



**NEIGHT HILL
HIMBLETON
DROITWICH
WORCS.
WR9 7LE**

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HEADTEACHER: Mrs Gemma Martin

Monday 18th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the past weeks and months, a number of concerns relating to traffic and parking at drop off and collection times. These concerns have been raised by parents/carers and members of our local community. We have discussed this as a governing body and feel it is important that the school community is aware of the situation so that we can work together to develop a shared responsibility.

There are two main issues that have been raised:

- 1) Inconsiderate and unsafe parking on the yellow line markings on the road. It is important to note that this is strictly prohibited (see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code/waiting-and-parking-238-to-252>).
- 2) Dangerous and inconsiderate driving through the village and on local roads, including travel at speeds above the designated limit, and a lack of awareness regarding pedestrians.

As a result of these issues, there have been some incidences where our children and accompanying adults have been placed in vulnerable and unsafe situations that could be avoided. This is not acceptable and highly concerning. We know that if an accident were to occur, everyone in our community would be devastated; however, it could so easily happen.

The school invests in the upkeep of the cricket club car park to ensure that our families have a place to park at drop off and collection times. The aim is to keep parking on the road to a minimum, for those who genuinely can't easily make the walk up the hill and for staff who often have a number of heavy items to carry into school and, in Winter, often arrive and leave in darkness. If this parking provision is fully utilised then there shouldn't be any need for parking on the yellow lines.

We appreciate that drop off and collection can be busy times for many, with people rushing to get where they need to be. However, it is crucial that the safety of our community comes first for everyone and that we work together to address these issues and improve the situation for our children.

In addition, we would expect any communication between parents/carers or involving members of our community regarding these issues to be carried out in a respectful manner. Some concerns have been raised about the nature of such interactions.

Finally, as a school, we are unable to police parking and traffic concerns. Unfortunately, the police do not have the capacity to provide a presence at the school to support with this. If you have a serious concern regarding traffic offences, Operation Snap can be used to log concerns (<https://www.westmercia.police.uk//police-forces/west-mercia-police/areas/west-mercia/campaigns/campaigns/2019/operation-snap/>). If you have a concern regarding a parking violation, this must be reported to the District Council (<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/travel-and-highways/report-road-or-path-issue/car-parks-and-car-parking>).

We hope that this letter serves to raise awareness about current concerns and the impact of these, and that we can come together as a community to ensure that safety is our utmost priority.

Kind regards,

Mrs Martin