

Headteacher: Mr D Childs

11th November 2020

Extended Schools

Dear Parents,

Over the past few weeks, we have been working extremely hard to try and secure the future of our extended school provision. As is the case in many schools, there is less demand for the service now that working habits have changed so significantly due to the global pandemic. Consequently, we have taken a number of actions to try and make this provision more sustainable.

The extended staff team have agreed to change in structure to move from a three person team to a two person team. It is very difficult for me to articulate how grateful I am to the team for the sacrifices that have been made in order to try and make the provision more sustainable so we can support our families that use extended schools.

We have also subsidised the cost of the provision from our own school budget in order to keep it operational as we want to do everything we can to support our families that need this service. We receive no funding from the Local Authority for extended schools so it is vital that the income we receive is in line with the cost of operating the service. We do not make a profit from our extended schools provision but we do need to make sure that the income generated covers the cost of running it.

In order to secure the future of extended schools, we do need to increase the price of the provision. This will increase the likelihood that we are able to continue to offer both breakfast club and after school club. It is my hope that this price increase, as well as the actions already taken, will help us continue to offer the club over the coming months and years.

After a week of consultation, we have analysed the findings of our extended school survey and are really pleased to see that there does seem to be future demand for the service as 78% of those who filled in the survey, who do not currently use the extended schools provision, would use the service in the future. We were also very pleased to note that over 90% of the community would still use the service, despite the price increase.

From Monday 16th November, the prices for the extended school sessions will be as follows:

- Breakfast Club sessions: £6.00
- After School Club (3:15-4:30): £6.00
- After School Club (3:15 – 6:00, including tea at 4:45): £12.00

Thank you for your ongoing understanding. In an ideal scenario, these are not changes that we would be making. However, we need to respond to the impact of the global pandemic. As a community, we have spent a great deal of time in identifying actions that we hope will secure the future of extended schools. I would like to also thank the extended school team, office staff and school governors for their efforts in helping us work to achieve this aim.

Mr Childs and the rest of the team at Ryarth Primary School