

11 June 2018

Dear parents/carers

For some time now, we have been monitoring the use of scooters and bicycles on our site. It has become increasingly apparent that for the primary children, many of them are using their scooters without adult supervision despite several reminders. On several occasions, this has nearly ended in injury either for the child or for adults walking along the paths. We also have older students in the secondary school who are riding their bicycles once on site, from the gate to the bicycle sheds.

We are yet to see a child either on a scooter or on a bicycle wearing a helmet, again, despite our advice.

Finding a balance between encouraging children to exercise and ensuring they do so safely is not always easy. So we have spoken to various local schools and taken advice from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE which is an independent regulator) and this has been recently discussed at both Trustee and Governor level. We feel we have no choice but to insist that children must wear a helmet once on our site and we would actively encourage children whatever their age to wear a helmet to and from school.

Consequently, the new rule will be that children **can only ride either a scooter or bicycle on site if they are wearing a helmet**. For primary aged children, this will mean that if the child is not wearing a helmet the adult will need to take the scooter from them at the gate and give it back to them at the gate when leaving at the end of the school day.

For secondary aged children, this will mean that if the child is not wearing a helmet, they will need to walk their bicycle from the gate to the bicycle shed in the morning and from the bicycle shed to the gate at the end of the school day.

The Trustees have also asked both schools to consider the curriculum and how this can support children to understand the importance of wearing helmets and in general to help them develop a greater awareness of health and safety.

I hope you understand and support our position but please contact me if you have any concerns.

Yours sincerely



Rhodri Bryant

Executive Principal

The Langley Academy Trust