

## PURBROOK INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL ALDERMOOR ROAD EAST, PURBROOK PO7 5NQ Telephone: 023 9261 0761

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Head teachers: Lisa de Carteret and Craig Williams



27 April 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

It is with regret that we writing to you this morning in regards to the drop off and pick up situation that is becoming increasingly dangerous for our school community.

The problems seem to have come to a head yesterday morning when a member of our staff was verbally abused by the public over a parking dispute. Cars are being parked and left illegally during drop off times. The road directly opposite our main gates, Aldermoor Road East is clearly sign posted that there is strictly NO parking, dropping off or loading between the hours of 8.30am and 9.30am and again at 2.30pm until 4.00pm. Yet every morning cars are pulling up, turning in the road and on some occasions parking on the foot paths. We cannot stress enough how dangerous this is. There are on average 300 – 400 families using this gate in the morning, this is an accident waiting to happen. Quite frankly we are amazed it hasn't already. This is down to sheer luck more than anything else. Residents who live on this road and the surrounding roads have, rightly so, also had enough of people parking their cars over their driveways and on some occasions being rude towards them when approached.

Over the last few weeks we have also been alerted to cars surrounding the schools that are being left in dangerous places, in some instances we have also been alerted to other safeguarding situations such as young children being left in the cars with no supervising adult, cars being left with their engines running, and simply poor, illegal parking on double yellow lines, across driveways and on corners etc. Some of our junior school pupils are walking to school on their own and crossing Bursledon Road alone, often unable to see between the cars. Again, an accident waiting to happen.

Pupil safety is clearly the main issue here, however we are also having increasingly difficult scenarios playing out in our staff car park. Staff are struggling to park when arriving for work, they often can't get into the carpark due to drivers (who do have permission to be in the carpark from either the juniors or Infants). These cars are arriving at key, busy times, sometimes blocking the road or entrance to the carparks and on some occasions have remained parked whilst adults are chatting to each other. Parents and children are also having to stand in the road at times as our paths are very narrow, again another accident waiting to happen. We have already had many complaints about this from both schools. Recently a member of the school team had a near knock with a parent in their car, luckily on this occasion there was no damage and no one was hurt, it could have been worse. As a result of all these issues, we are taking a clear stance on who can and cannot come into the car park.

## Car park Rules:

1. If you have a blue disabled badge for yourself or the child in your car you can present this badge to the school and we will issue you with a parking permit. This can ONLY be used when the person who requires the badge is in the car or there is no other adult in the car to supervise.

- 2. If you require short term support to park closer due to an accident or a family situation you need to gain permission from the headteacher and you will be issued with a permit card with the dates required.
- 3. If you are driving into the school with the above permits you will be required to time your drive so that you are on time to pick/drop the children up/off but are not pulling up at the busiest of times. We just ask that you are reasonable and take precautions to be safe.

## NO PERMIT VISIBLE IN THE CAR NO PARKING

We can only apologise that it has come to this, and for the tone of this letter but we are sure you will all agree that the safety of our pupils and the community is paramount and we all need to work together to make our site a safer and calmer place.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L.A. de Carteret

**Headteacher (Infant School)** 

Mr Williams

**Head Teacher (Junior School)**