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PARKING: PORTFIELDS SCHOOL

Over the last few weeks a growing number of complaints have been received from members of the public, parents, local residents and the Town Council regarding the indiscriminate and dangerous parking occurring around the main entrance to the School. Most of the complaints concern parking on the footpaths, on zig-zag lines, within ten metres of the roundabout, across dropped kerbs and those pimpled dropped kerbs which are designated crossing points. Double-parking and near-misses of children attending the School are also part of the problem.

The main offenders seem to be parents in the process of taking their children to and from School between 0830-0900 and 1500-1530 hrs. Unfortunately, little thought is being given by the car drivers to pedestrians including young children, wheelchair users, persons with prams or buggies and the visually impaired.

Excuses that have been given in the past for this inconsiderate, careless and thoughtless behaviour often include:

"I'm running late." "I've got to get my other child to the child-minders" "It's raining."

"I'll only be two minutes." "I'm late for work." "Why can't I park here?" "It's not my fault."

None of the above excuses are valid as all can be avoided with better time-keeping. This would enable drivers to arrive earlier at School, giving time to park away from School gates and walk the short distance to School.

My concern is the welfare of *your* child and all children attending Portfields School

ACTION MUST BE TAKEN TO PREVENT A SERIOUS ACCIDENT OCCURRING

Please park your vehicle correctly and **away** from the School entrance.

Consider other children and parents when you park. Police Officers now have powers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for, "Unnecessary Obstruction" and "Dangerous Driving." You could end up having your car towed away - at a cost of £150 for its return.

Think about where you park. Have consideration for other road users and pedestrians, including children, and park further away from the School, i.e. 100 yards away, and walk in.

Please remember: **CHILDREN'S SAFETY**

If the situation does not improve then fixed penalty notices will be issued to offending vehicle owners.

PC 3997 KEVIN LEANEY – Newport Pagnell Neighbourhood Officer

PCSO Paul Swannell – PCSO – Newport Pagnell

