

Newchurch Community Primary School  
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Headteacher: Mrs S Lawrenson

5<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Dear Parent,

As you are aware, we have been investigating possible ways of helping the school work towards a safe parking and traffic system near the school grounds. We would very much like to give you an update.

As a local resident mentioned, when the school was first built there were hardly any cars on the road. Now, we have significantly more cars and also bigger cars which take up much more space! Here is a list of current concerns:

- Cars being parked too close to the opening of the school thus restricting safe places for crossing the road and restricting vision of other traffic
- Cars being parked on the path which prevents parents walking with prams and buggies from getting past
- Cars parking up very early to get a space and leaving the engines running (idling)
- Cars driving passed the school gates and letting their children out, then driving on
- Cars parking across the driveways of local residents

Following our recent meetings with the residents, some parents and the members of the Local Authority, we are currently working on an action plan with a view to developing the curriculum to increase the children's awareness of road safety and also looking at ways to reduce the flow of traffic and number of cars parking at the start and end of the school day. Before the holidays, the children completed a survey regarding how they currently travel to school and how they would prefer to travel to school. The majority of children wish to cycle to school and so we are looking into ways we can develop this.

In you bring your children to school in a car, please could we ask you to think carefully about where you park. Sainsburys have kindly said that they do not mind parents parking on their carpark.

If the person who collects your child(ren) is a disabled badge holder, please ask them to call into school to collect a permit to park on the school carpark.



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Physical Education & Sport



We have also reviewed our PSHE curriculum to include more elements about road safety and our two Junior Safety Officers will be working with Mrs. Narraway to delivery of an assembly about road safety. This will work towards 'Walk to School Week' in May.

Lesley Patterson from the Local Authority, who delivered our scooter training has been in touch and we are registering with a scheme which will help us increase the number of children finding alternatives to using their cars to come to school. We have even been given a free scooter park!

In addition, we are collecting and plotting all postcodes of our families on a digimap to enable us to gain intelligence on the distance some families travel and also the route they may take. Year 6 will be creating a video of the issues around parking and traffic around school and we are going to do a child's eye view of a walking journey to school to risk assess the route in order to feedback to the Local Authority of any dangers to our children should they opt to walk, cycle or scoot here.

As parents of the children at Newchurch, we would like you to know that any help and support is very much welcomed and appreciated, particularly if you can consider your parking arrangements and help us work towards a safer environment for our children.

Kind regards,



Mrs. Sara Lawrenson  
Headteacher



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