



St Patrick's Primary School

75 Mullinahoe Road Ardboe BT71 5AU

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Car Park Safety

Urgent Reminder for All Parents and Guardians

The safety of every child, parent, and staff member is our absolute priority.

Recently, we have observed an increase in dangerous parking and unsafe behaviour during morning drop-off and afternoon collection. These actions put children at serious risk, and despite multiple reminders we must address them immediately.

Morning Drop-Off

All drivers must park in a designated parking space and walk children to the school gate. Children must never exit a vehicle and run across the car park.

Parking on or beside the footpath, which blocks visibility for drivers exiting the school.

Do not stop on the driveway leading down to the school. Stopping here blocks traffic, forces other cars to stop suddenly, and creates a hazardous environment for pupils and pedestrians.

Please Remember: Convenience must never come before safety.

We expect every driver to act responsibly and respectfully.

Afternoon Collection – High-Risk Behaviours Increasing

We are particularly concerned about poor and unsafe parking during collection times, including:

Parking on or beside the footpath, which blocks visibility for drivers exiting the school. Stopping at the sides, at the fence, or in through-traffic areas instead of using proper parking spaces.

Parking in ways that obstruct moving vehicles or force other cars into unsafe manoeuvres.

These actions greatly increase the risk of:

Children being struck by a car because a driver cannot see past an illegally or poorly parked vehicle.

Collisions as cars attempt to pass obstructed areas.

Near misses or accidents involving pupils walking with their parents.

This is not a theoretical risk—visibility is severely reduced when cars are parked on footpaths or at the car park edges. A moment's impatience or convenience could result in a child being seriously injured.

Collection Procedure

*** All cars must be parked in proper, marked parking spaces only.**

Once parked, parents/guardians must walk to the main gate to collect their child/children. Do not sit in unmarked spaces and block when others are trying to pass or park.

Children will not be released until a responsible adult is present at the gate.
Children must not walk or run through the car park without supervision.

A Firm Request for Co-operation

We need every parent and guardian to take these rules seriously. These expectations are not optional—they are in place to prevent accidents and protect lives.

Unsafe parking and ignoring procedures places every child at risk.

We ask you to consider the potential consequences and to act with care, patience, and responsibility at all times.

Thank you for your co-operation in keeping all our school community safe.

Yours Sincerely



Principal
St. Patrick's Mullinahoe



Please do not park or stop traffic here at any time. Keep this driveway clear.

**NO VEHICLES HERE
PEDESTRIANS ONLY**

Share this information with anyone who may drop your child/children off in the mornings or collect them in the afternoon and together we can ensure everyone's safety.

Together We Pray, We Play, We Learn, We Grow.