

7th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Important Information about travel to and from school

I am writing to update you on our policy and expectations with regard to travel to and from the school site.

1) Walk, cycle or use public transport

We are keen to minimise the number of vehicles on and around the school site both to increase student safety and to reduce our environmental impact. **We encourage students, staff, parents and visitors to walk, cycle or use public transport whenever possible.** This has health and environmental benefits and reducing the number of cars in the vicinity of school improves safety for students.

2) No parking on site at the start and end of the school day

We have limited visitor parking on the school site. **With effect from Wednesday 8th February there is no vehicle access to or from the school visitor car park between 8.45am-9am and 3.10-3.25pm** other than in an emergency. This is because this is our main pedestrian access to site and is in use by students walking to and from school at these times. The car park at the rear of school is for use of staff only during the school day.

If your child has a medical or SEND need and needs to be dropped at or picked up from the Visitor Car Park we will agree a different start or finish time with you. You may also wait in the car park until the gate is reopened.

3) Please avoid parking on the roads nearest to school

Please try to avoid driving your child to and from school if at all possible. If you need to do so, please drop or pick them up at a distance from school to avoid congestion on the residential roads nearest to school. Even if parents are being as considerate as possible, the greater the volume of cars, the greater the disruption and risk to our students and local residents. **Parking on the roads nearest to school endangers our students and local residents.**

Yesterday a car mounted the pavement of a local residential street, narrowly missing one of our students. A local resident emailed the school yesterday to say:

"It is always chaos between 8.40-9am and 3.10-3.20pm each day but, as a rule, has always been an inconvenience rather than a threat or a major issue. Today however, as you can see from the attached pictures, it became dangerous....The lack of common sense and the lack of consideration shown to residents is shocking.....Your help in this matter would be greatly appreciated as I am sure you can see that this cannot continue the way it is."

We do not want our neighbours to feel like this. While I appreciate there may be some people who will not read this message or be prepared to change their behaviour, I really hope that the majority of parents and carers will do. Please be assured that reducing the number of cars in the area around school **will** help to make the journey to and from school safer for all of our students. Thank you for considering how you can do your bit to help keep our students safe. If this does not affect you, I hope you are reassured that we are doing everything possible to keep students safe as they arrive at and leave school.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs A Mellors
Headteacher