



Aston Hall
Junior & Infant School

ASTON HALL JUNIOR & INFANT SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER: Mr S Holmes

Arrangements for polling during the general election – Thursday 4th July 2024

Dear parents/carers,

As you are aware, there will be a general election on **Thursday 4th July** and school will be used as a polling station as determined by the local authority on this day. School will remain **OPEN** to all pupils on this day. This decision was made to ensure there was no impact on existing planned INSET days for the remainder of the school year, especially given these were shared with parents/carers back in June 2023. Also, school remains open to avoid the challenge that school closing for a day unexpectedly would have on parents/carers within our school community.

I can appreciate that there may be some concern as to how school will remain open to all pupils whilst maintaining appropriate safeguarding measures if being used as a polling station by the public. Please see plans in place below to ensure that any impact on the normal school day is as limited as possible.

- The school's 'Hub' (Portakabin) building will be used for polling on the day.
- Additional fencing is being brought in to securely fence off the hub building from the rest of the school site. Fencing will block off the gap between the fire door of this building and the perimeter fence. Further fencing will block between the hub and the main building, creating a fully fenced area that cannot be accessed in either direction.
- The gate at the bottom of the car park will be open and will be accessed by members of the public coming to vote.
- Voters will follow signage to come down the car park path directly into the hub area.
- Members of the public will not be allowed to enter the school building or site for any reason, including the use of the toilet.
- Polling station staff members (who already have appropriate safeguarding checks in place) will be able to access the staff toilets at the front of school supervised by a staff member (much like if a parent asked to use the toilet in school)
- CCTV is in operation and will monitor for any members of the public not following the signage and plans in place.
- School staff will monitor more closely at break and lunchtimes to ensure no members of the public are approaching or interacting with them via the fencing in place (an area will be cordoned off near foundation stage so children do not play near the fencing)
- School staff will be on the top and side / main gate at the start and end of the day to ensure no members of the public follow the signage incorrectly or engage with children on site.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please don't hesitate to contact me directly. Please be mindful that the surrounding roads will be busy and parking more difficult during this day.

Thank you,

Mr Holmes
Headteacher

