



POLITE

**THINK!!
BEFORE YOU PARK**



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Dear Parents and Carers

8 November 2019

Polite Notice – Road Safety in and around School

As you are probably aware, we are facing an increasing problem with cars parking dangerously and inconsiderately around the school at busy drop off and pick up times. Despite this being mentioned in recent newsletters, the problem appears to be getting worse and the safety of our children is being compromised.

Just a few years ago a child from our school was hit by a car just outside of the school gates. This was owing to cars parked on the yellow lines creating poor visibility for the child to cross the road and yet we are still facing the same danger on a daily basis. I would much rather write to you now as a way of preventing a repeat incident than writing to notify you of another accident which may have devastating and life changing consequences.

With Road Safety Awareness Week just around the corner (18-24th November), now is a good time to start making some positive changes and incorporate this into educating our children.

- Firstly, let's do our best to **reduce traffic around the roads near the school by walking, cycling or scooting** to school whenever we can. I see lots of children doing this and it's very encouraging. It helps to keep our children and ourselves active, reduces our carbon footprint and of course reduces the number of cars driving and parking in the roads around the school.
- Secondly, let's **encourage our children to cross the road at the safest points** with the greatest visibility. This is at the designated crossings outside of the Year 1 and 2 school gate on Queens Road and outside of the school office entrance on Pauntley Road. We are all guilty of using the quickest route or giving in to habit, so let's change our habits and use the raised crossings rather than crossing the road on the corner of junctions or in between parked cars.

- Lastly, please **do not park on single yellow lines, on double yellow lines, on the zig zags, blocking junctions or residents' driveways**. It is dangerous and is simply not acceptable. Please make sure you leave plenty of time to park safely and walk the remainder of the way into school.

The School, Governors, Friends of Mudeford Infants and BCP Council are taking this very seriously and will be implementing actions to help alleviate the problem. As a **reminder to park safely and considerately, better signage** will be displayed and, with the help of **parent volunteers***, we'll be placing **traffic cones in the worst offending areas** to encourage drivers not to park dangerously. We are **very grateful to M A Hart** for donating 20 large traffic cones for this project. Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council (BCP) are working closely with us and have deployed **parking enforcement officers** and may use **mobile camera cars** to patrol the area on random visits. They **will issue parking tickets** to those not complying with the correct parking regulations. **Repeat offenders will also be named in the newsletter and on notice boards within the school**. Finally, we will be **engaging with local residents** to ensure they are aware of the work we are doing.

This letter is not aimed at being negative as the majority of parents and carers are already driving and parking considerately and safely in the roads around the school and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for doing so. On the contrary, this letter is aimed to help us make positive changes to our behaviours and be good role models for our children.

Please remember that our children's safety is absolutely paramount. Thank you for your support in tackling this ongoing problem.

Yours sincerely



Daniel Pope
Headteacher



Caroline Watkins,
Chair of Governors, on behalf of the Governing Body of Mudeford Infants.

* Parent/Carer Volunteers can contact Emma-Jupp@hotmail.co.uk if you wish to support our activities.

