

Larchwood Gardens
Pilgrims Hatch
Brentwood
Essex CM15 9NG



T: 01277 372450
E: office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk
W: www.LarchwoodPrimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr. S. Bowsher

Dangerous Parking and Driving

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you *yet again* about the increasingly dangerous and inconsiderate parking and driving behaviour that is taking place around our school. This is not a new issue, and it is deeply frustrating to be sending another letter highlighting the same concerns I have raised many times before.

This week alone, there have been two separate incidents where cars have been involved in a minor collision right outside the school gates – a direct result of poor parking decisions. More worryingly, we regularly see children, parents, delivery drivers, and even residents narrowly avoiding serious accidents. Let me be very clear: this is not an exaggeration. People are being put at real risk.

We have witnessed vehicles:

- Parking on double and single yellow lines
- Blocking residents' driveways
- Parking up on pavements, obstructing pedestrians
- Driving onto pavements where children and families are walking
- Stopping in the middle of the road to let children out, causing blockages and unsafe congestion

This behaviour is not just illegal – it is selfish and dangerous. I know that the **vast majority of our parents and carers are as frustrated as I am** by those few individuals who continue to disregard the rules and the safety of others. Those who think the rules do not apply to them are putting lives at risk and it is only a matter of time before someone gets seriously hurt.

I appreciate that that it is not always our community at fault. However, while the school is *not* responsible for how parents, carers or residents choose to behave on public roads, the actions being taken do reflect poorly on us as a community. I have received an increasing number of complaints from local residents who are rightly concerned and upset.

I **never** want to be in the position where I am speaking to one of you because you or your child has been hit by a car.

If you are as concerned as I am, I would strongly encourage you to contact your local councillors for Pilgrims Hatch to ask for them to take action. In the past they have agreed to do this, but nothing has ever come to fruition. I will be once again making contact. Our local councillors are

- **Cllr Barry Aspinell, Cllr Vicky Davies and Cllr Mark Lewis** via Brentwood Council website [HERE](#)

As well as the councillor at Essex responsible for Essex Highways:

Cllr Tom Cunningham via www.essexhighways.org



It will take all of us working together – families, residents, the council and the school – to bring about change. But that change must start with responsible, considerate parking and driving. Next year, I hope to work more closely with our parent groups to ensure we have a lasting improvement to this situation.

Please, for the safety of our children and the integrity of our community, follow the rules and set the right example.



Mr S Bowsher
Headteacher

