

June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

We would like to remind parents, students and visitors about a number of site rules and expectations at Appleton Academy.

This latest communication on these issue follows recent contact we have had with colleagues at Wyke Library. They advise us of a growing number of complaints they are receiving from their customers with disabilities, who are frequently unable to park in disabled bays in the car park at the front of school due to these being taken up by parents collecting children at the end of the school day.

We would respectfully request that if you do not need to use or have no right to use a disabled bay in the car park, that you do not do so. The Academy is a part of this community and the public library situated on site is a resource for all local residents to use. By parking in this way, you are affecting the ability of residents with disabilities to access these facilities, which provide a vital link for them with the community in which they live.

This is also an opportune time for us to once again further remind you of other rules around the safe use of the Academy site. Parents and visitors should ensure that they do not obstruct or block access to the driveways and properties of residents and neighbours who live in homes immediately surrounding the Academy site. You must also ensure that you do not park on the double yellow lines or in the permit holder bays around site. If the drop off car park is full, you must continue to loop around the car park and use the filter lane on Woodside Road for the Academy until a space opens up. Those choosing to park in a way that causes inconvenience or may be breaking the law, are subject to enforcement action by the Council's Warden Team and/or the police.

Visitors must use our car park responsibly and should refrain from parking on crossings, pavements, or in a way that obstructs the access/egress of other vehicles. Parking in this way is endangering your children when they enter and leave site.

Further to the issues around the use of vehicles on site, we would remind you that this is a school and that the safeguarding and wellbeing of your children is of paramount importance. To that end, we have a number of other site rules we would please ask you to respect. In particular, we would kindly ask that you refrain from bringing dogs onto site. If you wish to walk your dog to drop off and collect your children, you must remain outside the school gates with your dog on a lead at all times.

The Academy is a smoke free environment and it is illegal to smoke or vape anywhere on our grounds – including outside in the playgrounds, car park and footpaths leading to and from the building. Anyone found smoking or vaping will be asked to leave site. For those who refuse to comply, details will be passed to our Safer Schools Police Officer for the consideration of the issuing of a fixed penalty.

We would like to remind parents of children who cycle to site, that they do so at their own risk. If your child cycles to school, you should ensure that when they arrive, they can securely store their bike in our bike shed with an insurance grade lock. All bicycles brought onto site and stored on the premises are left at the owner/cyclists risk and the Academy cannot be held responsible for any damage or theft of property which occurs. This is particularly the case where the owner has failed to properly secure their bicycle.



Although we are an open site, with a number of green areas, you must ensure that younger children are supervised at all times if you are bringing them with you when you collect pupils. Please ensure that you do not allow children to climb fences, signs or areas around our buildings. We would like to remind parents that you and your children must not bring any type of vehicle onto the Academy footpaths and walkways. This includes, electric and motorised scooters and bicycles and mopeds, as well as all push powered bicycles and scooters. There have been several instances of late of parents dropping off and picking up children on this style of transport. This creates a danger to pedestrians on footpaths around site - students, staff and parents - and there have been several 'near misses' between vehicles and people on site.

The Academy site operates at our discretion and we will not hesitate to seek the prosecution of anyone who acts in a way that endangers parents, students, staff or other visitors. If necessary, we will also close site to vehicles when required, in order to ensure that we are able to fulfil our obligation to safeguard children and young people and our staff.

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation in these matters.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Jones." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Ms H Jones  
Executive Headteacher