



***Braidside Integrated Primary
and Nursery School***

*89 Frys Road, Ballymena Co. Antrim BT43 7EN
1989- 2019: 30 Years of Integration*

028 25647899



Principal: J McAuley
www.braidside.co.uk

23/10/24

Traffic in Braidside

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the half-term holiday, I wish to bring to your attention my concerns regarding the traffic situation in school grounds at key times, most particularly at 2pm and 3pm. During the past 2 weeks, I have been monitoring vehicle movement, parking and pedestrians on the premises. My primary concern is for the safety of the children which remains paramount. However, it is clear that the traffic situation has deteriorated as we have progressed through this term. The following difficulties have emerged:

- Cars double and triple parked on the turning circle, causing traffic to come to a standstill,
- Cars stopping on the turning circle, with children jumping out or alternatively being called by a parent/ carer to jump into the car, running in between cars,
- Cars parked adjacent to the bus, blocking movement,
- Lack of consideration for children and other drivers.

To this end, I would ask you to please be mindful and exert patience and consideration when parking and driving in school grounds. We have approximately 150+ children leaving the grounds at 3pm and we want everyone to be collected safely and with the minimum of fuss. Everyone has a part to play in achieving this. I would ask you to park in the carpark if there are spaces, and if not, please avoid congesting the turning circle. With the P4-7 children, it is possible to give them a little independence and arrange to meet them or have them walk to the car/ collection point. When leaving the carpark, it is best to turn left, drive around the turning circle and join the queue to leave the grounds safely. Where we have placed cones, please avoid parking in these spots.

As a school, we have been involved and promoted active travel, with many events and activities over the years and I encourage our pupils, parents and carers to use active travel where possible.

The difficulties have been exacerbated with the disruption on the Frys Road, because of the work being undertaken by NIE and with the loss of the layby space. I hope sincerely this will ease when completed.

Thank you for taking the time to read and understand my concerns and for your cooperation moving forward.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.