



# St. Michael's Church of England Primary School



Carlisle Road, Dalston, Carlisle, Cumbria CA5 7LN · Tel: 01228 711544 · Headteacher: Mrs J Paisley

*Our school values: Respect · Kindness · Challenge · Forgiveness · Perseverance*

16 October 2020

Dear Parents

The governors, staff and I, are becoming increasingly concerned about the parking situation around the school, so much so that I have felt it necessary to contact the police regarding the situation, to see how they can assist us.

On several occasions I have had to ask parents to refrain from parking on double yellow lines outside the school, blocking the whole road to let their children out of the car, or even mounting the pavement. These actions are all putting our children at risk and cannot go on – I fear it is only a matter of time before somebody is seriously injured. Please could you also advise relatives who may be collecting your children, to follow safe parking guidelines.

I am also concerned that several parents are failing to act in a considerate way to our neighbours when parking, blocking both driveways and pavements. I appreciate that it can be difficult to park at pick-up times, however, we are fortunate to have plenty of places to park nearby, with no less than four car parks available: in the Square, at the Co-op or Glave Hill (next to the Co-op) and Kingsway car park. We, as a school are part of the Dalston community, and being part of a community means having respect and consideration for each other. Residents who constantly suffer the inconvenience and obstruction caused by inconsiderate parking have been advised to contact the police regarding any further issues of this nature.

We would encourage local families to consider walking to school, thus promoting their health and well-being and reducing pollution to our local environment. Also, as parents, can I ask that you set a good example to the children by always crossing with our lollipop man, Mr Carruthers. Many children are now making their own way to and from school but, whilst we regularly remind them to cross with Mr Carruthers, when they see adults not using the crossing patrol they get mixed messages and may decide they do not need to use it either - this could ultimately put them in danger.

Finally, I must remind you that parents should not be using the staff car park unless dropping children off for Breakfast Club BEFORE 8.30am – after this time, our car park is for staff use ONLY. Our parking spaces are already limited and unauthorised use affects our staff being able to get into work – you will be asked to move your vehicle if encountered using this area.

It saddens me that I have to write this letter at all, and my apologies to all those parents who DO park responsibly, with respect and consideration for others, but unfortunately the actions of some have forced me to address this situation head on – we have to put the safety of our children first.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Paisley  
Headteacher