

CRAYKE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk, c/o Knott Lodge, Knott Lane, Easingwold, York YO61 3LX

☎: 07849 250 043

craykeparishclerk@aol.co.uk

www.craykepc.org.uk

5th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of children at Crayke School

Parking at Crayke School

As with most schools, parking at Crayke School can be a serious issue, especially at peak times and during events at school. Congestion is often made worse by thoughtless parking, and can cause much distress to parents, local residents and other road users and could potentially cause an accident. Crayke Headteachers have tried very hard to manage these problems, regularly writing to parents, and in other ways such as contacting the Highways department and the local police. However, Crayke Parish Council continue to receive complaints and requests to do something to address the problems, and we would therefore like to ask for your help.

We know that many of the children who attend Crayke School come from outside the village, and therefore must be brought to the school, often by car. As you know, the School is situated near to a busy T-junction, and a number of residential properties, many with little or no off-road parking. Also, the road past the school also takes a lot of through traffic. This results in tremendous competition for stopping or parking places at the key times, especially at afternoon pick up time, when some parents tend to wait longer.

A number of solutions have been tried, with limited success:

- Creation of the 3-lane one-way system through the 'lay-by' section in front of the school, with three lanes and entrance from the West (Easingwold direction) leaving to the East. However, this space is insufficient to handle the vehicle numbers, and is made worse by vehicles staying longer than necessary for drop-off or pick-up.
- It is recommended that parents park in the sizeable car park and driveway at the Crayke Sports ground. This has had partial success, but usage is often low, parents seeming to prefer to park as close as possible to the school gate, even though the Sports ground is a mere 150-200 metres away (a 2 minute walk at most).
- Regular letters from successive Headteachers to parents urging them to use these solutions, and generally to park with consideration to others.

Where next?

Crayke Parish Council are asking for your help as parents and carers of Crayke School children (and through you all who drive children to and from Crayke School) in improving the problems when parking around the School at peak times, or at events.

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Our request is as follows:

1. Please avoid parking or waiting close to the School entrance. Please use the alternatives, especially the car park at the Crayke Sports ground. If merely dropping children off, please do so very promptly and move on.

(We understand that some parents like to chat with other parents at drop-off/pick-up times, and it is especially important that these parents park well away from the School entrance.)

2. Please do not park on the grass verges around the Junction with West Way. This causes damage to the verges, especially during periods of wet weather and winter months.

3. Please avoid blocking or obstructing any rights of way, such as private access driveways, or any public roads or footpaths. This is actually unlawful.

4. Please try to avoid parking or waiting in a continuous line of vehicles such that other road users have nowhere to pull in when meeting oncoming vehicles.

5. Finally please do not park on pavements as this can obstruct the elderly and vulnerable, as well as pushchairs, perhaps forcing them onto the road.

If everyone follows these simple, thoughtful guidelines we believe that the problems would be minimised. Crayke has always preferred to rely upon good neighbourly behaviour rather than impose parking restrictions backed by law, but we need your help to continue in this way.

Should you have any concerns, questions, comments or suggestions, please contact us via our Clerk (email: craykepc@outlook.com; tel: 07849 250043) or via our web site (www.craykepc.org.uk).

Thank you

Crayke Parish Council