



05th January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Parking and Traffic Management

Traffic issues such as obstructive parking, congestion and road safety outside of schools has been highlighted by Council Members and local communities as an increasing concern. School Keep Clear markings were only advisory. However, if adhered to, they help to protect pupils by giving them clear sightlines when crossing the road outside their school. The markings also create clear sightlines for passing motorists.

In April 2016, Department for Transport legislation came into force to enable local authorities to make School Keep Clear markings mandatory. This means that tickets / fines will be issued to cars parking on these markings. Cornwall Council consulted across the county and the first phase of markings have been painted and are now in force. Woodland Road and Victoria Road are now complete. Morven Road was more complex which led to a longer consultation process and plans were adjusted accordingly. This spring the markings will be painted.

We appreciate that parking is a frustrating issue at Mount Charles, for parents and local residents, as it is at all other schools within the town. A huge number of our families walk to and from school which is great, but we appreciate that when you have multiple siblings and much younger children this can be tricky, especially when the weather is poor. Our school car park has very limited parking bays and the Morven Road entrance gets heavily congested. The single lane road past the roundabout is really hard to manage. We have taxis that have to drop children at the end of the road by the school gates. If parents also drive down the single lane and park it makes it really dangerous as we have a number of cars reversing back up which congests the roundabout and leads to cars turning in the road reversing onto the pavement where children are walking into school.

As you know we have been encouraging parents not to drive down the single road for some time. Soon the lines will be enforced and we do not want parents to receive fines. We are encouraging parents to drive around the roundabout and drop your children with our Site Supervisor Mr Kent. There are a number of staff outside every morning who will walk with the children down the path to ensure that the children get into school safely.

We also understand that parents like to accompany their children into school each morning. We have agreement with B&M superstore next to Asda, St. Augustine's and Mount Charles Churches for parents to use their car parks at school drop off / pick up time. This then gives you the option to walk your children into school each day avoiding the congestion in Morven Road.

A number of parents have asked about us using the upper playground during the mornings. We are currently reviewing the use of the upper playground as a car park because we have noticed increasing oil / fuel spillages from cars that require specialist cleaning for the area to be used safely by the children.

We understand your frustration and we are trying different options to improve the situation. We appreciate your understanding and support in keeping children safe.

If you have any questions or suggestions then please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Bunting

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