



Dear Parents, Grandparents, Guardians and Carers,

I have worked as the local Beat Officer for Patchway and Stoke Lodge for approximately 6 years now and the same complaint comes up time and time again at local community meetings and events. This complaint is of inconsiderate and dangerous parking around our primary schools, when dropping children off and collecting them at the end of the day. Along with the Council we have tried to help resolve these issues by attending and giving education to drivers and where necessary issuing fixed penalty tickets.

Recently I have revisited this issue as again it came up as a current priority at your local community forum meeting. The problem seems to be getting worse rather than better, which is only putting your children and others at danger around these busy times of the day. Due to this my team will be concentrating on this problem issue over the coming months, attending each school periodically and dealing with the offending drivers with a zero tolerance policy. We cannot and will not ignore this issue with the potential of putting young lives at risk.

If you are parked (this includes being stopped whilst in your vehicle) on the yellow zig zag lines, on the white keep clear lines, on the pavement blocking access (ie. preventing wheelchairs to pass), on or too close to the junction, or causing a danger in any other way you will receive a fixed penalty ticket. The minimum fine for these offences is £50, along with the potential embarrassment and delay whilst the ticket is issued to you.

I appreciate that lives are busy and it can be hectic having children and getting them organised in the morning. But please ask yourselves, do you need to drive to school at all? If so, do you really need to park as close to the school as you normally would?

Whilst driving around the local schools it is clear that the further you park from the school the more space there is to park comfortably and this is still within a short walking distance from the school.

Please consider the above and help us to keep your children safe.

Regards

PC Steve Bird 3916
Beat Manager Patchway