



Dereham Church of England Junior Academy

Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Scott

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Diocese of Norwich
Education and
Academies Trust

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PARKING – RESPECT – PARKING

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is a plea to all our families to park with consideration for our neighbours and to remind the children about respecting others' property on their way to and from school.

Over the past couple of weeks, I have received complaints about our children kicking fences and purposely winding up dogs. We have also had a number of people complaining that adults are parking inconsiderately and blocking the driveways of local residents. I have spoken to the children about respecting the property of others, but wanted to make you aware so you can discuss this with them too. We try hard to build links within the local community and this type of behavior gives the wrong impression of our children and the school.

I have contacted the Safer Neighbourhood Team asking for a meeting with them to consider what more can be done about the traffic and parking around the school, particularly at the end of the day. We are determined to ensure it is safe for all. I have also advised residents to contact the Police directly if there are children causing damage to their property or people blocking access to their properties.

We have recently had a Health and Safety audit from our Academy Trust which, although very positive overall, has raised concerns about parents and families being allowed to drive on to school premises at the start and end of the day. The primary concern is that parking on school property poses a serious safety risk to children. There are times when families are parking without consideration for others, resulting in children having to walk in front of and behind cars – in these instances a child could easily be hurt.

We have been asked to monitor this carefully over the coming term, with a view to possibly stopping cars entering the site at the beginning and end of the day. This would seem a logical solution in order to make sure children are safe when on our premises. Although I understand the safety reasons for this proposal, I know it will cause additional traffic outside of the school, potentially causing more stress for our neighbours. As such, please can I ask for your support in keeping the flow of traffic moving and ask you not to put children at risk by parking alongside others which essentially forces the children to walk in front of and behind cars. Where possible, please avoid coming on site particularly at the end of the day and if you have to come in, please support us in keeping all our children safe.

Many thanks for your support in this matter.

Mrs Kelly Scott

Headteacher