

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

We have teamed up with the road safety and active travel team at Portsmouth City Council to produce this **'Park and Stride'** map to help prevent congestion and improve safety levels outside the school.

Like many other schools, we place a strong focus on road safety education. However, in 2011 **child pedestrian casualties in Portsmouth rose to 40, with 16 of those being seriously injured**. The most common contributory factor was children having to cross from behind parked cars.

It is vital we keep the area outside the entrances clear of parked cars as they make it difficult for children to spot oncoming traffic and, similarly, approaching motorists struggle to see youngsters behind or in between vehicles. Therefore, we kindly ask families who travel by car to park a little distance from the school and walk the remaining part of the journey.

Park and Stride maps show time zones that give parents and children three short distances to walk in to school from where more parking may be available. These **2, 3, and 5 minute walking zones** allow very young children and those who can only manage a short distance to participate.

As well as helping to keep the road outside the school congestion free and safe for children crossing you will be building exercise into your child's daily routine. Studies have also shown that children who walk or cycle to school arrive more alert and ready to learn than those who come by car.

We understand that the beginning and end of the school day can be a very busy and stressful time, particularly if parents are running late or traveling onwards to work, but the **School Keep Clear markings are not for parking on**, even for a short period. Parking on them is inconsiderate, causes an obstruction to traffic, and can endanger other road users or pedestrians.

In light of this, Portsmouth City Council is the first Local Authority in the country to introduce a new initiative to tackle irresponsible parking. This involves issuing **warning letters** and, ultimately, **court summons** to those found repeatedly parking on the yellow School Keep Clear markings.

Parking wardens, police community support officers (PCSO's) and community wardens will be taking vehicle registrations of those infringing this law. Since the Council began this scheme, over 400 people have been caught out so please **don't let it be you!** Help us provide safer crossing points for children by keeping the zig zags clear.

Sincerely,

Head Teacher, and Portsmouth City Council Road Safety Team



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

Park & stride

With fuel prices going up and traffic increasing, there's never been a better time to look at how we make our day-to-day journeys.

If you drive to school, why not park a short distance away and walk with your child the last part of the journey?

As well as helping keep your child fit and healthy, it can save you a lot of time and money – the average journey time during the morning school run is 8-9 minutes per mile and costs £470 a year in petrol!

Please look over this **Park & stride** map, park your car within the timed zones and walk with your child the remainder of the way.



Milton Park
Primary School

