



# St Ippolyts C.E. (Aided) Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs. R. E. Peddie BEd(Hons) NPQH

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11<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents,

## **PARKING ISSUES: PLEASE READ**

Like the vast majority of schools, parking during the school run can be problematic. This is particularly the case for schools in rural settings like ours. When the school was founded in 1847, it was not built with the traffic needs of the future in mind.

Our parking challenges will not go away; we cannot relocate the school, build a car park or widen the roads. The responsibility lies solely on individual parents and carers who come to school by car, to make safe, considerate and respectful parking choices, taking into account the location of the school and the need to park some distance away.

Most parents accept the limitations of parking when they choose our school for their children, and accept that they will need to park on the hill and walk up to the site. I sincerely thank those parents who always do this.

This week, just three days into the school being fully open and we had already received a number of complaints from parents regarding frustrations over parking. Sadly, these have included reports of altercations between adults and even allegations of threats of physical violence. This is extremely upsetting for all concerned and does not reflect the values of our school or the behaviour we expect from our children.

I know it can be frustrating and is especially problematic when the weather is wet and windy. People's natural instinct is to try and park as close to the school as they can. However, this is simply not possible; we have 128 families in school, and the village green can safely accommodate approximately 5 cars. Parking on the double yellow lines, overlapping the gate, on the bend or in the junction to Folly Lane is not acceptable. This blocks visibility and prevents vehicles getting through. This could have catastrophic consequences if an emergency vehicle needed to access either the school or residents in the local community.

PLEASE play your part to keep our school community safe. You can do this by:

- Sticking to the staggered timings: do not arrive early or delay leaving
- Avoid trying to park on the green; allow time to park on the hill and walk up to school
- Do not park on the double yellow lines, overlap the driveway or cause an obstruction at the bend on the village green
- Do not park in a way that blocks visibility for other drivers
- Do not reverse into the school driveway

**Ultimately, if you have concerns about parking or incidents outside school, I would encourage you to report the matter to the police non-emergency number on 101.**

I sincerely hope that this is just a 'blip' as we settle back into a more normal routine of school being fully open. Life is stressful for all of us at the moment and it's been an incredibly tough year; let's look after each other.

Kind regards,

*R Peddie*  
Mrs RE Peddie  
Headteacher

