

Independent Traveller Form

NEWS ITEM: AUGUST 2005, SCOTLAND

On the 18th August 2005 Rory Blackhall a Year 6 school boy was dropped off near his School by his mother at 8.30am. He failed to arrive at school that morning but the family were not alerted of this fact until his grandfather came to collect him at the end of the school day. The school were not aware that Rory travelled to school independently, so they did not raise the alarm when he failed to arrive that morning. On 21st August 2005 Rory Blackhall was found dead in a local wooded area.

In light of previous tragic events your school is updating their Independent Traveller Alert Scheme. The aim is to ensure that the school has a record of all children coming to school and going home from school without an adult.

If your child comes to school or goes home without an accompanying adult, you must complete the attached form and return it to the School Office as soon as possible. If an older school-aged sibling is responsible for ensuring your child attends school, you must still complete this form. Please ensure your child does not arrive before 8.40am as the school cannot accept legal responsibility for children at this time.

If your child is not attending school (due to illness for example) please contact the school before 9.00am to advise us of this. Failure to do so will result in the school contacting you at home and at work to verify the whereabouts of your child. If we are unable to contact you we will refer the matter to the local Police. This is to ensure the safety of your child.

As a reminder to all parents please ensure that if you drop your child off outside the school gates that you watch your child until they enter the school building at 8.50am.