

COWORTH-FLEXLANDS SCHOOL

VEHICLE AND CAR PARK SAFETY

INTRODUCTION

Whilst we are fortunate to have a good area for parking and drop off within the school the mix of children and moving vehicles remains a dangerous one. This policy lays down some simple rules to help minimise the risks to our children on a daily basis.

RISKS

- The car park has insufficient space for all the cars that come to school daily
- Parking requires reversing at some point and reversing cars have limited visibility to their rear
- Cars travelling too fast will be unable to react to sudden movement of a running child
- Children will be distracted and often unaware of vehicle movement
- It is not easy to see children moving between parked cars
- Children are walking through moving traffic to get into school
- Blocking the school circuit quickly creates a backlog on to the main road
- Parents and children will be confused and looking wrong way if one way circuit is ignored
- In winter months when all roads are wet and slippery the risk increases under artificial lights
- Drop off is busier than pick up and people tend to be in greater rush at drop off

RULES - CAR PARK GENERAL

Speed limit – there is a maximum speed limit of **10 MPH** in the car park at all times

One way system – the circuit is one way clockwise around the centre island/trees

Crossing point – there is a small crossing point opposite the school gate for those that park in the centre island

Staff parking

- Staff will park opposite the stop and drop area to ensure that cars do not reverse into the stop and drop area during main drop off period and after
- Over flow staff will park on the area by the gym

Parking

- Be considerate and use as little space as possible to ensure the maximum space available
- Those parking on the hedgerow nearest the main road, must either cross into the centre island and use the crossing or walk around the edge of the car park
- There are 2 visitors parking slots next to the gates, these are not for current parents but our many visitors. They are not to be used during normal drop off and pick up due to the reversing hazard at the busiest and narrowest point in the road

Moving Children

- Children are not to run in the car park
- Children are to be escorted by an adult whenever not on the pavement

RULES - DROP OFF

Stop and Drop

- Children in Years 1 to 6 are expected to use the Stop and Drop
- When you pull in please draw up as far forward as possible
- Organise car loading to allow the child to exit pavement side and move slowly away
- The child must always walk on the pavement
- A senior member of staff is available to make sure your child enters school safely
- Do not use the disabled parking space (nearest the gate) this is used daily

Park and Enter

- Primarily used by families of Reception and Nursery children
- Families needing to use the shop, school office or seeing a teacher
- Note
 - children are not allowed in classrooms before 8.20am - even with parents
 - only 6th Form use the stairs by the school office – being with parents is not an excuse

RULES - PICK UP

- End of school timings, including ECAs, are split to prevent mass pick up
- Drop and Stop is not longer in operation
- For collection at normal dismissal parents are to park and wait at gate for children to be dismissed by teacher
- For collection after normal dismissal parents are required to park and enter school to sign for child on club register for dismissal
- Children must be escorted across the car park, although they may walk up the pavement alone

Signed:
Chair of H&S Committee

Dated: 01 Nov 2011