



*'Pupils' behaviour and attitudes to learning are exemplary'  
The rich, exciting and highly creative curriculum is a significant strength  
of the school. This is a GOOD school.'*  
(OFSTED 2019)

9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have written several times in the newsletter in the past few weeks asking that people do not park on the yellow zig-zag markings outside school. We have had several near misses in the past and continue to be extremely concerned about the safety of the children as they cross the road. Many cars are parked directly outside school, along with others driving quickly on Kingsley Road, Mallory Road and Underhill Way. We know that these vehicles are not all parent/carers cars, and have informed police on several occasions about our concerns. Small children can not be seen by drivers when they are crossing between cars, and there is very little safe space for them to cross outside school.

We have recently been asked by the Parish Council to encourage parents to use the Sports and Social Club Car Park, or the parking space on Underhill Way after several complaints that they had received about vehicles parking on the zig-zags at drop off and collection times. Despite requests in newsletters, parking close to school is still a cause for concern between these times.

We have therefore decided that, **from 19<sup>th</sup> February** we will require adults to drop off and collect children from Reception to Year 4 at the start and end of the school day. Year 5 and Year 6 children will be allowed to walk to and from school alone if parents have given their permission in writing to school, and we will be reminding all children about the importance of road safety in PSHE lessons in school. [Please have a look at the website to decide if your child is ready to walk independently to school.](#) Also, please inform the office on [admin3141@welearn365.com](mailto:admin3141@welearn365.com) if your child is in Year 5 or Year 6 and you would like them to walk home on their own. (If your child is in Year 5 or Year 6 and you have previously given permission for them to walk home on their own you do not need to inform us again – we will have recorded this already.)

Children in Year 5 or Year 6 will not be allowed to escort younger siblings in school, children from Reception to Year 4 must be dropped off and collected by an adult. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) and the NSPCC do not advise for someone under the age of 16 to look after young children. A families' guide to the law states: 'There is no law prohibiting children from being out on their own at any age. It is a matter of judgement for parents to decide when children can play out on their own, walk to the shops or school.' Parents are legally obliged to ensure their children get to school and attend regularly, but this in itself does not disallow independent travel. However, as a school we are responsible for the welfare of our pupils and therefore have to consider what we believe is good practice in ensuring the safety of our pupils. It is due to the amount of traffic and parking of cars making it difficult to cross the roads nearby to school safely at drop off and collection times that we have made this decision.

We are sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause, but the safety of the children coming to school and at the end of the school day is of paramount importance.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs C. Kilbey

[www.btschool.co.uk](http://www.btschool.co.uk)

