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PARKING



Dear Parents,

Once again, the issues around parking on our site have come to our attention when, last week, I was forced to park in front of the playground gates on my return to school from a meeting at the end of the day.

Whilst I appreciate that this resulted in a number of parents commenting around 'role modelling' and flouting of school policies by staff members, sadly this was only deemed necessary in the light of others' poor parking at the end of the school day. Despite our recent works to create 11 additional spaces in the staff car park, on this particular day 8 spaces remained empty at the bottom end of the car park. Instead, 2 parents were parked within the designated disabled bays, without blue badges on display, and 5 further cars were parked down the centre of the car park for their own convenience, potentially endangering our children and families as they left site.

Following lengthy discussions with the Governing Body, we have recently undertaken a 'Safeguarding Audit' and sought advice from a local Road Safety Officer, both of whom have now observed the comings and goings at the beginning and end of the day. Their comments highlighted issues around dangerous parking, young children being left in cars unattended and the use of mobile phones whilst driving. All of these issues continue to be a concern to us, despite a number of previous letters.

In the light of recommendations made to us, the Governing Body have now agreed to works being undertaken on site, to address the safeguarding concerns around open access to the site during the day and our ongoing parking concerns. Therefore, in the early part of the Summer Term, intercom and key pad systems will be fitted to the main car park and footpath gates, to enhance site security during the school day.

Whilst it is currently our intention to close these gates at 9.00am, to allow for parental access to the site in line with the usual routines, should there be no improvement in the safe and sensible parking of parents, access to the site will be restricted only to staff members and visitors to the school. This is a step which the Governing Body do not wish to take but, given our priorities around safeguarding and ensuring the safety of your children on site, it is one which they will not hesitate in taking should things not improve.

Thank you, in advance, for your support in this.

Yours faithfully,

Miss E Green
Headteacher

