



Governing Body

Upper Beeding Primary School

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Chair: Mr N Pringle Clerk: Ms L Brown

Thursday 6th July 2017

Dear David,

Once again, thank you for your time today and in initiating a wider team engagement in helping us address the continuing road safety issues at Upper Beeding Primary School.

As discussed, this letter is to provide you with the information which was shared with the team today – we hope very much it will help you drive forward the initiatives and gain the support the children at Upper Beeding very much need.

We have had an on-going parking issue which has created road safety issues for a number of years now. As our school role has increased so has the problem. This last year we have made it a significant priority of the governing body to find ways to attempt to resolve this issue once and for all.

This began with a survey to all parents from which we received a tremendous response with over 130 replies. This survey gave us some key information and demonstrated the frustration and concern this issue causes for parents on their way to school. I have attached the quotes I referenced to you on the following page – there are many more quotes we can also provide.

It is frightening that 2 in 3 parents claimed to have personally witnessed an incident where someone could have been hurt. I myself have witnessed 3 in the time since the survey was taken.

Enforcement is widely supported by the parents with 84%, agreeing or strongly agreeing, that parking restrictions should be enforced including the use of penalty notices.

We know we have frustrated, concerned but a supportive majority of parents.

Based on the feedback we have developed a 3 pronged strategy which has been pursued strongly this year. That strategy includes

1. Ensuring the best possible **infrastructure** is in place
2. **Educating and communicating** with parents, children and the wider bodies who can support our cause
3. **Enforcing** - this is where we are in need of your help the most.



We have achieved the following by pursuing this strategy this year – and are grateful to all those who have helped on this journey so far.

1. Infrastructure

- a. New path in place from local car park to school – providing improved accessibility to parking.
- b. New school car park layout will happen over the summer increasing the number of spaces from 25 – 40.
- c. We operate a permit parking scheme for parents in exceptional circumstances to park on site for drop off and pick up.
- d. The zig zag lines which were very worn have been repainted
- e. We are awaiting other markings to be repainted and cleared before the end of term.

2. Education and communication has included:-

- a. New news on road safety is communicated to parents every term in a variety of ways, it reminders on parking restrictions, informing of line painting, presence of community wardens, advising of alternative parking options.
All of which ensures a constant parking reminder is happening.
- b. A short film has been produced and shared with parents and our website showing the dangers of bad parking through the eyes of a child walking to school.
- c. We are raising parking at new parent inductions and producing parking packs to encourage and drive new behaviours
- d. We have visited, council meetings, district and parish meetings to engage with those who can help outside of the schools influence.
- e. Pene Mather engages with UBPS, we operate a park and stride scheme and have involved the school council (*a children's council*) in addressing the problem.
- f. Competitions have been run for the children to draw road safety posters ensuring the message gets home also via children.
- g. Assemblies have been held with children on road safety - how to keep ourselves safe and how drivers can help children to be safer
- h. The school actively takes part and promotes national Walk to School Weeks in October and May collecting data and updating school travel plan

3. Enforcement

- a. Our head teacher is on the gate daily speaking to parents and encouraging changes in parking behaviour (*this is only a small part of the reason for her presence on the gate*).
- b. We encourage parents to use Operation Crackdown
- c. Parents themselves speak to other parents about parking inappropriately.
- d. As governors we speak to those parking inappropriately.
- e. We have community wardens who visit – although they can not enforce their presence is welcome.

We hope you will agree we are working hard to proactively prevent an accident. As however you will have seen and heard this morning – we need more help.



The help we discussed in our meeting particularly for random enforcement of penalty notices on a once every half term basis, may be the key factor we really need to prevent the accident no one wants to happen.

We look forward to an early response and please do get in touch if we can provide any more information to assist.

Many thanks again for your support.

Best wishes,

Julie Krysik
Governor
On behalf of UBPS Governing Body

Becky Linford
Headteacher

Quotations from parents on their views on the parking situation

Source UBPS Governors parking survey

- ***Awful! Parents who park illegally & put children at risk because they can't be bothered to walk a couple of minutes defies understanding. Action needs to be taken against repeat offenders***
- ***Hazardous, reckless parking and aggressive driving.***
- ***There is no safe place for children to cross at all***
- ***People do not take notice of very worn out paint markings around the school.***
- ***Parking restrictions blatantly disregarded***
- ***I would like to see safer places for children to cross the road***
- ***Very dangerous – seen many near misses***
- ***Daughter almost hit by a parent reversing. Someone will get hurt – it's chaos.***

