



BYDALES SCHOOL

[Salutation][Parent Names]
[Address 1]
[Address 2]
New Marske
Redcar
[Postcode]

Coast Road
Marske-by-the-Sea
Redcar, TS11 6AR
Tel: 01642 474000
Fax: 01642 495488
E-Mail: enquiries@bydales-tc.org.uk
Web: www.bydales.org
Principal: Andrew Wappat

28 October 2014

Dear [Salutation][Parent Names]

Proposed 7.55am Stagecarriage bus service from New Marske from Monday 3 November 2014

I write because I need your help with regard to a proposed additional bus service from New Marske to Bydales School each morning, starting on Monday 3 November 2014 at 7.55am from New Marske Birkdale Road shops.

Having spoken with parents on a number of occasions over the last two months, and having observed first hand at the Marske roundabout, it is clear there have been issues with the intended arrival time of the 8.09am 64 bus service from New Marske. When the bus is late, it becomes impossible for students taking that service to arrive at Bydales School by 8.20am, ahead of lessons starting at 8.25am. I understand from New Marske parents, and residents who also use this bus service, that there have been punctuality issues with this particular service over the years. With winter approaching there are obvious concerns about whether the situation will worsen as poor weather draws in.

I also note that when the bus is late, parents often resort to quickly driving their children down into Marske, which unavoidably adds to traffic congestion around school in the morning. Please note I am waiting to meet Highways colleagues from Redcar & Cleveland to discuss longer term solutions to local parking and access around the school for cars.

As you will be aware, there is an existing Stagecarriage bus service directly from the Bydales School car-park that leaves each evening after school after 2.30pm for New Marske, costing 80p per journey.

I write because I have recent agreed with colleagues from Stagecarriage that they will put on an additional service that leaves New Marske Birkdale Road shops at 7.55am from Monday 3 November 2014. It will stop at the usual New Marske stops only, on the way to Bydales. **I however need to establish whether the service might be over-subscribed but also whether it is viable for the provider.**

I would be very grateful if you could complete an online survey as soon as possible so I can check that the service, in particular, will not be over-subscribed. Please complete the survey via this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XNK2J29> and by Friday 31 October at the latest, if at all possible.

Whilst this new service settles down, the school will be charged directly by Stagecarriage for the morning route, whilst the school will collect 80p per student per journey. Stagecarriage are not permitted to collect money for this service until a 56 day period has elapsed, however we have agreed to pay for the service ourselves, and collect money from students/parents directly in order to get the 7.55am route running as soon as possible.

If you intend that your child/children will use this service, I would be grateful if on Monday 3 November you provide your child with one of the following:

- A cheque payable to 'Bydales School' for £16 to pay in advance for 4 weeks of morning journeys
- A cheque payable to 'Bydales School' for £25 to pay in advance for the whole half-term (with discount applied)
- 80p exactly

Students who pay in advance with £16 or £25 will shortly receive a photo bus-pass for this morning service, and will take priority for seats, which may be limited if the service proves to be popular.

If you have any questions or concerns, I'd be grateful if you could pass them to me, bearing in mind it is half-term, via the online survey above via Question 8. There is also the opportunity to give your email address via Question 10.

I hope you appreciate we are intending to organise this service without delay, and that there may be additional issues to solve. However, I feel that the benefits with regard to starting as soon as possible are substantial. I thank you in advance for your patience as we help address transport issues from New Marske for the benefit of our students, and their families.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Wappat', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrew Wappat
Principal