



**BARDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL
BURNLEY CAMPUS
BARDEN LANE BURNLEY
BB10 1JD
Telephone No: 01282 226777**

9th March 2023

Carpark Issues



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are very fortunate at Barden Primary School to have the use of a shared car park at the front of school. This car park is used by many parents to park in when they drop their children off at school. The car park (as with all facilities) is shared by all schools on Campus, Holly Grove and Reedley Hallows. We work together to keep all our children and community safe. We have staff members supervising the carpark before and after school to ensure that traffic can be co-ordinated, and children can get to school safely. **This is our highest priority.**

For some time, we have had some disappointing reports, that a number of parents continue to be disrespectful and rude towards staff members on the car park, that are only trying to keep our children safe. There have also been reports of dangerous and reckless driving.

Reports have included;

- Parents abandoning their cars in the middle of the carpark so that they can walk their children into school, leaving their car to block the car park and barriers.
- Parents parking in the middle of the carpark and making their children get out into a busy carpark, where cars are reversing out of car parking spaces, resulting in near-misses and potential collisions.
- Parents choosing to walk down the middle of the carpark with their children instead of using the safe pathways at the side of the carpark.
- Parents ignoring the 5-mph speed limit in the car park
- Parents not using the pedestrian crossing and allowing their children to run across the road in-between and in front of vehicles.
- Children not being supervised around the school transport vehicles
- Parents being verbally abusive to staff when they have been asked not to do the above points

As a Campus, we are concerned that it is only a matter of time before a child is seriously injured. We have already had some very near misses where children have been allowed to run behind or between school transport vehicles when they are unsupervised by parents who are close by.

We urge you to take this very seriously and work with us to ensure that our car park remains a safe place for everybody. It would be very disappointing if we had to close the carpark to parents/carers as it is an excellent shared resource that many parents use sensibly and safely.

The schools on Campus have worked together to create a risk assessment that promotes the highest standards of safety. All staff will also be adhering to this. Please work with us to uphold this by adhering to the following actions:

- Keep to the 5 mph speed limit whilst on the carpark
- Reverse-park into any spaces (this is directed by Lancashire County Council)
- Walk on the paths at the side of the carpark and not down the middle of the carpark
- Do not drop your children off in the middle of the carpark. This causes congestion and is dangerous for children to exit the vehicle. Please park safely in a designated space and escort your child to school.
- Please be polite to staff when they are supervising the carpark. Please remember that we are trying to keep all children safe. Verbal abuse, rudeness or an inability to follow requests will result in the offenders being prevented from using the carpark permanently.

Let's work together to keep all our children safe 😊

Kind regards,

Mrs C Holgate

Headteacher