



Headteacher: Mrs H Ward

Stancliffe Road
Bedford
MK41 9AT
Tel: 01234 300100
Fax: 01234 300102

Email: office@hazeldeneschool.co.uk
www.hazeldeneschool.co.uk

Dear Parent/Guardians,



I am unfortunately having to write to you all again about the dangerous and inconsiderate parking around school. I know pick up and drop off times are difficult and very busy due to large amounts of children on both our sites however a small minority of parents from both schools are still parking without any thought for our local residents. This week alone I have taken three calls from residents very unhappy about cars being parked across their drives, on the double yellow line, on the zigzag lines and unbelievably parents parking their cars on the mini roundabout. This is obviously both dangerous and illegal. This parking can pose a safety risk to pupils and parents that do walk and cycle to school, as well as to other road users. In addition the concerns over unsafe parking can be a major barrier to increasing levels of walking and cycling to school.



The Highway Code rule 238 states

You **MUST NOT** wait or park on yellow lines during the times of operation shown on nearby time plates (or zone entry signs if in a Controlled Parking Zone) – [see 'Traffic signs'](#) and ['Road markings'](#). Double yellow lines indicate a prohibition of waiting at any time even if there are no upright signs. You **MUST NOT** wait or park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers, on school entrance markings ([see 'Road markings'](#)) when upright signs indicate a prohibition of stopping.



Law RTRA sects 5 & 8

Regularly when I'm on the gate in the mornings I also witness cars parked illegally on the grass verge. This costs the council thousands of pounds each year in repairing damage to the verges. These parked cars are also putting our children in danger as they have to step off the footway onto the road.



For the past few years I have been in constant discussions with both the Local council and the police to see what can be done to solve some of the parking issues. Our Local Councillor Henry Vann has been working very hard on our behalf to try and find solutions. It appears that very soon the council will be placing bollards half way round the mini roundabout with proposals to extend this further to place them around the whole roundabout and down Pennine Way. They are also going to extend the double yellow lines opposite the zigzag lines in front of the main school entrance.



Bedford Borough Council will continue to use the Camera Car to monitor parking. Use of the camera car will enable more efficient and effective enforcement of the parking restrictions outside of school. The Camera Car uses Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology to detect offences for review by Civil Enforcement Officers prior to a Penalty Charge Notice being issued through the post.



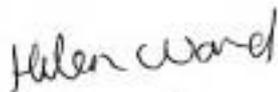
Now the mornings and evenings are getting lighter and the weather is getting warmer to ease this problem I would also encourage parents and pupils to use more sustainable modes of travel to get to school where this is possible.

I do understand that parents or carers will sometimes need to drive their children to school, however I would urge where possible for parents/guardians to park away from the school and then walk in.

Please could you think of the safety of ALL our children and refrain from parking across residents driveways as this is an offence which could also result in a Penalty Charge Notice.

Thank you in advance for your support in this important issue and let's hope together we can ensure the safety of the children and be more considerate to our local residents.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Helen Ward".

Helen Ward
Head Teacher
Hazeldene Lower School