

Miss Helen Barton MA Headmistress

Dear Parent,

As term gets under way we should like to take this opportunity to remind you of some important information for parents using a car for the transportation of children to and from school.

Firstly, we urge you to ensure that your child follows the schools 'ride and stride strategy' - being dropped off or collected a few roads away from school and walking the distance in between. This spreads car use across the vicinity, lessens congestion around the school, gives your child some exercise and is more considerate to our neighbours. We have already received a complaint, quite understandably, from our neighbours in Pigeonwick, who have already experienced high congestion in this area, including the blocking of driveways. We would urge you to refrain from this, even if you are still inside the vehicle and to show full consideration to those live near to the school.

Last year the school was concerned about the growing safety issues regarding the road running through the school grounds from the Goddard centre, past Musicale and back out to Carlton road. Drivers using this route have not always been considerate to the 1400 pupils arriving at and exciting from the school. This includes pushing past pupils using the pedestrian crossing, to which they have right of way, and driving too fast along the road.

Though we accept that pupils do not always look carefully when crossing the road, despite the reminders that we give to them, it is our responsibility to protect pupils and keep them safe on school grounds and in the vicinity. Furthermore, despite repeated requests, parents are still waiting in the coach bay preventing coaches and minibuses from doing so. Please do not use the Coach bay after 8.20am in the morning or between 3.40pm and 4.00pm in the afternoon or 3.00pm to 3.20pm on Friday

Your consideration of all these matters is greatly appreciated.

Assistant Head teacher Mr Hollingsworth

