



15 November 2019

Dear Parents / Carers

X4 First Bus Service to Bristol

I am writing to you to address concerns raised by a number of students and parents about the X4 service to Bristol, departing St Katherine's School at approximately 15:30.

Since April 2019, First Bus have agreed that the X4 bus from St Katherine's School to Bristol at the end of the school day will stop in our car park to collect students. This change has been incredibly positive for the school and ensures that students are able to board the bus in a calm, safe manner.

One of the main concerns of students is that, unfortunately, there is not enough space for all students on the bus. This has become increasingly frustrating for students as the nights draw in and we are working with First Bus to see if it is possible for them to provide an additional bus at this time.

In the meantime, students have raised concerns about the fairness of who is boarded last each day, therefore, we have put a rota in place that will take effect from Monday 18 November. Although a number of students will not be able to board, the rota should provide students with a better idea of which days this is likely to directly affect them. Year 7 will continue to board first, and Years 8-11 will be asked to be the last year group on a Friday on a three week rotating basis.

My assembly slides that I used to speak to students on Friday 15 November can be accessed at this [link](#).

We have asked students who board the bus in school to not travel only as far as the next stop at the A369 - which has happened where students have decided to be with their friends. The bus will not stop at this stop as it will be full from the students we have boarded at school.

If you would like to discuss these arrangements please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. I recognise how frustrating having to wait 20 - 30 minutes for the next bus will be for students, but I hope the new arrangements provide students with stability, knowing which days they will be affected.

Yours sincerely

Steve Colebourne
Assistant Headteacher

Headteacher: Justin Humphreys

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