



Hanley St Luke's C of E Aided Primary School

Learning, Laughing, Loving at Family St Luke's

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Road Resurfacing, Road Closures, Parking Access and Pupil Safety

We have been advised by the council that the streets around school to the front and rear are being resurfaced next week and therefore access will be restricted and there may well be total road closures around pick up and drop off times. I'll keep you posted if I receive any further details before Monday but it is likely that you will need to find alternative parking so I'm giving you advance notice of this disruption.

This brings me on to a wider issue. You will know that we have asked parents time and again not to drive around to the rear of school by the flats (Y1/2 entrance) because there is only resident parking or double yellow lines. Once you drive up there you have to do a manoeuvre to turn around whilst there are little children running past either on the road or on the residents' carpark. You'll know if you've done this you may well have been challenged by staff. Or you'll know that perhaps you've 'got away with it' and staff have not spoken to you because, frankly, it's like trying to turn back the tide. Staff need to focus on the children. **However, there is a serious accident waiting to happen so I want to set out my thoughts very clearly on the situation. Please read on:**

1. I am responsible for the safety of your children whilst on the school site along with the whole school team. We also want all children to be able to arrive and leave safely but we cannot do this without parental support. Much is out of our control.
2. Parents are responsible for the safety of your children off site, including ensuring they arrive and leave safely and allow others to do so too.
3. The majority of parents work with us to safeguard their own and others' children – thank you. Thank you. Thank you.
4. A minority of parents are continuing to ignore our pleas / road markings and collectively this means unnecessary danger at arrival and dismissal.
5. If parents ignore our safety pleas then you've made a conscious choice to do so. You cannot plead ignorance that you were unaware of the rules. Yes, the signs are a little faded by the flats but I have reached out numerous times by video, Dojo, and letter to tell you there is no available parking here but I'll repeat: **There is no safe and legal parking here.**
6. Aside from the legalities, parking in permit bays and on the permit only carpark around by the flats is dangerous because of the number of children walking or running in many different directions and the manoeuvres required to drive back out as it's a dead end.
7. Parking on double yellow lines anywhere around school is illegal and unsafe.
8. When it comes to the issue of residents' permit only parking bays, elsewhere around school, you may feel we're in a grey area. Around by the nursery, whilst I cannot condone you parking in permit bays and traffic wardens would undoubtedly issue you with a ticket, from a safety point of view, cars are at least facing the right way and do not have to reverse or do a manoeuvre afterwards. As adults you'll balance the risks and consequences of that, respecting any resident complaints. I and my staff have no desire to be pseudo traffic wardens. We are only concerned with child safety and respecting our neighbours.

9. Residents of the flats have raised their concerns several times and complained to the council. I have done the same to protect the safety of your children.
10. Traffic wardens come periodically and issue fines. They have been alerted to this specific issue by the flats. I expect them to monitor this area shortly.

And a final point please. I and my staff were drenched through on Monday trying to welcome your children safely but we witnessed a range of dangerous driving including, bumping up onto pavements, stopping in the middle of the road and getting out to escort nursery children to the gate and parking on double yellows right by where I was trying to support children crossing. Please don't. Rain is unpleasant and gets us wet but we all dry out in the end but a child knocked over is not so easily fixed. The rules apply in the rain.

Thank you for reading to the end of a very long letter. I hope I can rely on your support.

Finally, I'll let you know if I receive further details about the road closures expected next week.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Williamson
Headteacher