

NW/LR

October 2023

Parking and Driving at Start and End of the Day

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term. The popularity of the school has increased our numbers to over 1400 pupils at the time of writing. This means that at the start and end of the day there are large numbers of pupils accessing the Primary and Secondary schools. I am writing to ask you to consider how you bring your children to school and ensure that they are on time.

We do not allow cars onto site, unless they are authorised, to keep the school grounds safe but also, we do not have the capacity for the cars. This means that cars gather at the end of the drive when pupils are arriving and leaving.

I am asking you to consider.

- How you drive?
- Where you park?
- And most importantly the safety of **your** and the schools' children

In the last 6 months we have had two pupils hit by a car, one member staff bumped by a car, poor behaviour of parents to pupils and staff who are on duty trying to look after the safety of our children and complaints from residents. I have now started direct communication with the council and the police in a bid to ensure our children are safe. We are even talking about closing Rowditch Avenue at the start and end of the day to all traffic.

If you do drive your child, can we ask that when you are parked your engine is turned off to reduce the emissions and impact on the children and residents, many of whom are vulnerable.

We will start identifying and capturing images of offenders and passing this to enforcement.

Can we ask the following of all drivers at the start and end of the day:

- ✓ Encourage your child to **walk or cycle to school**.
- ✓ **Park away from the school gates** maybe 800m so your child can walk to you. This is also good for the health of your child.

- ✓ Park on the road with **all of the wheels of your car off the pavement.**
- ✓ Park your car **facing in the direction you plan** to drive away, thus avoiding driving onto the pavement to turn.
- ✓ **Do not stop in the road** to pick up your son or daughter.
- ✓ **Do not park on Uttoxeter New Road in the cycle lane. This is a clear way for ambulances in emergencies to get to the hospital.**

Once you have your child in the car or van, please ensure they have a seat belt on and you are not smoking in the car. These are both fineable offences, with penalty points. We will gather evidence of these to pass to the police and enforcement. These behaviours place your child at risk of an accident, or their health being affected in the longer term.

Please think about the way we behave with our children in mind. This reminder is designed to **protect our children and keep them all safe. We want all of our children to be safe.**

Best wishes,



Mr N. Wilkinson
Executive Headteacher