

Ms Lizzi Collinge MP
Sent via email:
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Email: highways@lancashire.gov.uk
Your ref: LC01379
Our ref: 84167
Date: 21 November 2024

Dear Ms Collinge

Parking and traffic in Bolton-le-Sands

Thank you for your email dated 7 November 2024, on behalf of an unnamed resident and the Parish Council, regarding the parking and traffic in Bolton-le-Sands, particularly around school drop off and collection times.

As you may be aware, Bolton-le-Sands school is situated within the village, close to the A6 and has two main access roads, these being Packet Lane and Bolton Lane.

Many of the roads near to the school already benefit from Double Yellow Lines (DYL). At its Bolton Lane entrance, there are school entrance markings which signify no stopping at any time. Our Civil Enforcement Officers do conduct enforcement visits on both Packet Lane and Bolton Lane regularly.

We have made 19 visits between September 2023 and March 2024 and issued 15 Penalty Charge Notice's (PCNs), all of which were DYL infringements. Since March this year we have attended a further 5 times and during those visits issued 3 more PCNs to vehicles contravening the local parking restrictions.

We note that the school previously made the decision to close the top entrance of the school, which is accessed via Bolton Lane. The school requested that all parents bring their children in through the lower gate with access to Packet Lane which causes traffic to bottleneck on the surrounding roads.

Our Road Safety Officer, Alison Hankinson, has worked with the school for over a year to address some of these concerns. The teachers have been trained to deliver Right Start Pedestrian Training and the school council has taken part in the Junior Road Safety Ambassador pilot this year. We also recommended the school participate in Living Streets to encourage walking to school and gave them resources to support KS2 road safety education.

Unfortunately, the location of the school, size of the surrounding roads and the number of children who attend the school are major factors, as the village has very narrow roads that were not built to cater for the number of pupils now accessing the school.

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I would like to thank you for your suggestion that we arrange a multiagency meeting to discuss the topics at hand. We do acknowledge your concerns however we must respectfully decline your request as we do not feel at this time it would be beneficial. We feel that in terms of education and engagement which is within our remit as the highway authority, we have given the school considerable ongoing support.

As the highway authority, we are unable to produce a strategy or solution other than road safety measures such as parking restrictions, which are already there outside this school. The school itself is best placed to solve the traffic problem especially within private land or through timetable changes. If the school appointed their own transport consultant and came up with a proposed detailed plan, we would need to see it so we can assess on whether it will impact the highway.

We would perhaps suggest the school revisits the strategies of staggered opening and closing times. They could also consider giving different year group/s access to pick up drop off at the top entrance.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Scott
Highways Operational Support & Liaison Manager
Highways and Transport
Lancashire County Council

