

6th April 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

There have been some recent news articles discussing the future of two St. Peter's school buses which serve the Ferndown, West Moors, Wimborne areas (769 and 781). We have been waiting to discuss the matter with Dorset County Council before making any announcements.

When Mr Todd and I met with Dorset County Council four years ago they explained that funding for denominational transport had been cut, but Dorset Council decided to continue supporting the students who were in the year 7 until the end of their compulsory education in Year 11. They have therefore maintained the buses to assist these children.

Given current budgetary constraints, the council believe that these two buses are no longer financially viable.

Clearly this is very bad news for parents who rely on these services, however there are two possible options.

1. Morebus may continue to run the buses on a commercial basis. DCC will be talking to Morebus in April and I have spoken to Morebus this afternoon.
2. As some of you may be aware I have been contacted by two sets of parents whose children are currently at St. Catherine's who have looked into the possibility of setting up a parish/parent's association which would hire a bus/coach

Maybe other people have other ideas? I do feel I need to say at this point that St. Peter's itself unfortunately does not have the funds or the manpower to run a bus itself.

We would therefore like to set up a meeting possibly in May sometime at St. Catherine's in Wimborne for all interested parties to discuss a way forward.

If you would be interested in attending this meeting could you please send me an email/or let us have a phone number, c/o jmh@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk, so that we can contact you easily once we have a date for the meeting.

As St. Peter's celebrates its 80th birthday we would like to stress that we are very keen to continue to serve your communities as your children have been part of and we hope will continue to be, at the heart of our school for many years to come.

I look forward to meeting you in May.



Miss Hubbert
Assistant Headteacher

Becoming the best we can be