Dear Parent/Carer

11th December 2013

Change of the time of school day

As you are aware the times of the school day will be changing from the start of the new term.

During the consultation period, a number of parents raised the issue of bus timetables. We have been in negotiation with Medway Council, Arriva and Manns Coaches to see what changes they are able to make in order to accommodate the changed needs of some of our pupils.

The following are the key changes that will be made by Arriva:

133 (Cliffe) – 16:05 journey ex-Letchworth Avenue advanced to operate at 15:48.

182 (Gillingham & Twydall) – 15:48 journey ex-Letchworth Avenue withdrawn; students can use the frequent 101 or 176 to Chatham Waterfront Bus Station and change there to 182 which operates every 10 minutes.

653 (Cuxton & Halling) - revised to start from Letchworth Avenue (was St Stephen’s Church layby) at 15:25.

675 will no longer operate in the morning; the same routing is covered by 659 which runs a few minutes later.

Please note that in order for Arriva to give the required statutory notice these changes to the bus services will not come into effect until 26th January 2014, this will result in some unavoidable, temporary inconvenience to our students.

The Yellow Bus Services are tendered services partly financed by Medway Council. Manns Coaches will continue to operate the same services at 3.40 in the evening and the later bus to cater for extra-curricular activities. Students catching this bus may go to the Library or M20 to study whilst they wait for their bus. The tender is due for renewal in August 2014 when will request that the services leave school slightly earlier.

I appreciate that these adaptations to services do not immediately, fully address all of our needs but they do go some way to address the issues that were raised during the consultation.

Please feel free to contact me at the school if you have any concerns and I will do my best to assist you.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

Richard Gardner
Assistant Headteacher