



# St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School

*Prepare the way of the Lord*

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Dear Parents/Carers

It is with regret that I write to you again about traffic congestion along Rookery Avenue, which continues to be a problem. I have mentioned this several times over the last couple of years and have asked parents to refrain from driving down Rookery Avenue and/or using the school car park (particularly between 8.00am - 8.45am and 2.45pm - 3.15pm) to drop off/pick up pupils.

Unfortunately, I feel that these requests have largely been ignored and the situation is steadily deteriorating, so much so I am now very concerned for the safety of our pupils. As stated previously, it should be considered a courtesy and a safety measure to the parents of pupils and particularly the pupils themselves who walk to school and use this entrance. Even those pupils who have been dropped off are at risk, as two incidents this week show.

Our designated drop off point is at St Oswald's Church car park on St Oswald's Avenue and it is less than 4 minutes walk from there into school. Alternatively, pupils can be dropped off on Warrington Road, where they can use the crossing at Robinsons if necessary, which is less than 3 minutes walk into school. **All pupils** have been informed of our expectations that they are dropped off at either of these two areas, and I would politely ask all parents and carers to please help us by doing this.

There have been a number of 'near misses' on the car park by parents/carers dropping off pupils at the front of school and then manoeuvring away from staff cars who are arriving for work; as well as from cars reversing into Ramsey Close after dropping pupils off and not noticing pupils behind their cars. The kerbs along the avenue are continually being mounted to avoid waiting for clear passage and the residents have made several complaints to the school and the Council.

The safety of our pupils must be paramount in any considerations and I fear that a small number of parents/carers are putting their own convenience above pupil safety. I will be monitoring the situation closely in the next half-term, as I feel that unless improvements are made alternative arrangements will have to be implemented.

Please help us to keep your child and all children in the school safe by not driving down Rookery Avenue and/or using the school car park between 8.00am - 8.45am and 2.45pm - 3.15pm, as I do not want to wait until a serious accident occurs and then take action.

Your support in this matter is imperative and most appreciated.

Yours faithfully

**M J DUMICAN**  
Headteacher

