



27<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As a school, we understand how important it is for the children to stay active at playtime and lunchtimes. Many children at Park Grove choose to play football during these times and this is something that we have encouraged and supported.

To support behaviour at playtime and lunchtime and to ensure that the games of football are inclusive for all children in school, we have decided that each class will be given a class ball to use during these times. The children in each class will be responsible for their ball and will take it in and out of the classroom when desired. The children will be encouraged to play across classes but we have chosen to give a ball per class to advocate independence and responsibility. To avoid difficulties with lost balls and to make sure there are equal opportunities for all children, we have decided that children will no longer be allowed to bring in their own ball from home. We are sure you can appreciate that not all families can provide a football for their child and this has, at times, caused some children to feel excluded from playtime games.

We have trialled the use of class balls in Upper Key Stage 2 for the last few weeks with great success. We have noticed that many more children are becoming active during playtime and lunchtimes and it has encouraged more children to get involved with team activities. It has also led to significant improvement of behaviour at lunchtime within this group. If the class balls continue to work successfully, we are looking to invest in additional playground equipment for the children to use which we are hoping the 'Fun Run' will help to pay for.

If you have any questions or queries with the above, please email me at [b.rogers@ebor.academy](mailto:b.rogers@ebor.academy).

We appreciate your support and understanding regarding the new changes.

Kind regards,

Mr Rogers  
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