



11 October 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

SAFETY FIRST: PICK UP AND COLLECTION REMINDER TO OUR PARENT MOTORISTS

We are very concerned at the increasingly dangerous driving practices outside the School at drop off and pick up times. We recognise that the start and end of the school day can be hectic for parents and finding parking can be a challenge, but it has become apparent that the community is no longer prepared to tolerate unsafe and illegal traffic behaviour. Although I have written previously to remind parents to be considerate of where you park around the School, concerns have been raised by residents about parking outside the school.

To improve the safety, the Council has painted zig zag and double yellow lines in specific areas outside the school. There should be no stopping or parking in any of these areas. Please note that it is also unacceptable to stop in mid-flow of the traffic to allow your child to jump in or exit the car. This is also dangerous and inhibits duty staff's ability to properly supervise our students on arriving and leaving school. Driving / parking in this manner is putting all our children at risk, including those who attend the primary school next door.

I urge you to show the children good examples by obeying all the rules. . Please allow yourself extra time to park away from the school and allow your child to walk to the school. In addition, it is a nuisance to the residents when impatient drivers press their car horns in attempts to get other cars to move on. Please remember that whilst our school is on a main road, the school is in a residential area. It is an offence to wilfully obstruct the highway which can be enforced by police. This will be used as a last resort as educating persons on safety and parking in the area is what we want to achieve.

Members of the public have said that they will take action such as filming and capturing the number plates of motorists causing concerns. We would not like any of our parents to be in this position, so this letter is simply to inform you and advise you to make the necessary changes to your parking pick up and drop off arrangements. Some schools have taken to identifying such motorists publishing this information in parent newsletters. We do not want to take this approach with our parent community but may need to consider this if there is not an adequate response.

We realise that there are some parents who have no alternative but to drive their children to school, however many are driving short distances where walking is a real option. Let's all take some personal responsibility and work together to ensure our school area is a safe place.

In conclusion, we would like to recognise the majority of our parents who do not contribute to this problem. We appreciate that most of the parents walk or drive responsibly to school.

Thank you for being exemplary role models to the children.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Miriam Manderson
Headteacher