

TN/kw

Friday 5th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Damory Update: Bus Route Changes

We have received communication from Damory today and they have asked us to share the following information with you should your child travel by bus to and from school. Some of the routes have had changes to locations and passenger numbers.

Please refer to new maps and timetables here: <https://www.excelsior-coaches.com/schools-timetables>

We fully appreciate that this short notice and upon receipt of this information today, wanted to communicate as soon as possible.

Q1

The Q1 will no longer serve Pilford Heath Road, Sandy Lane and Lonnen Road in Colehill, and will instead operate directly via Middlehill Road serving an additional stop at Colehill Pharmacy. This will make the journey faster for the large majority of students.

The Q1 is also retimed slightly earlier to hopefully give a more punctual arrival at the school. The afternoon Q1 will now terminate at Dudsbury and no longer continue to Northbourne. Students for Northbourne can now use service 13 from the school.

Verwood Area

The Verwood routes have been restructured due to student movement:

The Q4 remains the same, however some former Q3 students have now been reallocated to it.

The Q3 has been replaced by a new service Q7, serving the same locations as the former Q3 except not serving Newtown Lane.

The morning Q7 will also now carry some Ferndown Upper students, and will therefore call into Ferndown Upper at 07:55 to drop off. We appreciate this is far from ideal that we've had to re-introduce a combined route in this way. However unlike the previous Q2, the Q7 will not be serving any stops between Ferndown Upper and QE (nor diverting off of the most direct routing to do so).



The former Q2 students in the area between Ferndown and QE continue to be on service 13, and the Q7 will therefore operate non-stop from one school to the other via the most direct route. We think this will work reliably, however we will keep it under close review.

Rural area

Due to changes in student numbers we have made some changes to the Q10, Q11 and Q12 to give the right capacity in each location. The Q13 has been renumbered Q15 (to remove the numbering conflict with the morebus 13) and also has some route changes as part of this scheme. Specifically:

Cranborne and Wimborne St Giles are now served by the Q11 rather than the Q10. Please also note that the stops in Cranborne will now be at Cecil Court and the War Memorial, not the Fire Station.

Gussage St Michael and Gussage All Saints are now served by the Q12 rather than the Q13/15

Pimperne, Tarrant Hinton and Long Cricchel are now served by the Q10 rather than the Q12

Surplus seats

The new process for selling surplus seats via our app appears to be working well. The route changes above have helped to put capacity in the right places for the expected amount of surplus seat demand, all routes are on sale, and no route has sold out yet.

Yours sincerely



Mr Thomas Neill
Headteacher