

# Increasing Safety and Security at KSA

## Changes to entrances and exits



Dear Parents,

At King Solomon Academy, our first priority is the safety and security of our pupils, staff and the wider community. With that in mind, we plan to make two significant changes to how things work at the start and end of each day:

1. It will no longer be possible for parents to walk through the school when dropping-off pupils in the morning or collecting them in the evening; instead they will have to walk around the outside of the site
2. Secondary pupils will no longer exit the school via the main entrance on Penfold Street; instead they will be dismissed from the Bell Street gate near to the MUGA

### Why are we making these changes?

There have been a number of adverse incidents in recent weeks because of people trespassing onto the school site and this has prompted leaders of the school to seek advice from both the police and experts in health & safety in order to review our procedures. These changes are the result of that review and a consultation with the local governing body who strongly support these changes to prioritise pupil safety.

We appreciate that this will be less convenient for parents however, we must prioritise the safety of pupils. It is highly unusual for a school site to be so open to parents as KSA currently in. Other Ark schools routinely have only a buzzed in entrance for all visitors, including parents, to arrive to before accessing a secure and supervised entrance.

### What will change for parents?

- The foyer will be closed-off behind blue screens all day (see below), giving those walking into the school access to the reception desk only.
- It will not be possible to walk through the foyer to either the North Building or the outdoor area near the MUGA.
- Similarly, the link between the infant playground and the outdoor area near the MUGA will be locked and the link between the junior school playground and the outdoor area near the MUGA will be locked.
- Parents will not be able to wait inside the school foyer at any time, unless they have an appointment.
- At all times, parents coming inside the school to meet a teacher or to attend an event, must sign-in (similarly to all visitors) and be escorted by a member of staff.

### When will these changes happen?

- Access to the main reception on Penfold Street and through the site will change from **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November**.
- The timings of the change to secondary dismissal will be communicated at a later date.

King Solomon Academy is determined to continue to be a welcoming environment for parents and understand that working closely with the community has been central to the success of the academy. The changes outlined above are not designed in any way to limit communication between the school and families, but instead are intended to heighten the security for everyone in the school community.

If you would like to discuss these changes or find out more about the reasoning behind them, please do speak to a member of the leadership team.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Haimendorf  
**Principal**