

WOOTTON ACADEMY TRUST

Wednesday 7 August 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Travel arrangements to Kimberley from Cranfield, Shelton and Marston Moretaine

In July 2019 when the Trust Board agreed its budget for 2019 – 2020, it made the decision that it could no longer subsidize the W10 bus from Cranfield to Kimberley College, by underwriting any losses made by the provider. We informed the provider after the board meeting and the provider told us they would not continue to run the service. **We agreed that the Trust would communicate this news to parents/carers.** The purpose of this letter is to let you know this, and more importantly to advise you of the new arrangements which we will expect to be in place for the new term.

New bus service from Cranfield to Kimberley College and Wootton Upper School

There will be a new public bus service starting on Wednesday 4 September connecting Cranfield University, Cranfield, Shelton, and Marston Moretaine with the college. We will send you more information about this service over the next two weeks. In general:

- a new C5 route run by **Uno Bus** will commence on Wednesday 4 September;
- the C5 will arrive at Kimberley at 8:35 am, in time for the start of the college day and leave the college at 3:30 pm AND
- there will be a mid-morning C5 service from Cranfield which will arrive at Kimberley at 11:35 in time for lessons after break; this bus will then return to Cranfield enabling students who do not have an early morning lesson to get to college in time, and allowing students wishing to return to Marston, Shelton or Cranfield after break to do so;
- the C5 timetable will list the main stopping points, but as a public service bus it will also stop at other designated bus stops on the route; this will be greatly appreciated by students;
- daily, weekly and annual tickets will be available

These new arrangements offer Kimberley College students whose home is in Cranfield, Shelton and Marston Moretaine a greatly improved service.

Uno Bus runs services from Milton Keynes to Bedford through Cranfield University and Cranfield. The company enjoys an excellent reputation for punctuality and reliability.

Students with **annual** tickets will be able to use them to travel 7 days a week, 52 weeks of the year on any Uno Bus between Bedford and Milton Keynes. We believe this will be very popular with students. Please click here to view the timetable:

<https://bustimes.org/services/c1-milton-keynes-moulsoe-cranfield-wootton-kemps-2>

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The annual ticket is likely to cost **£805** which works out at around £20 per week over the college year. **Until 30th September 2019 the annual ticket will be available at a reduced price of £675.**

Details of how to purchase annual tickets, which can only be purchased using the Uno Bus app on a smart phone, will follow.

Uno Bus has worked very hard to put these proposals together and Uno Bus itself commends the support it has had from Cranfield University in finding this exciting solution. We are especially grateful to Cranfield University, one of Kimberley College's partners, who clearly have gone the *extra mile* to support this new provision.

We hope this initial letter answers some of the questions that a number of Cranfield, Marston Moretaine and Shelton parents have been asking over the last few weeks.

We will send you an updated email as soon as we have more information. May I remind you that lots of Kimberley College staff will be at Kimberley on Thursday August 22, GCSE results day. If you have questions you would like to ask at that point please approach one of the Kimberley Team.

I would ask you to be patient whilst the final details are confirmed over the next week. If you have any questions once our second letter has been emailed to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Finally, may I reiterate that we believe that students in Cranfield, Shelton and Marston Moretaine will be very well served by this new service and we urge you to support it.

Yours sincerely

on behalf of: Tim Detheridge
Principal of Kimberley 16 – 19 College