



Union Lane
Droxford
Hampshire
SO32 3QR

Tel/Fax: 01489 877537
adminoffice@droxford.hants.sch.uk
www.droxfordjunior.co.uk

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Dear parents & guardians,

It has come to my attention recently via Tina and Liz, parents and local residents, of issues with parking. This is a delicate and complicated issue but hopefully solvable. It is a situation where I can see both sides clearly and have sympathy for both.

Unfortunately, like most schools, the school has no parking available for parents and parking for staff is limited. We also have a Montessori nursery next door, where parents drop off very young children. This has added pressures and traffic to the lane which isn't ideal.

I am so grateful and delighted to see parents are still using the fire station car park and square to park and make the very short and quick walk to school. This is also an ideal time to talk to your children and have a bit of quality time in the fresh air! Of course as Head of the school I can only advise on safe, sensible and considerate parking as only the yellow zig zag lines are legally enforceable for the safety of your children. There have been occasions where frustrations have boiled over, especially where congestion of school traffic has affected residents. We all know that unsavoury language and associated behaviour is not tolerated. It is not a worthy role model. It is understandable why it occurs but is not acceptable. However it is avoidable with a little consideration, sympathy and constraint.

We must strive towards a solution that is considerate of our local residents, many of whom have been children of the school and are parents of Droxford Junior School children past and present. Therefore, I am again calling on your good nature to very carefully consider where and why you are parking, especially before school, after school and afterschool clubs.

The school and staff are caught in the middle and want the best for all. However, the benefits of an idyllic school siting come with constraints. There will not be a multi-storey car park built therefore parents need to consider the recommendations of the school and why, although we can only recommend. The map attached, which goes to all our new parents, clearly shows the recommendations the school has always made for parking. This should leave Union Lane and The Park free from congestion.

I apologise for my diatribe and appreciate your time reading this and hope you can see I am trying to resolve the situation to the satisfaction of all involved.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Dampier
Acting Headteacher