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"Leaders, staff and governors share a passionate commitment to raise the aspirations and achievements of all the students who attend the school."

Ofsted

16 November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families are well. I am writing to you today to ask for your support with a matter recently raised with me by local residents and local counsellors.

As you will be aware, the school has only a single entrance/exit on Rookery Lane. This does mean that Rookery Lane and the surrounding roads (Gospel Oak Road, Meadow Road, Nunts Park Avenue) regularly become very congested before school (8.30-9.00am) and after school (2.45-3.15pm) as many parents/carers arrive in cars to drop off and collect students from school. This issue is further compounded due to building work on the new housing estate off Meadow Road.

Local residents have repeatedly raised a number of issues with me:

- their driveways are being blocked
- damage occurring to their vehicles
- they are unable to get to work on time due to the high levels of congestion.

With only one entrance into the school site, we are unable to operate a system where parents come into the car park to drop off/collect students. Traffic congestion also leads to a very crowded and potentially dangerous start and end to the school day which requires considerable supervision from school staff.

Cars stopping illegally on the yellow zig-zag lines block the view of staff supervising, and of students and other drivers, who try to manoeuvre around them. This does put the safety of individuals at risk, for example in the last half term, a student was struck by a car outside the school gates. So please do not park or stop your car on the yellow zig-zag lines outside the school gates.

We will, of course, continue to supervise students at the start and end of each day so that we can ensure students remain safe. That said, this would be a lot easier to do if the volume of parental/carer traffic was significantly reduced on Rookery Lane and the surrounding roads.

The school has very good, regular public transport links and encourages students' use of this to develop their independent travel skills. I politely request that you only park to drop off/pick up your child if it is absolutely necessary, or if you are collecting students with a disability so that we can continue to enjoy a respectful and productive relationship with our neighbours.

Many thanks for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely

S Rooke Headteacher

