

**How ever you take your child to school it can sometimes be a stressful and chaotic journey.**

This leaflet provides advice on how you can help to reduce the stress and in turn make the area around schools a safer place at drop off and pick up times.

Parking dangerously or inconsiderately around schools at drop off and pick up times, not only endangers other road users (particularly pedestrians crossing the road), it can create stress for all concerned.

**Dont create a problem...  
...be part of the solution!**



## Finding Out More

-  Road Safety Team  
Bedford Borough Council  
Borough Hall  
Bedford MK42 9AP
-  01234 228336
-  [road.safety@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:road.safety@bedford.gov.uk)
-  [www.bedford.gov.uk](http://www.bedford.gov.uk)



# Safer Parking at the School Gate



What can **you do** to help keep everyone safe around the school gates?

# How you can do your bit to make it safer outside school?



## You can help by...

- ✓ Keeping your speed low
- ✓ Always letting your child out of your vehicle on to the pavement - never on to the road
- ✓ Checking for pedestrians and cyclists before you or your child open the car door
- ✓ Always stopping for the school crossing patrol
- ✓ Setting a good example to your child
- ✓ Parking further away from the school to reduce the congestion



## Please don't...

- ✗ Block the road - emergency vehicles and other traffic may need access
- ✗ Park on yellow lines, zig-zags or block the school entrance
- ✗ Park on the pavement, across dropped kerbs or residents' driveways
- ✗ Park opposite or within 10 metres of a junction
- ✗ Park where you will cause inconvenience to other road users
- ✗ Leave your vehicle with the engine still running
- ✗ Stop in the middle of the road to drop your child off, even for a few seconds.

**All the above can result in a penalty charge notice being issued**



## Have you thought about...

- ! The health benefits of walking or cycling one (or more) days a week?
- ! Setting up a walking bus with other parents and the school?
- ! Car sharing?
- ! Using public transport?
- ! Parking nearby and then walking the rest of the way?

These changes make a real difference to the congestion around schools, making the school run less stressful and far safer for everyone. Not only that but **they will help your child's education**. Research has shown that children who walk or cycle to school are more receptive to learning at the start of the school day than those who travel to school by car.