

Stanhope Barrington C of E
Primary School



Westcroft
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Head Teacher: Mrs D Cross

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Dear Parent/Carer

27th April 2021

Re: Road Safety

As I am sure you will all agree, the traffic, car parking and congestion outside of the school on a morning and afternoon have improved significantly with our staggered drop off and collection times.

Thank you so much to everyone who is parking further away from the school and walking their children to and from school.

I am writing however, to ask parents to just be mindful of causing an obstruction on the pavement when stopping for a quick catch up with other parents and friends. I know it is great that Covid restrictions are loosening and that we can now meet outdoors in groups of six and I know how important it is for everyone's emotional well-being that we make those social connections.

However, last week we had a near miss where two children stepped off the path onto the road to get passed a group of parents. A car was reversing at the same time and luckily spotted the children. The driver was very shaken as were the two children. In addition, Durham Constabulary are often in the vicinity and they have raised concerns with me about parents causing obstructions on the path. The pavement is already being narrowed by residents and parents parking with wheels on the path and I have been advised by Durham Police that this is an offence as it causes an obstruction and causes an increase in risk.

In addition to raising this concern with parents, our teachers are delivering Road Safety assemblies across the school to ensure that children are clear about the 'Stop, Look, Listen, Look Again' safe procedure for crossing roads.

I totally appreciate that I have no control over what parents choose to do outside of the school premises but I do feel it necessary to just make everyone aware of these issues as I am sure you would hate to be the parent responsible for a road traffic accident involving one of our children.

Thank you so much for your cooperation and understanding.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross
Head Teacher

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