

# HERMITAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL HOLMES CHAPEL

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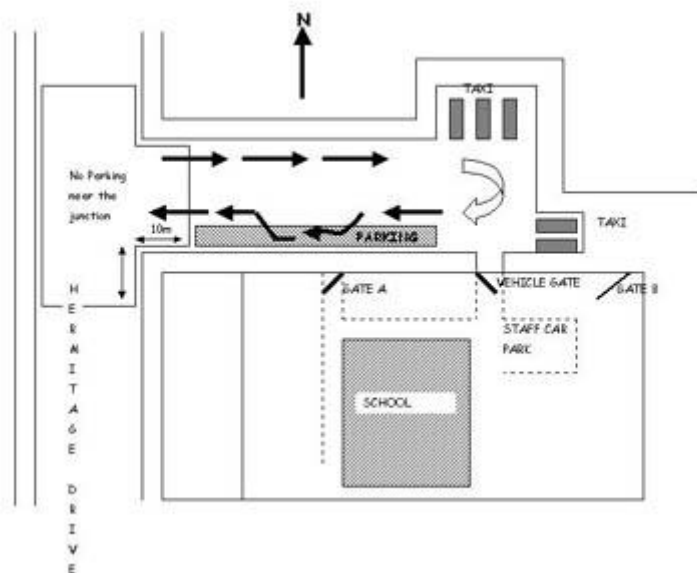
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## Traffic Congestion around School

With the increase in numbers of children attending school, inevitably there are more cars dropping off and collecting children. This has resulted in a noticeable increase in congestion with a corresponding risk of an accident.

Most parents already know and observe the general procedures for the dropping off and collection of children by car. The school has no authority to enforce any of the recommendations, but it is in everyone's interest to avoid problems, as otherwise more onerous restrictions may be imposed by outside agencies (such as the Highway Authority or the Police).

Observing a few simple tips should help everyone and hopefully reduce the risk of accidents involving vehicles and more importantly children. Most of the points are common sense, but especially in the morning rush, concentration may be on other things.



### 1. **WAIT YOUR TURN.**

Drive along the school road, turn in the turning head and return to park on the South (school) side of the road, facing the right way - ie in line with the normal traffic direction. Don't be tempted to park on the school side facing the wrong way (toward the turning head) as the parked driver is unsighted when moving off and has to cross the flow of oncoming traffic. When entering school use Gate A. Do not enter by the Staff Car Park Gate as delivery vehicles may be reversing and be unsighted.

2. If possible, **avoid parking** in the turning head as we hope taxis will use this area, but otherwise ensure there is adequate room for other vehicles to manoeuvre safely and quickly - normally 2 cars can turn simultaneously. Remember also that Staff and Delivery vehicles may be using the school vehicular gate.



3. **DO NOT PARK** on the North side of the road, or on the footpath, as this completely obstructs the road.
4. **DO NOT DOUBLE PARK** on either side, or stop on the North side to collect or drop children off, especially if they cross the road or have to walk between parked cars - drivers may be looking elsewhere in the congestion. If for any reason children are dropped off on the North side, ensure they walk around the turning head and enter school through Gate B. (This also applies to children walking to school particularly if unaccompanied).
5. **DO NOT PARK** opposite or within 10 metres of the Junction. This is a Highway Code requirement, but as well as restricting visibility, it causes grid-lock with cars waiting to turn into the school road.
6. **Ensure** children get out of the car on the footpath side, NOT into the road.
  - Consider local residents and avoid obstructing driveways etc. Keep the school a good neighbour.
  - At home time, if you are collecting KS1 only, don't stay on too long after collection, as parents of KS2 will be arriving as you are leaving.
  - If children are being dropped off or collected by someone not familiar with the school, please warn them of the congestion and advise them of the general arrangements.

Reducing traffic around school not only reduces congestion and the risk of accidents but brings other spin-off benefits.

- Reduces pollution generally, but especially around school.
- Can be used to encourage children's environmental awareness.
- Walking to school can help improve children's awareness of road safety.
- Encourages healthy exercise (as if they need any encouragement!)
- Journey to school with friends can be fun.

If you have any particular points, from minor niggles to things which have steam coming out of your ears, or even better, if you would like to become involved with a small Road Safety Committee (whether you are a car person or a pedestrian) please contact school.

[www.saferoutestoschools.org.uk](http://www.saferoutestoschools.org.uk)

