



BEACON PRIMARY ACADEMY



Groupcall – What it means to parents

We are installing a new facility in school which will allow us to contact you more quickly and efficiently. The system is called Groupcall and this document will provide information on how the system will be used but we need your help to make it work.

I am sure you can appreciate that we need to send you lots of information about your child, their class and the school in general, throughout the year.

Groupcall gives us the ability to send text messages (SMS) to your mobile phones. We will also be using it to send you emails. This new facility will enable us to get a message to one or more parent(s) or the whole school very quickly.

Nothing can replace a telephone call when it is needed and so mobile text messaging will only be used in appropriate situations. Examples of this might be:

- School Closures of any kind
- Emergency notification of flood etc.
- Advise/acknowledge that your child is absent from school
- Changes to meetings and after school events
- Unauthorised absence reminder notices
- Parents evenings
- Class trip reminders
- Upcoming special school events
- Invitations to a meeting
- When report cards have gone home
- General information about what is going on at school

Depending on the reason for contacting you, we will either send an email or a text message to your mobile phone. We may also choose to send some messages in duplicate (i.e. via text & email).

TEXT MESSAGES - All text messages sent from school will have 'GROUPCALL' displayed at the top of the message and then our school name. We will be able to see from school when the message has arrived in your phone and so we will know you have received it (you cannot reply via text to these messages). If we are asking for information, please provide that information in the normal way (i.e. by telephone or by letter to the school).

Groupcall will be our first method of reaching parents from now on, so it is important that your contact information is kept 'up-to-date'. Please ensure that Mrs Crow has all your current contact details, especially your current mobile phone number and which member of the family this belongs to and advise us immediately if any of these numbers change. **This will not replace any of the other emergency numbers you have provided.**

If you have any queries, please get in touch with the Mrs Crow in the school office.

Contact Details

Please return to Mrs Crow

CHILD'S NAME : _____

CLASS/YEAR : _____

PRIORITY PARENT'S NAME : _____

PRIORITY MOBILE PHONE NUMBER : _____

PARENT'S NAME : _____

MOBILE PHONE NUMBER : _____

HOME PHONE NUMBER : _____

WORK PHONE NUMBER : _____
(If applicable)

EMAIL ADDRESS (HOME) : _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (WORK) : _____
(If applicable)

DATE : _____

PLEASE TICK IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A MOBILE PHONE

Please put any comments below: