

Wednesday 11th January

Dear Parents and Carers,

We receive a number of emails and phone calls every week about the way traffic uses the road immediately outside school. To address this issue, I have:

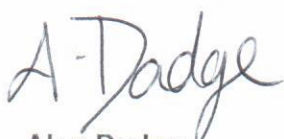
- Sent out message after message urging parents to use the car park further round Gainsborough Drive,
- Reminded parents not to stop on the yellow lines and not to park inconsiderately, including on occasions parking over resident's driveways.
- Appealed to parents not to drive so quickly past the gates.
- Regularly contacted South Staffordshire Parking Wardens and the local policing teams however, I have no control over if they can attend.
- Worked closely with the coach company to look at ways of mitigating the impact of the coach parking.

Unfortunately, we are now seeing parents arrive earlier and earlier to get a parking space before the coach pulls up. This means on occasions the coach has no choice but to stop on the bend. Many parents ask if there can be an alternative space for the coach but again our powers are limited. The coach is provided by Staffordshire County Council and is asked to stop at the gates. Some of the drivers have said they will reverse the coach onto our car park but they can only do this if there are no cars outside school as they need a large turning circle to reverse in.

I absolutely share parents' concerns that there will be an accident outside school as a small number of individuals choose to prioritise their own child's convenience over the safety of our school community.

I have done everything that I can reasonably do but the power to bring about change sits with you, our parents.

I assure you I will continue to offer the reminders, I will continue to liaise with the police and the council but I appeal to the parents who day after day park immediately outside the gates, those who are running late and think they are the exception to the no stopping on the yellow lines rules and those who drive too quickly to remember our community safety is a collective responsibility.



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