

8th March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

As an academy, we continually strive to provide an inclusive learning environment for all of our students as we recognise that this is an essential part of supporting effective learning. As part of this, we recognise that a very small number of students will need extra support with certain areas of school life. Where possible, we put this extra support in place and monitor its effectiveness at regular intervals.

One example of this that we have used and reviewed is 'five-minute passes'. 5-minute passes allow students with specific medical needs to leave a lesson 5 minutes early to allow for their transition to the following lesson before the remainder of school begins their transition. Recent monitoring of this has indicated that the benefits for many students are far outweighed by the negative impact upon the student's personal and academic progress.

We are therefore writing to inform you that, as of our return after the Easter break on Monday 8th April, the only students to have access to a five-minute pass will be those who are identified as needing one for medical reasons or as identified by external professionals.

The list below, whilst not exhaustive, gives some examples of acceptable reason for a five-minute pass;

- A physical medical issue which clearly puts the student at risk if transitioning with other student (e.g. broken leg)
- If identified within a Health Care Plan completed by our Welfare Officer
- A request from a Doctor with an identified time frame
- A request from a mental health support professional (e.g. CAMHS)
- If this provision is clearly identified within an Education Health Care Plan

If you think that your child requires a five-minute pass after Easter then please make contact via email, with supportive evidence, to one of the members of staff below;

- For all physical-related medical reasons: c.staves@hemsworth.outwood.com
- For mental health related reasons: k.haworth@hemsworth.outwood.com
- If your child has an EHCP: e.richardson@hemsworth.outwood.com

Please remember to attach evidence where required.

As always, we are grateful for your continued support in making Outwood Academy Hemsworth a place for students to thrive, both academically and personally.

Yours faithfully,



Mr J Pape
Principal