



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
POLICE
Fighting Crime. Protecting People.

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Dear Parent/Carer

Your Neighbourhood Policing teams regularly undertake public consultation to determine the most significant concerns within the local community. A recurring theme is road safety and virtually all schools experience traffic congestion issues during drop off and pick up times. As such we appeal to you to consider the following during these periods:

- Park with consideration to residents – **do not** block or overlap driveways.
- **Do not** park on the corners of junctions as you reduce views making it awkward for vehicles to safely turn into or out of a street.
- **Do not** stop on or park across pedestrian crossings or school zigzag markings.
- **Do not** drive along pavements when the road is blocked – be patient and wait for traffic to clear.
- On congested routes **plan-ahead** and **do not** proceed unless there is a clear space to use to give way to oncoming traffic or to allow traffic to give way to you
- If possible; join with other parents and share journeys to reduce the number of vehicles used and/or avoid congested routes.
- Please be patient where a car must cross a pavement to exit a carpark. The driver's view may be limited; and this will be further reduced by pedestrians congregating whilst waiting to pass.
- Be aware that **children do not easily judge the speed of traffic** and may step out into the road. 30mph is a limit, not a target and much slower speeds are often required to negotiate busy roads safely.
- Pedestrians, especially with young children, should use the side of the road with the widest pathway and wherever possible protected from flowing traffic by barriers or parked cars.

“Why should we have to cross and use the other side of the road?” – If it is the safest option in any situation then it is worth doing! Large numbers of children using narrow paths will always be at risk from traffic no matter how busy the road.

The above list is not exhaustive and there will be occasions where drivers or pedestrians will make errors of judgement, especially under pressure. We are all human so please be patient. South Northamptonshire has many schools and officers will complete ad-hoc checks and challenge people where appropriate. Persistent obstructive parking may result in drivers receiving a fine and this is easily avoidable with a little more thought as to where to park or wait.

Thank you.

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