



Learning together, growing together

Dorin Park School and Specialist SEN College

08.12.21

After School Club – Update and Next Steps

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term we have held a pilot After School Club on Tuesday evenings. We had an enthusiastic response to the offer, with 19 children attending in total, and a small waiting list. Our Seniors pupils and our older Primary pupils coped well with the change of routine, whereas some of our younger pupils found this change of routine challenging and took time to settle into the club. Overall, we feel that pupils enjoyed the club and that we were able to put on a variety of activities to meet their needs. Huge thanks go to the staff who volunteered to support the pilot, and to parents who signed up to try out the club.

If your child accessed the After School Club, please complete this short survey to help us understand the impact of this club: <https://forms.office.com/r/L9C3GdPUzc>

Our intention with our club was to provide a requested service, but unfortunately, this has had a negative impact on our partners at LIVE!, as they saw a significant drop in attendance for their own After School Club. LIVE! is a service used by our pupils all the way through school and into adulthood, so we do not want to jeopardise this partnership between LIVE!, school and families.

I have spoken to SPACE to discuss the impact of us changing to Wednesdays, but they have said that this would have a huge effect on their provision in the same way it has with LIVE! this half term. I have a meeting with managers from SPACE and LIVE! next week to discuss possible solutions, including holiday club provision, and transport possibilities. I have also made contact with Bridge Wellness Farms in the hope of a visit next term to discuss their plans for wraparound care.

With this in mind, we will not be holding an After School Club in the spring term, but will look for other ways to support families over the year, in collaboration with existing services.

On request from parents in the childcare focus group, I have spoken to local mainstream providers about wraparound care but was unable to elicit an offer of places for our pupils, due to the ongoing demand for their services from the mainstream schools.

I will contact families in the New Year with our next steps.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Lee
Headteacher

Head Teacher – Lucy Lee

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