Copeland Neighbourhood Policing Team Whitehaven Police Station

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www.cumbria.police.uk

Chief Constable Chief Constable Michelle Skeer Police Headquarters Carleton Hall Penrith, Cumbria CA10 2AU





## POLICE MESSAGE Parking problems at drop-off and pick-up times

Dear Parent/Carer,

Concerns have been raised about parking around the school at peak times. Examples of poor parking have included blocked pavements, obstructed driveways, parking over dropped curbs, on zig-zag road markings and other access points. This seriously increases the risk of harm to children trying to safely cross the road, as well as causing access problems for local residents.

To help minimise the risk to children and ease the disruption to residents by those that park in this way, police will be conducting an operation to educate motorists on parking laws and if necessary prosecute those who park illegally.

Drivers, who have not done so to date, are asked to park legally and considerately, away from the school entrances, residents' driveways and only park against full kerbs.

Please do not park or pull over to drop children off in front school entrances, driveways, zig-zag road markings and dropped kerbs. Please also avoid parking in front of the pedestrian entrance to the school site. Failure to do so could result in a prosecution leading to a FINE or even PENALTY POINTS being issued for certain offences.

## Please see the advice accompanying this letter for details of road signs and markings which show where you shouldn't park.

## What can you do to help?

There are a number of ways you can help resolve this community matter:

- Those living nearby can avoid the cost and inconvenience to themselves and others bywalking children to and from school.
- Parents can consider lift sharing with friends and/or neighbours.
- Using the parking spaces on nearby roads which are often unused, would relieve pressure on areas closer to school entrance points.
- Allow yourself more time to find safe considerate parking.

Your help and efforts to resolve this issue is appreciated by the police and the school management. I would be happy to discuss any issues or concerns you have with these issues, either at the school, or by making contact with your local policing team.

Kind regards

David Macdonald – Sergeant 154

## Road Safe / Park Safe

Always park in a safe and considerate manner to avoid a child or pedestrian being hurt.

Before you set off on the school run, please think about where you are going to park so that you keep children safe.

Parking on the zigzags around schools means that Children cannot see over your car when trying to cross the road, so please park in a safe place to avoid accidents.

If you park in a dangerous place you may be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice (PCNs) for:

- Stopping on school zig zag lines and zebra crossings
- Parking on double yellow lines and verges
- Parking in residents' and disabled parking bays where a valid badge is not displayed
- Parking in taxi ranks
- Parking outside marked bays
- Staying too long in time limited waiting areas
- Failing to pay and display a valid parking ticket where there is a parking charge.
- Obstructing pedestrian and vehicle access points where there are dropped kerbs
- Double parking

The Police have a duty to enforce other traffic offences, which can result in penalty points being issued on your Driving Licence. These include:

- Dangerous parking
- Causing obstruction
- Parking on pedestrian crossings
- Other traffic offences







