



Dear Parents/Carers,

Car parking issues

Over the last couple of weeks there have been some difficulties with car parking around the school – with issues raised by both parents dropping off/collecting children from school and local residents. Parking at all schools is difficult and at Eastlea many of the issues are not new, but there have been some heightened tensions in recent days which need to be considered.

Concerns raised have centred around double parking on narrow estate roads, problems with access to the school, inability to access driveways in the neighbourhood and hazards caused to pedestrians with cars parked on pavements.

It is easy to see how these problems can cause annoyance for everyone, especially on days when deliveries or bin wagons choose to enter the streets around the school at key drop off and collection times as happened last week. For those living around the school, most accept that the school arrival and departure times are going to be busy, and do their best to work around this, but frustrations have come to a head recently which is upsetting for both residents and parents who are caught up in it.

I wanted to remind you about some of the things we can all do to help alleviate the problems with parking at key times:

- **If it is possible, please try to walk to school or encourage your children to use their bikes or scooters.** This is certainly an option in the better summer weather and the bikes/scooters can be safely locked up on site on the cycle/scooter racks provided.
- Why not take advantage of our **'park and stride' scheme** which is still in operation and allows you to **park at the Church of the Nazarene carpark and then complete a short walk to school.** Several families use this system and it works well. Permits for this can be collected from Miss Beeston or the school office.
- If you have to use your car due to the distance needed to travel to and from school then **please park as considerably as you can:**
 - The estate roads are narrow and if cars are parked on both sides then this can block the road for other vehicles and make access to local houses/driveways difficult and would cause a major hazard if an emergency vehicle needed to get through.
 - Where single white lines are in place on smaller estate roads this indicates that the narrow roads could be easily blocked by cars, so avoid parking here
 - Try not to block pavements in the surrounding area – leave space for pedestrians to pass
 - Try not to hang around once you have dropped off/collected your child so that spaces are cleared quickly for others to use where possible.

To help with this we have been in contact with the local community police and council and have asked them to make more regular visits to the local area to see what the issues are and support where they can to alleviate any problems.

If you think there is more we can do to tackle this then please let us know. As always your support with trying to address these parking issues is greatly appreciated.

Miss Beeston,
Head Teacher

