



22nd March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Despite the vast majority of our families being courteous, peaceful members of the school community, it is with great disappointment that I have to write this letter. Unfortunately, despite multiple pleas to our school community to drive and park safely and respectfully around school at drop off and pick up times, we continue to experience issues daily. I am incredibly saddened that only in the last two days, we have had reported incidents of near misses and aggressive behaviour, including abusive and foul language directed between parents and at our neighbours in the roads surrounding school, particularly York Road.

This is unacceptable. No one should have to be subjected to such behaviour, particularly in front of primary-aged school pupils making their journey into school.

I am writing to inform everyone that I will not tolerate this behaviour on our school premises. It brings our good reputation in the school community into disrepute.

In response to the reports, I have been in touch with the local police to request support to eliminate this anti-social behaviour. If anyone witnesses or is subjected to this behaviour and you can identify the people involved, we will be passing this information to the police, including the number plates of cars which belong to the perpetrators.

Along with requesting police intervention, I must point out that The Department for Education advises that:

'A school may consider that aggressive, abusive or insulting behaviour, or language from a parent presents a risk to staff or pupils. It is enough for a member of staff or a pupil to feel threatened. In such circumstances, schools have a power in common law to bar the parent from the premises.'

I will therefore impose a ban on the premises to any parent or carer who is insulting, abusive or aggressive to another member of our school community or our neighbours with whom we have always fostered good relationships.

I am sorry that I have had to send this to everyone when the great culture and ethos of our school is spoiled by a minority but I have reached a point where I have exhausted my options of polite requests to treat each other with respect and in a way that is a positive role model for our pupils.

I look forward to this behaviour ceasing with immediate effect. PLEASE, just be kind and polite to others.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Kathryn Thornburn

