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# Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy

Barnfield Avenue, Murdishaw, Runcorn, WA7 6EP

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**Principal: Kathryn Evans BA (Hons) NPQH**



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Ref: KES/MSE

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I want to update you regarding some changes we are making for when students transition between lessons. I'm sure you agree that students' learning must remain a priority with as little disruption as possible, and in our continuing drive to raise standards we want to ensure that learning time is not lost.

At present, from the bell first ringing, students have 5 minutes to leave and arrive at their next lesson, ready to learn. During this time, students have been allowed to use the bathroom facilities should they need to. Unfortunately, we are increasingly finding that significant learning time is being lost as large numbers of students are not using this time effectively to arrive for their lesson on time. Instead, we understand students are going into the bathroom facilities with friends to socialise or to use their phones. This is creating long queues for those students needing to use the facilities and is impacting the smooth and settled start we require at the beginning of each lesson with students arriving late.

We have also received some feedback from parents and students concerned about this, and so we are really keen to make improvements to the current arrangements which will help alleviate these issues. From Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024, we will therefore be asking that students use the transition time, which will be reduced to 3 minutes, signalled by the bell, for the main purpose of travelling to their next lesson.

The start and end of the school day, break time and lunchtime provide adequate time for students to use the toilet facilities, and so we are asking that students only use the facilities during this time. At other times the main toilets will be shut.

Of course, it is essential that any student needing to go to the facilities will be allowed, and some toilets will be accessible at all points. Similarly, students with toilet passes due to medical needs will continue to have access at all times. This change is simply to ensure that the vast majority of students who are able to transition to their next lesson without going into the toilets, are doing so.

As is already the case, should students need to leave the classroom during lesson time, this will be logged on EduLink. All students will be made aware of these changes through an assembly, as we want to ensure they understand the purpose behind the arrangements, and it will be reinforced that they should use the allocated break times as the main opportunity to use the toilets.

As always, we want to work in close conjunction with students and families as we continue to drive improvements across the school, and so should you find it useful to discuss these changes we will be hosting a drop-in session on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024 between 3.30pm and 5.30pm. You can book a slot with a member of the Leadership team by ringing the reception and they will be happy to assist. If you are unable to attend on Wednesday evening, then our team will arrange an alternative appointment.

Transition changes will come into effect from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

Thank you as always for your support in helping us to provide the best possible education for your child.

Yours faithfully



Kathryn Evans  
**Principal**