



St Thomas Becket

Catholic Primary School

Birchanger Road
London SE25 5BN

Headteacher

Noel Campbell

Tel: (020) 8654 3006

26th November 2020

Dear parent/carer,

The issue of parents parking in front of residents' houses and blocking vehicular access and egress is increasing with regard to Birchanger Road. Added to this a significant number of parents have been seen to be driving in a dangerous way, pulling up / reversing on pavements and actually endangering pedestrians. This is compounded by some who, upon dropping off children, then carry out 3 point turns which often involves mounting pavements causing traffic tailbacks.

The number of complaints from local residents as well as our own parents about parking and dangerous driving on Birchanger Road has increased substantially. Parents have also been observed parking over residents' driveways and a minority have been seen to confront residents, subjecting them to verbal abuse, when they are asked to move their illegally parked vehicles.

This situation is damaging the relationship between the school and our neighbours and giving the office and senior management a heavier workload through having to deal with a raft of complaints.

This does not support our school in any way!

As a catholic community we are required to model consideration for others at all times and those parents who are the subject of complaints related to inconsiderate parking are setting an appalling example to all our children and other adults and ensuring that our school is seen in a poor light by members of our local community.

I would ask that parents who drive to Birchanger Road each day to drop off children do consider both the rights of residents and the dangers some drivers are posing to infants who are often too small to be seen in the rear-view mirrors as they reverse in a tight space. Please consider whether there is an alternative parking area, which may require a little walk, but would ease the traffic congestion in this road.

Thank you to all our responsible parents who do consider the needs of residents and our own school community when taking their children to school.

Noel Campbell

Head teacher

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