



Outwood Academy Hemsworth

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Principal: Mr James Pape

09 March 2026

Re: The Importance of Punctuality and School Arrival Times

Dear parent/carer,

Over the past few weeks, we have seen a concerning increase in the number of students arriving late to school.

We understand that mornings can be incredibly busy and that occasional, unforeseen delays happen to everyone.

However, routine lateness has a significant impact on your child's education and the wider school community.

As a reminder, our morning schedule is as follows:

- **8:15 AM:** All students must be on site and through the school gates.
- **8:20 AM:** All students must be seated in their tutor groups, ready for registration and the start of the school day.

Arriving on time is about much more than just school rules; it is a vital life skill. Punctuality demonstrates respect for others, builds reliability, and prepares our young people for the expectations of the workplace and adult life.

Furthermore, even the smallest amount of missed time adds up to a significant loss of learning over the academic year.

When a student arrives late, they not only miss out on important notices and the structured start to the day, but they also disrupt the learning environment for their peers.

To put this into perspective:

- Arriving just **5 minutes late** each day adds up to **3 full days** of lost learning over a school year.
- Arriving **15 minutes late** each day equates to **10 full days** of lost learning.

A calm, on-time arrival allows students to settle in, connect with their friends and teachers, and begin their day in a positive mindset.

We value our partnership with you and ask that you work with us to ensure your child leaves home with plenty of time to arrive by 8:15 AM. If your family is experiencing specific difficulties that are preventing your child from arriving on time, please do not hesitate to contact the Learning manager, SLT Link for their year group or Tutor so we can discuss how best to support you.



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To support those who travel to the academy on buses, I have added bus timetable information below to include the last bus that will get your child to school on time. Please note – this may be an earlier bus to the one that would have arrived on time in previous academic years.

“Last bus” information (please note, **all timings are the expected arrival time at Hemsworth bus station**):

496 to Upton – 8:04

496 to Doncaster – 8:04

195 – 8:00

28/38 to Pontefract – 8:00

28/38 to Barnsley – 8:10

If your child gets the bus to school, please check the scheduled arrival time of their usual bus to ensure this is not expected to arrive after the timings above.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support in ensuring the best possible educational outcomes for our students.

Yours faithfully,



Mr L. Allington

Assistant Principal