

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of many concerns which have been raised by residents about parking outside the school and surrounding streets. On several occasions you have been reminded to be considerate of where you park around 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 show the children good examples by obeying all the rules.

Parking across residents driveways is also not acceptable. 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 the school is located in a residential area.

It is an offence to wilfully obstruct the highway which can be enforced by police, but this will be used as a last resort as educating persons on safety and parking in the area is what we want to achieve.

I appreciate that it can be very difficult to park near the school, but parking in this manner is putting your children at risk.

Please allow yourself extra time to park away from the school and walk round with your child. It is still very noticeable that when parents see members of staff on duty or the traffic warden, they drive on. This tells me that you know what you are doing is wrong! Please **STOP** doing it – you are placing our children at risk.

If we are able to identify who is driving the cars we will publish this in our next letter and if people continue to park illegally we will obtain details accordingly.

Driving Children to school is seen as the most convenient choice for parents with busy lives. Many parents take the view that by driving their children to school they are keeping them safe. Yet the combination of each individual decision makes an increase in vehicle traffic and congestion, particularly at the school gate.

Many children now miss out on the opportunity to develop vital road safety skills with their parents on the way to school. They fail to build up confidence and learn the ability to manage risk walking around their local community.

Walking can improve overall levels of fitness in children and adults. It is a cheap low impact way to exercise. This can have a positive impact both mentally and physically.

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, I do appreciate that most of the parents walk or drive responsibly to school. Thank you for your good example and being an exemplary role model to the children.

Yours sincerely,

Flintshire South Safer Neighbourhood Team

