

LARCHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Dear Parent / Carer

Parking

I am writing to address the ongoing and deeply concerning issue of poor parking during drop-off and pick-up times.

My hope that the new year would mean more responsible parking has not been fulfilled. In the two weeks we have been back, I have received numerous complaints from parents and local residents about the appalling attitude shown by some parents in relation to parking around the school. These complaints are not exaggerated or isolated incidents; they are frequent, well-documented, and extremely worrying.

This has included:

- A resident in Hazelwood Gardens sending me a number of photographs of a car parked on their drive, preventing them from leaving their own home.
- Another resident in Hazelwood Gardens sending photographs of cars parked on the grass verge, causing damage to the area.
- A resident from Broomwood Gardens showing a car blocking their driveway; the car in question belonged to a driving instructor, who is easily identifiable and should know better.
- A parent who was running late parking on the corner of Hazelwood Gardens and Larchwood Gardens—on the pavement, on double yellow lines, and in a position that obscured visibility for other road users and pedestrians.
- A parent of a child with a disability who should reasonably be able to park on single or double yellow lines, but cannot do so because of selfish parents who believe it is their right to park as close to the school gates as possible.

Let me be absolutely clear: this behaviour is unacceptable. It is inconsiderate, illegal in many cases, and places children, parents, staff, and members of the local community at serious risk. It only takes a few extra minutes to park safely and slightly further away. Convenience does not outweigh safety.

We have already experienced serious incidents in the past, and it is only a matter of time before someone is seriously hurt again if this behaviour continues.

I ask all parents and carers to reflect carefully on their actions and to park legally, safely, and considerately at all times. Our children are watching, and we must model the behaviour we expect from them.

Thank you to those parents who already park responsibly, cycle or walk and show consideration for others. We expect this standard from everyone.

Mr S Bowsher
Headteacher

