

Safer Parking

around our school

Dear Parent / Carer,

We value the safety and wellbeing of everyone in County Durham, but we pay particular attention to our young people. We urge you all to help us in this challenge by adopting a common-sense approach to ensuring our children get to and from their school safely. Many schools encourage walking or travelling in the most active way possible, and we support their efforts in this.

We accept that everyone is busy and trying to save as much precious time as possible including on the school run.

If you must use a vehicle to drop your child off at school, please:

- Keep alert to the fact that children and young people may not always cross the road safely and you may need to stop suddenly.
- Drive at a speed suitable to the road conditions.
- Park or drop off legally and responsibly.
- Show consideration to residents who may need to get in and out of their driveways and garages.
- Turn off your engine if you are parking/waiting. Lots of engines running creates poor air quality for everyone, including your child and you.

School Crossing Patrols operate in some areas. Police Community Support Officers and Civil Parking Enforcement Officers are regularly deployed to streets around schools to help keep our children and young people safe. You can support and help them by behaving and driving responsibly.

Thank you to the majority of people who do act responsibly!

To those who don't act responsibly – you risk receiving a penalty charge notice if you are parking illegally, but more importantly you are putting the safety of our children and young people at risk, including your own.

Guidance

Guidance on the relevant section of the Highway Code is below and more information can also be found online at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code>

Rule 238 of the Highway Code States:

'You **MUST NOT** wait or park on yellow lines during the times of operation shown on nearby time plates (or zone entry signs if in a Controlled Parking Zone) Double yellow lines indicate a prohibition of waiting at any time even if there are no upright signs. (*No setting down or picking up passengers where 'no loading' markings are present*)

You **MUST NOT** wait or park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers, on school keep clear road markings when upright signs indicate a prohibition of stopping'.

More information on school gate parking can be found at <https://www.durham.gov.uk/schoolparking>

