

Dear Parents and Carers

The Board of Governors of St Augustine of Canterbury wish to highlight our uneasiness regarding parking in and around the school. The majority of parents and guardians are considerate in their parking, and we thank them for this. However, a significant minority give cause for concern.

The School prides itself in being a positive addition to the local community. Considerate parking goes a long way to positively promoting the school. We would hope for parents and guardians to support the School in maintaining a good relationship with our neighbours.

The Department for Transport advise that whilst schools have control over parking on their grounds, they have no jurisdiction over parking outside the school. Nevertheless, when drivers are habitually parking in an inconsiderate manner, they often cause significant inconvenience and are a danger to themselves, other road users, residents and most of all, to the pupils and staff of the school. The purpose of this letter is to highlight our concerns and provide advice and guidance on parking safely outside the School.

Keep Clear Markings

With regards to the yellow zig-zag lines in the front. The purpose of providing yellow **School Keep Clear** markings is to keep the space outside schools free from parked vehicles during the period of 08:00 to 09:00 and 15:00 to 16:00, as indicated on the accompanying warning notices. **Parking on the Keep Clear Markings during times indicated is illegal.**

Whilst it may be well known that you cannot park on the yellow zig-zag lines, according to the Highway Code it is also illegal for drivers to wait or even to stop momentarily in their cars on the zig-zag markings, unless traffic conditions make it unavoidable.

General Guidance

Given the above and to ensure we have a safe area around the school, we request that drivers:

- Keep the yellow zig-zag lines clear of stopped or parked vehicles during the fixed times.
- Do not drop off or collect children at the main school gate by stopping your vehicle in the driveway.
- Do not use the entrance to perform a U-Turn, this is dangerous and is also illegal during times stipulated on zig-zag warning signs.
- Do not park on the pavement either side of the school entrance, at any time. This is a selfish, thoughtless and inconsiderate act. Parking on the pavement next to the school gates is extremely dangerous for those entering or leaving the school by the main gate.
- Avoid mounting the grass verges either side of Deanwood drive, this is causing unsightly damage, and may infringe Local Authority bye-laws, resulting in a fixed penalty notice being issued.
- Do not park close to the islands either side of the school entrance; larger vehicles, including emergency services, can be impeded.
- Only park in the bays in the Church carpark, do not park on the grass, in front of the Presbytery driveway or in front of the Church doors.
- Do not park at the entrance to the Church grounds, particularly on the corners, as this restricts a driver's view when exiting onto Deanwood Drive.

Please note: Use of the Church carpark is provided at the discretion of the Parish Priest, please do not abuse the privilege, we would not want to lose it.

If drivers choose to ignore this advice and continue to park discourteously or dangerously, their vehicle registration details will be communicated to the authorities.

Yours Sincerely

Board of Governors
St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School