

27th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Exwick Bus Update

Headteacher: Miss Lindsay Skinner

Summer Lane, Exeter, EX4 8NN

Tel: 01392 209922

Fax: 01392 209921

www.stjamesexeter.co.uk

Believe and Achieve

In the summer term, many parents raised concerns regarding planned changes to the public bus routes from Exwick to St James. The changes mean that routes that go via Exeter High Street would end at BHS and that pupils travelling to school on these routes would need to switch buses, walking the full length of the High Street before being able to get on their connecting bus.

We have been working with Stagecoach and Devon County Council (DCC) and are pleased to confirm that an alternative bus will be available for all pupils travelling from Exwick. The 985 bus will now run as a school bus. This means that only St James pupils will be able to use it and it will not be available for members of the public. Two double-deckers will run so there will be room for all pupils travelling from Exwick. Pupils do not need to have a DCC bus pass to use this bus; any pupils with a Stagecoach ticket can travel on the 985 as well as those with a DCC issued bus pass.

The 985 will follow the route and times below. We recommend that pupils arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes in advance of the scheduled departure time.

Morning Schedule

St Thomas, St Phillips Court 07:35
Redhills, Antonine Crescent 07:43
Exwick, Lichfield Road 07:44
Exwick, Peterborough Road 07:46
Exwick, Burrator Drive 07:50
Exwick, Kinnerton Way bottom 07:53
Exwick, Community Centre 07:54
Redhills, The Thatched House 07:56
Redhills, John Levers Way 07:58
St James School: 08:25

Afternoon Schedule

St James School: 15:10
Redhills, Manor Road 15:32
Redhills, The Thatched House 15:34
Exwick, Exwick Road 15:36
Exwick, Mallinson Close 15:37
Exwick, Burrator Drive 15:40
Exwick, Peterborough Road 15:44
Exwick, Lichfield Road 15:46
Redhills, Antonine Crescent 15:47
St Thomas, First and Last: 15:55



At present, due to the limitations placed on the school due to Covid19, there will be very few after school clubs. However, these will grow in the coming weeks. As they do, we will look to negotiate a bus that will leave after the clubs have finished. If this is not possible, we will look to support our younger pupils from Exwick with transport so that they can access extra-curricular clubs without needing to change buses at the High Street. We will update you on our progress in due course.

Please remember that pupils travelling on public transport are required to wear a face mask by law. Pupils should carry a sealable bag to store their mask when they have finished using it. If your child(ren) will be wearing a mask, please watch the following video with them to ensure they know how to wear it safely: <https://youtu.be/XEhPyZX7WiA>.

We're looking forward to welcoming pupils through our doors once again.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lindsay Skinner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Lindsay Skinner
Headteacher