



Cardinal Newman High School
Parent Voice Leaflet
“Road Safety Information”



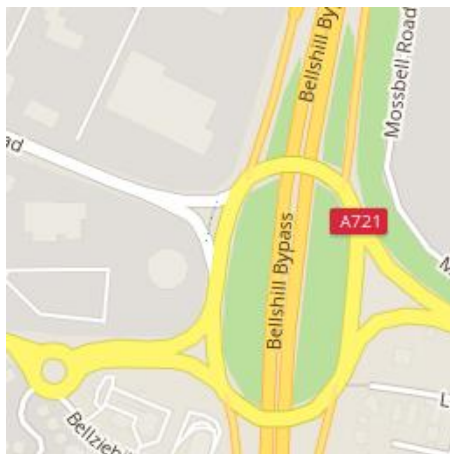
Information For Parents and Carers.

We have recently been using our parent voice to influence improvements to road safety, in particular the Bellziehill junction.



This work has been ongoing for some time and a recent incident highlighted this issue even more.

On Monday 19th March, a pupil was knocked down whilst crossing the mouth of the off ramp of the Bellziehill Roundabout near to McDonald's. On this occasion, the pupil sustained only minor injuries but was extremely lucky. This is the second time in a year that a pupil has been knocked down due to crossing the off/on ramp of this roundabout at lunchtime.



As many of you will know this roundabout is problematic for pedestrians and carries a very high volume of traffic all day every day, which travels at a speed which is often too fast for the road layout. Pupils crossing the mouths of the on /off ramps at any time of the day are making a difficult journey which, as these recent 2 incidents have shown, have proven to be exceptionally dangerous. We are also aware of numerous "near misses".

We, supported by the Head Teacher and school staff, have been actively engaged for almost 2 years, in trying to establish a safe walking route to and from school which enables our young adults to navigate the Bellziehill Roundabout whilst minimising the risk of serious injury or worse.

There have been numerous meetings during this time with NLC representatives, Transport Scotland, our member of the Scottish Parliament and Local Councillors, in an attempt to improve this area by making changes to it and putting effective measures in place to protect our children i.e. sufficient signalisation and/or marked pedestrian crossings.

Unfortunately, the only outcome so far has been the welcome addition of some signage. However, we feel this is insufficient in its size and effectiveness given:

- i) the volume of traffic using this roundabout
- ii) the speed at which the traffic travels and
- iii) the footfall particularly at lunchtime and the end of school day.

Over the last few weeks, we have written to all 10 local Councillors to seek their support in our quest for the appropriate action to be taken. We have also contacted Hugh Gaffney MP, Richard Lyle MSP and also asked NLC Chief Executive Paul Jukes to allocate us a Councillor to progress this issue as a matter of urgency.

The Head Teacher and staff regularly remind pupils of the dangers of roads through their education and assemblies as this is as much a concern of theirs as it is to any parent or carer who might have a child affected by a collision. We see that concern first hand.

We seek your support to help the Head Teacher and staff by discouraging your child from leaving the school unless it's essential. This is to enhance **all** aspects of their safety - not merely road safety. First year pupils are not allowed to leave the school at lunchtime and the other year groups are also discouraged from doing so for the same safety reasons.

If you decide to allow your child to leave the school at lunchtime – regardless of their year group – please ensure that they are aware of good road safety practice on all of the local roads and are especially mindful of the dangers of using the Bellziehill Roundabout as a walking route at any time of the school day.

We will keep you updated on all these matters and more, once we get up and running with the Twitter page.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, if you would like to get involved or find out more information email cnhsparentvoice@gmail.com.

Kind regards

Cardinal Newman High School Parent Voice