



AN ACADEMY | PART OF THE INSPIRE TRUST

Head Teacher – Jennifer Dawson

Grange Road, Rotherham, South Yorkshire, S60 3LA

Tel: 01709 531867 • Fax: 01709 701210 • Email: sitwelljunior@rotherham.school

Web: sitwelljuniorschool.co.uk • [@SitwellSchool](https://www.facebook.com/SitwellSchool)

Wednesday 5th September

Dear Parents,

Recent changes have taken place regarding the parking of vehicles outside schools where School Keep Clear markings (yellow zig zags) are present and the enforcement of those markings. It is important that all parents/carers are aware of these changes as there are significant implications with regard to enforcement.

Previously, these markings were advisory and were used to highlight to drivers an area to be kept clear in front of the school entrance - this would ensure that children are clearly visible to drivers and that similarly pedestrians also have good visibility should they choose to cross at this point. The enforcement of these markings was previously carried out by the Police under the offence of 'Unnecessary Obstruction' however this depended heavily on the individual circumstances at each school and the dropping off and picking up of children whilst waiting on these markings was often tolerated. This has largely devalued the reasoning behind the introduction of the markings and it has become common practice for some parents/carers to use the School Keep Clears as a specific waiting area for dropping off and picking up.

In order to prevent this and to ensure that the markings are correctly enforced and respected in a uniform way at all schools within the Borough, the Council took the decision to introduce a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) which would make the School Keep Clear markings legally enforceable in a similar way to Double Yellow Lines. All School Keep Clear markings in the Borough now have a legal order which makes it an offence for any driver to STOP on the markings - this includes stopping to drop off or pick up children. There are now signs present at each end of the markings which state "NO STOPPING Mon – Fri 7.30am – 5pm on entrance markings", outside of these times vehicles may be parked on the markings. The Council's Parking Services team of Civil Enforcement Officers will enforce the School Keep Clear markings and any vehicle parked on the markings will be subject to a Penalty Charge Notice, there are NO exceptions for any vehicles to park on the markings and this includes those displaying a 'Blue Disabled Badge' or Taxis. Parking Services may also use the mobile CCTV van to patrol School Keep Clear markings. This will photograph any vehicles parked on the markings and Penalty Charge Notices will be issued by post.

If drivers are parking their vehicles wholly on the footway, therefore diverting pedestrians from their desired line of travel and into the road or are parking wholly across residents driveways, therefore preventing egress from their property, then they are committing the offence of 'Unnecessary Obstruction' (Contrary to regulation 103 of the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 and the Road Traffic Act 1988). This offence may be dealt with by the Police via a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) or removal of the vehicle concerned.

If you have any queries, please contact Marc Hill, the Traffic Liaison Officer directly on 01709 822814.

Marc Hill
Traffic Liaison Officer,
Transportation & Highway Design,
Planning, Regeneration & Transport,
Environment & Regeneration,
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council,
Riverside House, Main Street,
Rotherham,
S60 1AE



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