

19th May 2023

Dear Families

We are aware that there have been some concerns raised by students regarding school toilets and I am writing to explain the current situation and plans for resolving any issues.

Numbers of Toilets

As is the case with all schools, we maintain a ratio of at least 1 toilet to 20 students. These include disabled and single-gender facilities. School lunch break and break times follow guidance to ensure that students have adequate breaks during the day and we have recently extended lunch slightly to ensure that students have time to eat, use the facilities and participate in extracurricular activities if they choose to do so.

The toilets are cleaned every evening and inspected each morning when the site team unlocks the school. They start the day fresh, functional and ready for use. Unfortunately, a small number of students have not been respecting these spaces and there has been some vandalism and littering in the toilets. We have installed CCTV outside of each toilet to help us to identify those responsible and are asking their parents to contribute to the cost of repairs, our site team are working hard to stay on top of this.

Toilet Use

During break and lunchtime we have staff outside or near to our toilet facilities. Staff can supervise behaviour and numbers of students in any toilet at a time. They regularly clear out toilets if too many students are in there at once to make sure that every student has access. However it may be worth advising students to think about making use of these facilities during lunch and break time. On occasion, especially in nice weather, duty staff are supervising near-empty facilities until the first bell for lessons rings, when large numbers of students need to use them at the same time. This obviously does create points in time when they are crowded.

Obviously this level of supervision cannot be provided during lesson times as staff are teaching. We therefore expect students to use the toilets at break and lunch times, unless they have a medical pass. However teachers do have passes to allow students out in emergencies.

Courtyard Toilets

Unfortunately vandalism has resulted in a plumbing issue in the courtyard toilets. The toilets are functional however the indoor sinks are currently not; a plumber has been booked to address this. Two sinks, with a soap dispenser, have been set up immediately outside the toilets.



These toilets have not been redecorated for several years and are due a refit. I have collected bids for this work and we are currently scheduling work with a contractor; we are hoping to have this work completed by 1 September 2023. At break and lunchtimes other toilet blocks are open for students to use unless undergoing repairs or cleaning. This only happens at social times in emergencies, otherwise toilets are cleaned at other times of the day.

We hope this assures you that we are aware of some issues and are working to address these, including a refurbishment. However, students do have access to all necessary facilities throughout the school day.

With kind regards



Kirsty Rogers
Headteacher

Registered Office: Rush Common School
Hendred Way, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 2AW

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School Address: Wootton Road
Abingdon, Oxon OX14 1JB

T: (01235) 524 664 **F:** (01235) 520 711

E: office.4126@johnmason.oxon.sch.uk
www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk

