St Mark's C of E Junior School
Robert Burns Avenue
Cheltenham
GL51 6NU
Headteacher: Mrs A Fitch

Growing together, becoming all we are created to be

Wednesday 21st October 2026

Changes to vehicle and pedestrian access to the school site

Dear Families,

I am writing to let you know about some changes to access and parking on the school site from after half term.

During the half-term break, we will be replacing the school gates with new automated gates. This work is part of our ongoing commitment to improving the security and safety of the school site.

Once the new gates are operational, **parents and carers will no longer be able to drive onto the school site or use the staff car park for drop-off or collection, including for SMOOSC**. Vehicle access through the gates will be controlled by the school.

We appreciate that this will mean a change of routine for some families, particularly those using SMOOSC. Families will need to **park safely and considerately in the surrounding area and walk onto the school site**. Please allow a few extra minutes for this when dropping off or collecting your child.

We are also installing a new picket fence between the front of the school building and the existing boundary fence. This will create a clearer separation between the playground and car park.

A gate within this fence will be unlocked during SMOOSC opening times, allowing families to walk around to the SMOOSC entrance as usual. It will also be unlocked during drop off and pick up times as we are encouraging families to use through both existing pedestrian gates to ease congestion at these busy times of the day.

In a few months, the front boundary fence will also be replaced with a taller one, again to improve the security of the site. The overall improvement works are therefore being completed in two stages.

We recognise that these changes may be a little less convenient for some families, but they are being introduced to help us maintain a **safe and secure school site for our children, staff and families**. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation, and particularly for parking safely and respectfully within our local community.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Fitch
Headteacher