Our Ref: RS/CB Your Ref:

Contact:

Date:

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26th March 2025



Education and Families

Robert Smith BA LLB (Hons)

Head Teacher

Cardinal Newman High School

Main Street

Bellshill ML4 3DW

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Dear Parents and Carers

Dropping Off and Picking Up from School by Car

I have written to you before about safely dropping off young people in the morning and picking them up in the afternoon.

Our school staff and visitor car park is very small. It was set out fifty years ago and does not have sufficient spaces for teachers, other staff and partners who work and visit here.

There is not sufficient room to allow large numbers of parents and carers to drive in, drop off your child, and leave the car park safely.

You will know that there is a bottleneck most mornings which becomes progressively worse just before classes begin. As a result, many young people are arriving late for class.

Some parents do take a very long time dropping their child off, saying goodbye and driving away again.

Some parents have mobile phone telephone conversations after having dropped off their child but before moving on.

Some parents are driving much faster than the speed limit in the car park which is 5mph.

It is particularly difficult to navigate one car in and another car out through the main school gate. This adds to the bottleneck.

Some parents are parking in front of fire exits at the front of the school.

All of this leads to frayed tempers and more importantly presents significant health and safety risk for young people in particular, but also for staff and parents.

Recently there have been examples of verbal abuse by some adults towards other parents and teachers. This has caused distress for parents, staff and young people witnessing the behaviour.

Now that the worst of the winter is behind us, I am asking you to drop off your child at either the bus turning areas or at the car park next to the Matt Busby.

This will be safer and faster for everyone.









If your child has a mobility issue you should use the school car park.

We are working with young people at assemblies and encouraging them to ask their parents to drop them off at the bus turning areas or at the Matt Busby car park – we know some of them will be encouraging you to drop them right at the front door.

If we work together everyone will have a much faster, safer and pleasant start and end to the school day.

If you would like to discuss the contents of this letter, please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely

Robert Smith Headteacher