



Birches First School

Believe, Grow, Succeed ...
...to be the best 'me' I can be.

4th July 2022

Dear Parent/Guardians,

I am unfortunately having to write to you about the dangerous and inconsiderate parking around school further to the messages sent previously. I understand pick up and drop off times are difficult and because of our parking issue I have even introduced a flexi drop off of 10 minutes between 8.30am-8.40am to try to ease the amount of children on site at one time however a small minority of parents from school are still parking without any thought for our local residents.

This week alone I have taken three calls and two emails from residents from surrounding roads who are very unhappy about cars being parked across their drives, on the double yellow line, on the zigzag lines and unbelievably parents parking their cars on the pavement. One parent sent in a picture of a red car parked illegally on the yellow zig-zags. This is obviously both dangerous and illegal.

Furthermore, this parking can pose a safety risk to pupils and parents that do walk, scoot and cycle to school, as well as to other road users. In addition, the concerns over unsafe parking can be a major barrier to increasing levels of walking and cycling to school.

The Highway Code rule 238 states

You **MUST NOT** wait or park on yellow lines during the times of operation shown on nearby time plates (or zone entry signs if in a Controlled Parking Zone) – see '[Traffic signs](#)' and '[Road markings](#)'. Double yellow lines indicate a prohibition of waiting at any time even if there are no upright signs. You **MUST NOT** wait or park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers, on school entrance markings (see '[Road markings](#)') when upright signs indicate a prohibition of stopping. **Law RTRA sects 5 & 8**

To ease this problem for the last two and half weeks of term I would like to encourage parents and pupils to use more sustainable modes of travel to get to school where this is possible, please try to ride, walk to school.

I do understand that parents or carers will sometimes need to drive their children to school, however I would urge where possible for parents/guardians to park away from the school and then walk in.

Please could you think of the safety of ALL our children and refrain from parking across resident's driveways as this is an offence, which could also result in a Penalty Charge Notice.

Thank you in advance for your support in this important issue and let us hope together we can ensure the safety of the children and be more considerate to our local residents.

Please do contact me if you would like to discuss this further, I would be willing and interested to hear your views.

Best wishes

S Varricchione

Headteacher