

Parents/Carers,

Now that the schools are open again, parking and road safety has become an issue for many residents and users of Dryclough Road. This is not a new problem but one that will not be tolerated.

In 2016 there were 3,624 children aged between 0-11 years involved in car accidents on UK roads. Year on year fatalities in this age group are increasing, 36% of these children were making a journey to or from school. The majority of child pedestrian casualties, 99%, occurred on built-up roads.

Fewer parked cars outside of the schools will also improve air quality significantly for children, who are effected 30% more than adults from car exhaust fumes due to their proximity.

Oak Primary School, Moor End Academy, Beaumont Academy and Woodside Pre-School are now working with West Yorkshire Police and Kirklees Council to increase safety and relieve parking issues for all users.

Shortly, there will be the return of a crossing assistant to make crossing the road safer at the main school times.

We are also looking at more permanent measures that increase safety, namely crossing islands and new road markings.

The new markings may include single yellow lines which would restrict parking at busy periods, keeping the roads clear for crossing pedestrians and increasing safety by having an unobstructed view of the road.

Kirklees council and the police will shortly start consultation and surveys into the viability of a single yellow line and the restrictions that would bring, which will allow the schools, police and parking wardens to make the area safer for children.

In the first instance, this will be enforced by way of a warning letter issued by the schools and West Yorkshire Police, this will outline the offence and penalty associated. Repeat offenders may be prosecuted.

We hope that these measures will make Dryclough Road much safer by reducing the congestion.

There has already been one child knocked down this academic year, fortunately this was not serious.

CAN WE PLEASE STRESS THAT DOUBLE PARKING CAUSING OBSTRUCTION, PARKING ON PAVEMENTS, PARKING IN ALLOCATED BUS STOPS, PARKING ON THE SCHOOL ZIG ZAGS AND BLOCKING DRIVE WAYS ARE ALL OFFENCES. THIS MUST STOP BEFORE ANOTHER CHILD IS INJURED OR KILLED.



