Heartwood Church of England VC Primary and Nursery School

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Headteacher Mrs Rebecca Starman
Deputy Headteacher Mrs Kelsey McKenna

Permission for walking home alone – Years 5 and 6 only

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to ask parents/carers to consider whether they feel their child is mature and responsible enough to walk home from school independently.

If you decide that your child is ready to walk home alone, please make sure that you have spoken to them about keeping safe and have practised the journey together. In particular, please ensure that they know how to cross roads safely and understand the importance of following the agreed route home. We ask that parents/carers carefully consider their child's age, maturity, confidence, understanding of road safety, and the route they will be taking.

Mobile Phones

We prefer children not to bring mobile phones to school when walking. However, we understand that some parents/carers may feel that their child needs to have a mobile phone with them for their journey.

If your child does need to bring a mobile phone to school for this reason, it must be handed in to the school office on arrival. It is the child's responsibility to remember to hand their phone in. Phones must not be kept in children's bags or on their person during the school day. If a child leaves their phone in their bag rather than handing it in, they will not be permitted to bring a mobile phone into school in future.

After-School Clubs and Events

Permission to walk home alone does not include after-school clubs, discos or other school events. Children will only be permitted to walk home alone after an after-school club during the summer term, when it is still light in the evenings.

Children will not be allowed to walk home alone without prior permission from a parent or legal guardian.

Please remember that once your child has left the school premises, responsibility for their journey home rests with you as their parent/carer.

Thank you for your support in helping us to keep our children safe and encouraging them to develop independence at an appropriate stage.

I give permission for my child to walk home (or to another specified destination) on their own after school. I have explained to my child the safety aspects of walking home on their own. I understand that it is the responsibility of parents, and not the school, once my child has left the school premises.

Child's Name _____ Parent Name _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Specified location if other than home _____