



7 October 2022

Message from PC Slee – Road Safety

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you following the period of settling back into school post the Summer.

Many of you will be aware that I patrol the surrounding area of school every morning and immediately after school. During this time, I pay attention to basic road safety and regularly speak to students about this.

On 6 October 2022, I held an assembly on road safety as I felt it was pertinent to remind students of road safety skills, but also to remind them of their responsibility to behave appropriately and always display the right safe attitude in the community.

Recently there have been several reported safety issues, some involving students making unsafe decisions themselves but also unsafe parking and drop-off points by motorists.

Road safety is an issue that affects everyone.

The highest cause of accidental death in 11-16-year old children is road accidents, this is an area I need to ask for your help and support.

I fully appreciate that students use different methods of transport to and from school and for some students, particularly our Year 7s, independence is very new.

The assembly on 6 October provided examples of hazards and near misses, some I observed myself and others have been reported to me; several of them were concerning and could have resulted in serious incidents involving our students.

Due to this, West Yorkshire Police and Leeds City Council will be adopting a week of action (exact dates are to be agreed) expected to be during October/early November. This will dedicate extra resources to monitoring road safety during this period. The intention is to speak to students and motorists about unsafe situations that are observed, to achieve a safer environment for everyone.

There will also be some refreshing of the double yellow/zig zag lines. These will be re-painted to ensure prohibited areas are clearly marked. You will also note there are some visible banners on the bridge bend outside school driving towards Wrenthorpe; this is a particular “hot spot” for issues, unsafe drop-offs, crossing the road on the bend etc.

Additionally, within school please may I remind you of our safety policy. The driveway is for **drop off and pick up ONLY** and not for prolonged parking. Lengthy waiting periods in this area lead to a backlog of traffic, vehicles struggle to pass and congestion occurs on Potovens Lane.

Similarly, students should never be dropped off on the road directly in front of school reception, this is hazardous. Students with a vulnerability or requiring extra support to get to school safely, and who do require a closer drop off point, should be discussed with school and a safe place within the visitor car park will be agreed. This area will be monitored more closely going forward.

Road markings within the school driveway will also be refreshed in due course to support clear visibility to motorists.

On a final note, please can I ask that this message is emphasised at home to support the work we are aiming to achieve in school. All too often I see students using mobile phones whilst crossing the road, on occasions also wearing headphones. Other examples of hazards observed have been communicated to students in the assembly so everyone should be clear and hopefully this has been a good refresher for students.

If you require my support, please do not hesitate to make contact with me on j.slee@grange.outwood.com – all emergencies should be reported via 999.

Alternatively, please telephone the academy on 01924 204350 Ext: 329.

I look forward to continuing the partnership work to achieve a safe commute to school for everyone *“working in partnership to keep our school and community a safe place”*.

Kind regards

Jayne

PC 5155 Jayne Slee