



24.9.15 - Breakfast Club and After School Club

St. Patrick's is committed to providing opportunities for working parents, and those seeking to develop themselves through training and Further Education, by providing high quality care before and after school.

The Governors of St. Patrick's have reviewed their current provision and have agreed to make some changes as detailed below.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will continue to open from 7.45 until 8.25. All children will be provided with a breakfast and supervision until school opens at 8.55am. **The cost of this will be increased to £1 per child.** This price increase will not take place until the children return to school in November, after the half term. We have looked carefully at the costs and we believe this is a very fair and reasonable cost for before school care. We do know that other providers and schools usually charge approximately £3.50 for the same service.

Children do not have to reserve places to attend.

After-School Care – Little Leprechauns

Again, Governors have looked carefully at this provision and a number of changes will be introduced after half term. We appreciate that demand for places is extremely high and the Governors wish to address this.

Number of Places:

The Governors are going to extend the number of places we can offer by increasing the numbers of staff who work in Little Leprechauns. This should provide the much needed places for parents, who have been on the waiting list for some time. Miss Quigley, our After School Leader, will contact parents as places become available.

Reserving Places/Evenings:

When places are offered to pupils that 'place' will be reserved for them for the days they have requested and unless the child is absent from school on that day, the parent will need to pay for it. A parent will not be able to reserve several nights and then call in each week to say they don't want certain days; as they are preventing another child from having that place. For example a parent cannot request Monday and Tuesday nights and then not commit to paying for these nights. No other provider allows this, as the place cannot be filled at short notice, and the school does not have the time to contact parents trying to fill the places.

Costs:

The Cost of Little Leprechauns will rise to £5 per child per evening. This increase will take place after the October Half –term break. This is the first increase for approximately 12 years.



In comparison to other providers this is still extremely low, with most other providers charging between £12 -£15 for the same service.

All Leprechauns fees will need to be paid before the end of every half term. If they are not paid in full at the end of the half term, the place will be offered to another child.

We do appreciate that these are significant cost increases, but what the school charges is substantially less than any other provider and we need to ensure that the provision is financially sustainable for the school.

School opening times:

As a reminder school officially opens at 8.55 am and the school has a 'duty of care' from this time. Currently, we open the gates early, at approximately 8.40am to enable parents to drop their children off and then leave. This means that we are offering 15 minutes additional supervision to the children as a gesture of good will. This of course means that staff are offering to do this and the governors are very grateful to them as most other schools insist that the children are supervised by parents in the yard until school opens at 8.55.

At the end of the school day:

Could we please remind parents that they need to supervise their children at the end of the school day; their behaviour and safety is the parents' responsibility. Children are not allowed to ride bicycles and scooters across the yard for obvious safety reasons. Nor should any child be on The Jungle Gym or tyres without being supervised by a parent.