



Keeping Children Safe around Schools

Having a clear area around schools where children and adults can cross safely is key, as most road accidents involving children around school gates occur when a child has their sight line obscured by parked cars.

Enforcement around schools happens as an effect of concerns raised from parents, teachers and residents regarding illegal parking and peoples' safety. Guildford Borough Council CEOs (Civil Enforcement Officer) carried out 454 patrols at 28 Guildford Schools and 225 patrols at 21 Waverley Schools to enforce parking contraventions between April 2018 and March 2019.

As seen in the table below, our CEOs prefer to educate motorists by seeking to change behaviours like parking illegally, idling and access blocking and move motorists on rather than issuing PCNs (Penalty Charge Notice), unless necessary.

| School Watch (Apr18-Mar19) | Guildford Schools | Waverley Schools |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Advise to Move On | 2776 | 984 |
| Penalty Charge Notices | 395 | 169 |

Stricter Enforcement

Until now, our CEOs in Guildford & Waverley have only issued a PCNs to vehicles which park illegally and have not moved when advised or if the motorist is not around. Our enforcement officers can also issue a PCN if the motorist drives off before a ticket is issued. In this instance they will get their notice through the post, even if an enforcement officer has only started writing out the PCN.

By adopting this practice, we aim to provide a stronger deterrent to motorists who park illegally with the expectation that they can avoid a penalty by moving their vehicles as soon as they see enforcement being carried out.

Understanding rules around schools

We understand that drop-off and pick-up times are stressful and it is not always clear to parents where they can/cannot park and what the signs mean. Here is a quick guide:

- **School Keep Clear / Yellow Zig Zag lines** outside schools indicate where stopping or waiting is strictly prohibited. The markings demonstrate the space outside of schools to be kept free from parked vehicles so that children can cross safely.



- **Double Yellow lines** indicate no waiting or parking at any time. You can stop to pick up/drop off providing it is continuous and no restrictions are in force.
- **Disabled or Permit Bay** indicates that you can only park in that bay if you have the relevant permit and if there is a time restriction.

What can parents do to make a difference?

- Understand the traffic rules around your schools and safe places for children to cross,
- Leave earlier and if necessary park safely further away,
- Car share with other parents,
- Walk to school (where possible for short journeys),
- Allow or encourage children to use bicycles or public transport,
- Don't break safety rules because you're late,
- If parents have to use their vehicles for school drop-off and pick-up, please park considerately away from controls, junctions, points of access and spaces prioritised for other users.

Motor vehicles are the main source of pollution, as a result, we encourage sustainable travel options like car sharing, using public transport, walking or using other methods and responsible behaviours such as not idling outside schools and not blocking accesses. These not only protect air quality but also provide a much safer environment for our most vulnerable.