



Dropped kerbs

Dropped kerbs are there to assist people with pushchairs and wheelchairs to cross the road.

Although it may be tempting if they provide a convenient space, please don't park so that you block them. You are depriving someone of an accessible place to cross the road and you maybe prosecuted for the offence.



Verges

Do not park on the verges – the damage caused to these areas is both unsightly and costly to repair.

In some places they are deemed part of the highway so any parking restrictions apply to the verge as well



Speed

Please drive slowly at school times, children may suddenly step out into the road. Research shows that if you hit a child at 40 mph there's an 80% chance they'll be killed, but if you hit them at 30mph there's an 80% chance they'll survive. Consider the potentially fatal consequences of not sticking to the speed limit. It's 30 for a reason.....



Car Doors

For safety reasons it is advisable when picking up or dropping off children to park your car so that children can get in or out on the kerb side. In this way they are not getting out straight into roads and into the line of traffic. However, please be aware of other pedestrians using the footway



before opening your doors, as you may hit or obstruct them.

The well being of children is our prime concern and your co-operation and consideration when driving will help us create a safe environment around our schools.

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 West Berkshire Council
 Faraday Road
 Newbury
 Berkshire RG14 2AF
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 email: roadsafety@westberks.gov.uk
www.westberks.gov.uk/roadsafety

If you require this information in a different format, such as audio tape, or in another language, please ask an English speaker to contact Cheryl Evans on Telephone 01635 519984, who will be able to help.

Considerate Car Use



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The Council has a duty to promote sustainable travel to school. Encouraging children to walk or cycle to school benefits us all;

There are many benefits associated with encouraging more children to walk to school. We have listed just some of them below.

Reduced traffic on the routes to school and outside the school gates:

- as many as 1 in 5 journeys made during the morning rush hour are for the school run, adding to existing levels of congestion and pollution;
- parents often find it difficult to park near the school – inconsiderate parking can cause congestion and inconvenience local residents, as well as reducing visibility and making it difficult or unsafe to cross the road near the school.

Improved levels of health and fitness:

- children inside a car breathe in more pollution than they would when walking along the pavements;
- around 1 in 7 children now have asthma, a condition made worse by air pollution from exhaust emissions;
- walking and cycling increases activity levels, helping to improve fitness and reduce instances of childhood obesity;
- children who walk or cycle to school are generally more alert when they arrive than those who travel by car.

Improved road safety:

- children who walk to school get the chance to practice their road safety skills;



Cars and schools do not mix well. Children can be easily distracted when approaching or leaving school and this is when incidents can happen.

However, we recognise it is not always possible to walk or cycle. If you feel you really have to drive to school, please bear in mind the following points.

Park and Stride / Walking Buses

Consider parking further away from the school and walking part of your journey – this disperses the cars and reduces the number in any one



location to a safer level. Park and Stride and Walking Bus initiatives are a great way to encourage more children to walk to and from school. It is also an opportunity to talk to your child, teach them road safety skills and for them to learn about their surroundings.

Avoid the pavement

Do not drive or park on the pavement - children are taught that the pavement is a safe place to be. Blocking the pavement, even if only half-on, makes it difficult for those who do want to walk.

Especially for parents walking with buggies.



Junctions

Do not park within 10 metres of a junction in any direction - this allows motorists the safe visibility they

need to see approaching traffic (the police have the power to enforce this restriction). You don't want to be responsible for an accident, and you don't want to face a fine.

Reversing

Try to avoid reversing manoeuvres near a school. It can be very hard to see small children directly behind you. If you must reverse, please take extra care.



General Inconvenience

Please park so that you do not cause inconvenience to anyone else – this includes double parking, blocking residents' driveways, and parking right outside someone's window. You wouldn't like it if someone prevented you getting out of your driveway.

Parking Restrictions

Do not park where you are prevented from doing so by restrictions – single yellow lines with time restrictions, double yellow lines and especially school keep clear zig-zags. These restrictions are deliberately placed to improve visibility for vulnerable pedestrians and address road safety. allow safe crossing of the road. You may be glad of them when crossing to your car.

