



NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

North Northumberland Area Command

Berwick upon Tweed Police Station

38-40 Church Street

BERWICK UPON TWEED

TD15 1DZ

Telephone No: 101 Ext 61295

Dear Parents

Some of you will be aware that Tweedmouth West is experiencing ongoing problems with inconsiderate parking caused by parents dropping off and collecting children from the school.

During previous school years we have worked closely with our partners to try and educate those responsible regarding the dangers associated with both inconsiderate parking and vehicles being left in a manner which cause an obstruction.

Over the past school year we have demonstrated the impact inconsiderate parking has had through an initiative involving Northumberland Fire and Rescue. The fire service attended a "mock" emergency call to Osborne Road and Ladywell. They were unable to get through Osborne Road due to cars being parked on both sides of the street.

The pupils of Tweedmouth West have also been involved in initiatives; they have appealed to parents through letters written by them and participated in a competition to design a parking ticket. The winning parking tickets were issued by the children, accompanied by police, to the drivers who had obstructed the road, preventing the fire service from getting to the "emergency". The children were extremely confident, explaining the consequences of the parking to the drivers and asking them not to park there in the future.

Despite these efforts inconsiderate and illegal parking continues to present a problem on a daily basis.

In the recent past there have been two injury road traffic collisions involving people on journeys to and from school. Inconsiderate / illegal parking was a contributory factor in both of these collisions.

There have been many more near misses brought to our attention, many of which involved motorists driving / parking on the pavement and parking on both sides of the road causing a bottle neck and chicane effect on the road.

Over the next week cones will be placed in Osborne Road and Ladywell around the relevant times. These cones will clearly mark areas where it is unacceptable to park.

Following this initial period and the removal of the cones, Northumbria Police will work closely with the school to identify parents / vehicles committing offences. Fixed penalty tickets, which incur a fine of between £50 and £300, will be issued where appropriate.

I'm sure everyone will agree that the safety of school pupils and the public is paramount and must take priority over parents convenience.

Ashley Rutherford
PC 3648

