



5th January 2017

Dear parents and carers,

Changes to travel arrangements for users of the 540, 541, 244 and 245 bus services

At the beginning of December, New Enterprise informed us and Kent County Council that they were stopping running the 540, 541, 244 and 245 services at the end of January 2017. The school or council received no warning of their intentions and were not offered any opportunity to renegotiate the services. Hugh Christie had enjoyed a long and effective partnership with New Enterprise for nearly twenty years and we were therefore shocked and outraged by this decision, given its potential impact on many of our students' ability to get to and from school.

Given this situation, the school has acted swiftly to find a new partner to operate the bus services to ensure our students can continue to travel to and from school. Hams Travel have agreed to become our new partner and run a replacement service from Monday 30th January 2017.

Following a review of the current usage, it has been necessary to change two of the routes and reduce the number of vehicles from four to three.

In summary:

- The 540 service will remain unchanged.
- Students currently using the 244 from Wrotham and Borough Green will join the 541 service.
- The 244 and 245 services will be merged to form the 542. The vast majority of existing stops will remain covered.
- The route between Borough Green, Ightham and Shipbourne will be discontinued due to very low usage and because alternative services are available along this route that stop in Shipbourne Road close to Hugh Christie (222 service operated by Autocar).

We appreciate that this will mean increased journey times for some students, although Hams Travel have tried to minimise this as much as possible. The timetables for the three routes are attached to this letter and will be available on the school website shortly.

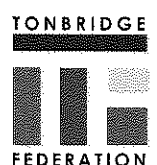
Please remember that these are public services and your child MUST have a valid Young Person's Travel Card or correct fare (£3-50 single / £5 return per day) otherwise they will be refused access to the bus. As previously, any antisocial behaviour on the buses will not be tolerated by the operator and will result in a withdrawal of your child's travel card.

The disruption to the existing services is solely the responsibility of New Enterprise. If these changes will cause significant disruption to your child, we fully understand you may wish to make a complaint to the New Enterprise management directly. If you have any questions about the new services operated by Hams Travel, please contact Miss Midwinter at Hugh Christie.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Barker
Executive Principal
Tonbridge Federation

Executive Principal: Jon Barker B.Sc. (Hons)
Hugh Christie Technology College, White Cottage Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN10 4PU
t: 01732 353544 f: 01732 367833 e: admin@hughchristie.kent.sch.uk
www.hughchristie.kent.sch.uk



SERVICE 540			
Sundridge-Select Garden Centre	0700		
Sundridge-Traffic Lights	0703		
Brasted High Street at West End	0710		
Westerham High Street	0715		
Swan Public House-Four Elms Road/Marpit Lane	0720		
Waitrose Edenbridge	0725		
Edenbridge-Eden Valley School	0730		
Four Elms Post Office	0735		
Bough Beech-Wheatsheaf Public House	0740		
Chiddingstone Causeway-Post Office	0745		
Leigh Green	0750		
Hugh Christie Technology College	0820		
		Mon-Thur	Fri
Hugh Christie Technology College		1500	1345
Leigh Green		1520	1405
Chiddingstone Causeway-Post Office		1526	1411
Bough Beech-Wheatsheaf Public House		1531	1416
Four Elms Post Office		1536	1421
Edenbridge-Eden Valley School		1542	1427
Waitrose Edenbridge		1547	1432
Westerham High Street		1557	1442
Brasted High Street at West End		1602	1447
Sundridge-Traffic Lights		1604	1449
Sundridge-Select Garden Centre		1607	1454

SERVICE 541		
Borough Green Station	0700	
Wrotham Village	0705	
Chapman Way	0720	
Larkfield Fire Station	0727	
New Hythe Lane Bellingham Road	0730	
Oxley Shaw Old Rectory	0735	
West Malling High Street	0740	
Asda Kings Hill	0745	
Boulevard Ave Kings Hill	0750	
Discovery Drive Kings Hill	0752	
Kings Hill Gibson Drive	0755	
Airfield Estate West Malling	0800	
Mereworth Cross Roads	0805	
Hadlow Square	0810	
Hugh Christie Technology College	0820	
	Mon- Thur	Fri
Hugh Christie Technology College	1500	1345
Hadlow Square	1505	1350
Mereworth Cross Roads	1510	1355
Airfield Estate West Malling	1515	1400
Kings Hill Gibson Drive	1520	1405
Discovery Drive Kings Hill	1523	1408
Boulevard Ave Kings Hill	1525	1410
Asda Kings Hill	1530	1415
West Malling High Street	1535	1420
Oxley Shaw Old Rectory	1540	1425
New Hythe Lane Bellingham Road	1545	1430
Larkfield Fire Station	1548	1433
Chapman Way	1555	1435
Wrotham Village	1610	1450
Borough Green Station	1615	1455

SERVICE 542 ***NEW***			
Badgers Mount Post Office	0700		
Pole Hill Arms	0705		
Rose & Crown Dunton Green	0710		
Dunton Green School	0712		
Miners Arms	0715		
Sai Newsagents	0718		
Otford Pond	0728		
Childsbridge Cross Roads	0738		
Seal High Street	0741		
Sevenoaks Hospital A25	0743		
Sevenoaks Station	0748		
Sevenoaks School	0753		
Weald Village	0800		
Hildenborough Church	0810		
Hugh Christie Technology College	0820		
		Mon- Thur	Fri
Hugh Christie Technology College		1500	1345
Hildenborough Church		1510	1355
Weald Village		1520	1405
Sevenoaks School		1527	1412
Sevenoaks Station		1532	1417
Sevenoaks Hospital		1537	1422
Seal High Street		1542	1427
Childsbridge Cross Roads		1545	1430
Otford Pond		1555	1440
Sai Newsagents		1605	1450
Miners Arms		1608	1453
Dunton Green School		1610	1455
Rose & Crown Dunton Green		1613	1458
Pole Hill Arms		1618	1503
Badgers Mount Post Office		1623	1508