



Hampshire Constabulary Chief Constable Alex Marshall

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January 26th 2012

Dear Parents and Carers,

My name is PC Helen Haines and I am the Safer Neighbourhoods Team Officer for the Bransgore area. I would like to take a minute to explain a few issues that have arisen (yet again) with reference to the school drop off and pick up times.

The parking at the school has become a problem yet again. We have vehicles parking half on the verge at The Three Tuns and half on the main road, which not only becomes a problem for the volume of traffic driving along Ringwood Road at that time of day, but also a problem of a lack of visibility for the vehicles pulling out of the pub car park and having to immediately pull out around these vehicles. Vehicles have even been seen parked half on the road – **right on the blind bend by the church!**

The public house staff have reported rudeness from adults collecting children, and vehicles in the car park being hit with no details being left and police and the school have had a few reports from people, both walking to school and residents of the local area of drivers dropping at school giving them verbal abuse due to driving/parking problems.

Two points come out of this, the first one being that if you are the victim of abusive behaviour from anyone whilst on the walk to or from school (as at any other time) please inform the police of what has happened. It is intolerable that you should have to put up with a public order situation, especially when children are present. Secondly, if you are dealt with for causing a public order situation you may be liable for a criminal conviction of a public order nature. My request is in the interest of the safety of the children when I ask for this sort of behaviour to stop now. I have sent a letter in the past to this effect, and yet I am still receiving reports from people about incivility around the school.

We have also had complaints from parents and carers and local residents about the issues of parking around the school. Unfortunately this is a common problem around any school and I would ask you to bear in mind a few things when deciding where to park:

- The school and the police would like to encourage as many people to walk to and from school as is possible.
- Please do not park in the private road opposite the 'Three Tuns' Public House. This is a private residential area and anyone parking there without the consent of the residents will be trespassing.



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- Please do not park in the bus stop just outside the private road. Although I appreciate there are no buses at the particular time wanting to use it, by parking there you are affecting the visibility of people wanting to cross the road.
- Please keep your children close to you at all times when arriving at/leaving school. Children are generally more difficult to be seen by motorists.
- The school offers a staggered start to the day, including breakfast from 07.30 hrs and an after school club which runs until 18.00 hrs in order to assist with the traffic problems.

We are in the process of starting a speed watch scheme in the village after the problem of speeding vehicles was highlighted as a priority by people in the village. Interestingly enough, when we have carried out speed checks historically, the people who were stopped because of their excess speed all came from local addresses. Please could you make sure that you watch your speed while you drive through the village and remember the speed limit is 30mph everywhere in the village.

I am sure that the majority of you do your very best to conform with the requests covered in this letter and that is appreciated. While I understand the problems faced by converging on a small village at the same each day I respectfully ask that you do your best to adhere to what is asked for the simple reason that it makes Bransgore School and the surrounding area a safe place for your children and others. Anyone causing an unnecessary obstruction will be at risk of receiving a fixed penalty notice.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss any of these issues on the numbers/email above. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best.

Yours truly,

PC 3342 Helen Haines.
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