

20 September 2011

Dear Parent

RE: POST 16 STUDENTS USING CARS

I am writing to express our concern at the number of students who are driving to school and parking on the school site. This includes a number of students who live within easy walking distance of the school. I am therefore writing to notify you that we intend to make the school site a no-parking area for student cars from Monday 26th September 2011. This is as a result of a number of concerns.

- Inexperienced drivers trying to park in what is already a very congested car park leading to bumps and accidents.
- The temptation that some students feel to drive at inappropriate speeds, despite 20mph warning signs, on the roads close to both Whitley Bay High School and Valley Gardens Middle School and the subsequent danger to pedestrians, students and the drivers themselves.
- The lack of parking spaces available leads to some students parking in inappropriate places causing severe problems of access for emergency vehicles.
- In terms of the healthy schools agenda and concerns for the environment there is no need for many students to drive to school. Walking encourages both fitness and eco awareness.

In exceptional circumstances such as disability or long distance a student can discuss this with me and a parking permit may be provided.

I hope you understand the need for us to act under such circumstances and can I ask for your support in ensuring your son/daughter does not drive to school.

I hope your son/daughter has settled well into Year 13 and is enjoying the new A2 courses.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Wilson
Assistant Headteacher