

Federation of Grewelthorpe and Fountains C of E Primary Schools



Believe Learn Flourish
With
Faith Hope Love

Headteacher: Pam Acheson



Dear Parents /Carers,

12th May 2021

As you are all aware, school Governors and I have made the decision to close the school carpark at drop off and pick up times. We have a responsibility to ensure that the school site is safe. Over the past 18 months, the number of children attending the school has increased, as have the number of staff. There are no longer any available spaces for parents to park, unless they are Blue Badge Holders (should this be the case then please contact the school office to register your Blue Badge).

The number of vehicles trying to access this space has resulted in the carpark becoming increasingly congested and unsafe. We are also being asked to consider access for Emergency Services, in particular Fire Engines, and ensure that in any event they would be able to reach the school building.

We are aware that this decision has implications for you as parents and residents of the village. We have spoken with Local Authority Advisors, Health and Safety Advisors and NYCC Highways. The purpose of the meeting on Thursday was to provide a platform for a discussion to take place around the impact of the school's decision and have a representative from the Highways department to give advice on what measures may need to be taken to ensure the safety of the children *outside* of the school grounds.

Our contact from the Highways department have informed us that they are now unable to attend the meeting. However, they are very interested in supporting us moving forward and have suggested the following:

'In order for me to fully understand the problem and determine suitable solutions, I am happy for parents and/or the school staff members to put forward suggestions on what they think can be done to improve the situation. This will allow me to provide clarity on what is achievable.'

Without the relevant people able to attend the meeting and provide responses to your concerns we felt that at this stage it would be more appropriate to ask you to email your concerns and/or suggestions to the school so that they can be forwarded to Highways. If you were intending on attending the meeting, we would be grateful if you could now email us with your concerns and suggestions instead by lunchtime on Friday 14th May so that we can send them and any emails we have already received to our contact at Highways. Alternatively, you can contact them directly. Details are on the link below.

<https://myaccount.northyorks.gov.uk/contact-us>

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Once they have then had the opportunity to read what has been sent and subsequently visit the site then a meeting can be held, hopefully without the current COVID restrictions, where we can discuss what Highways have suggested.

We thank you for your continued support and patience,

R Bain
Chair of Governors

P Acheson
Executive Headteacher