



Dear Parent/ Carer,

SAFE PARKING AND ROUTES TO SCHOOL

We write to you regarding the on-going issue of parking and congestion on Deanfoot Road and Alice Hamilton Way. At school start and finish times there are over 250 children coming to or leaving school/ nursery, many of them walking and many of the older ones walking by themselves. Parking in the school car park, inconsiderate parking along Deanfoot Road and the heavy volume of traffic during these times is putting pedestrians' safety at risk. At a meeting involving Scottish Borders Council, Police Scotland, Councillor Small and West Linton Primary School it was agreed that both West Linton Primary School and Village Nursery highlight concerns with parents should they continue and introduce some changes to ensure children, parents and carers can walk to and from school safely.

During the following times:

Monday – Friday from 8.35-9.10am

Monday – Thursday 3.10-3.40pm

Friday 12.20-12.50pm

- West Linton Primary School Staff Car Park will be closed, and the gate closed – this means there will be no traffic turning in or out of the car park and children, parents and carers can safely cross the exit to the car park.
- During these times we ask that parents and carers of school children and nursery children do not park on Deanfoot Road between the junction with School Brae and the exit to the school car park or opposite Village Nursery. If this area of road is clear of parked vehicles, children and parents will have clear sight lines along Deanfoot Road and will be able to cross the road safely and without having to do so from between parked cars. Drivers of cars travelling along Deanfoot Road will also be able to see pedestrians more easily.
- We also ask that parents and carers do not park on the pavement of Deanfoot Road at any time – this forces pedestrians with buggies or small children into the road to get past.

While we would encourage as many parents and carers to walk as possible, we appreciate that some may need to drive. If you do need to use your car to pick up or drop off your child, please make use of the parking bays on Deanfoot Road (SBC Safer Routes to School would encourage you to reverse in so that you have a full view of the road ahead when you leave). Alternatively, please park on School Brae or on Alice Hamilton Way. If you choose to park on Alice Hamilton Way, please keep the 'Safe Routes to School Crossing' clear of vehicles.

There have been a number of near misses over the years where children have been lucky not to have been involved in a collision – we hope you will support us in putting in place the above, allowing all children and families a safer route to and from school.

If you have other family members or carers picking up or dropping off your children, please can you make them aware of the above. Thank you for your support,

Caroline Dunmur, Pauline MacFarlane & Jenni Curson