



BEARWOOD Primary and Nursery School

Headteacher Mrs Cheryl Smith
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Bearwood Primary and Nursery School
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Learning, Enjoying & Succeeding Together

February 2024

Dear Local Resident,

Parking issues in the roads near Bearwood Primary & Nursery School

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to provide you with an update on some important matters concerning our school and the local community.

Firstly, I am delighted to introduce myself, Cheryl Smith, as the Headteacher of Bearwood Primary and Nursery School. I assumed the role in September 2023 and I am enjoying being part of the school community. I want to extend my sincere gratitude to each of you for your continued support of our school.

I am aware of the parking issues that have been affecting the roads near the school, especially during drop-off and collection times. Please know that we have been actively working alongside the BCP council to address this concern. As a result, we anticipate increased visits from BCP Council Parking Enforcement in the coming weeks to help alleviate the situation. In our efforts to tackle these parking challenges, we have also been communicating with all our families, urging them to sign up to a 'Parent Parking Promise'. This initiative aims to promote responsible parking practices and enhance safety in the vicinity of our school.

Furthermore, we are committed to promoting active and sustainable methods of travel to/from school to reduce the reliance on cars. Our school council is currently developing a 5-minute walking map, identifying areas within a short walking distance from the school. This map will enable families to adopt a "park and stride" approach, thus easing parking congestion in the immediate surrounding area. Additionally, we continue to run the WOW scheme in school, encouraging active travel by all our families. More information about this can be found here: <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school/primary-schools/wow-the-walk-to-school-challenge/>. We are also working with Sustrans (<https://www.sustrans.org.uk/about-us/>) to provide all our KS2 children with the opportunity to take part in Bikeability training – learning to ride a bike safely – with the aim to achieve the 'Residential Road Cycle Training' course by the time they leave our school.

There has been a suggestion to reopen our school car park. Regarding this, I must inform you that there are no plans to do so. We need to ensure that the safety of all who walk, wheel, cycle, and scoot to school is our top priority. Removing volumes of moving vehicles from our school site means that the entrance is calmer for children arriving and leaving the school grounds. Idling vehicles produce a volume of pollution which is hazardous to everyone's health, especially children. The quality of the air around school and health of our community is something that we need to make sure is of the highest standard.

As a vital part of our local community, I urge residents to report any instances of parking across dropped curbs via this link: [Report a vehicle parked in front of your dropped kerb | BCP \(bcpcouncil.gov.uk\)](#). Additionally, if you feel able to do so and from a safe distance, we encourage you to take photographs of



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number plates of drivers whom you identify as repeat offenders. Please email these into the school via this email address – school@bearwood.poole.sch.uk.

Thank you once again for your cooperation and understanding as we work together to address these parking challenges and ensure the safety and well-being of our school and local community.

Warm regards,



Mrs C Smith
Headteacher
Bearwood Primary and Nursery School



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