

*92. Schools have the power to sanction pupils for misbehaviour outside of the school premises to such an extent as is reasonable.*

*94. Conduct outside the school premises, including online conduct, that schools might sanction pupils for include misbehaviour:*

- *when taking part in any school-organised or school-related activity;*
- *when travelling to or from school;*
- *when wearing school uniform;*
- *when in some other way identifiable as a pupil at the school;*
- *that could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school;*
- *that poses a threat to another pupil; or*
- *that could adversely affect the reputation of the school.*

**Our School Values are: Inclusion, Perseverance, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and Collaboration.**



We therefore request that parents ensure that their children continue to follow our behaviour expectations when in their uniform and on their journeys to and from school.

If you see any anti-social behaviour, please do email the office and let us know. Depending on the level of anti-social behaviour we may also involve the police as well as internal investigations and consequences.

Kind regards,

Mrs Skinner

Inclusion, Pastoral and Safeguarding Lead

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