

PAPDALE PARENT COUNCIL



Letter to Parents/Carers - Traffic Issues

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing with regard to the health and safety of our children at Papdale Primary School and the growing number of concerns regarding traffic at the start and end of our school day.

The areas outside our school are busy in the morning and often even more so at leaving times. Unfortunately there have been an increasing number of parents who are parking far too close to these entrances or acting inconsiderately, and illegally, with their motor vehicles, placing children and adults in danger.

Following complaints from a number of parents about a minority of 'dangerous and inconsiderate' adults responsible for drop off and collection, I would like to remind you that it is our collective responsibility to maintain a safe journey to school for **everyone**. We can do this in a number of ways.

Firstly, please consider whether you really need to use your car to make the journey to school at all. Not only is walking a healthier option and better for the environment, but it also helps to alleviate some of the problems we are currently facing at our entrance points.

If you do need to drive, **please be considerate** to others and ensure you follow these parking rules for collection and drop off:

- Please **do not park in front of driveways** as local residents need to access their properties.
- **Cars should not be parked on pathways** during drop off and collection times. Please consider the safety of young children and parents with pushchairs who may have to walk into the road and into the path of oncoming traffic to get past.
- A large number of children and parents need to cross the road to get to and from our school entrances, where possible please use the School Patrol Crossing Officer. Can I please remind drivers about **keeping to a low travelling speed**; the speed limit is 20 mph around the school.

We would rather avoid the embarrassment and possible offence of having to ask people to move, and in addition, the *Police Community Support Officers* have indicated that they will begin to regularly patrol the area outside of our school. They have made it clear that they will exercise their powers to give tickets (£30) to any vehicles causing an obstruction.

You can also look at the school website http://www.orkney.co/papdale/?page_id=34 where you can see other information on getting to school.

I am sure we are all in agreement that we want to avoid the issuing of any tickets or formal warnings and, much more importantly, that **the safety of all our children must continue to be our primary responsibility**. In these circumstances I appreciate your support in ensuring this takes priority over a convenient drop off or pick up.

WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE

Yours sincerely

Papdale Parent Council