



3rd November 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Early Morning Congestion

I hope that students and their families have had a restful half term break and are looking forward to returning to the Collegiate on Monday at 8.30am. I wanted to write to parents just before we return to ask for your support in reducing the congestion that is occurring in the vicinity of the Collegiate before school starts in the mornings. Some residents have expressed concerns recently that they have not been able to leave their driveways and have been caught in gridlock on some days due to the number of cars driving right up to the Collegiate gates. Whilst these roads are public highways and we have no jurisdiction over who uses them, we would like to support our neighbours by asking parents to give this matter serious consideration.

It is inevitable that the location of the Collegiate, in a residential area and at the end of a dead-end, makes it more difficult to access by car at certain times. It is mainly for this reason (but also to support students' health, wellbeing and independence) that I would encourage students to walk or use public transport, as far as possible. With hundreds of students walking together in pairs/small groups and sticking to well-lit, busy paths, this is a safe option, even in the winter months. At the same time, however, I recognise that for some students, walking or using public transport are not easy or feasible options and that some parents prefer to bring/collect their children to school. If this is the case, I am not asking families to make unreasonable adjustments to their travel arrangements, but I would ask all families to note and consider the following points and requests.

- The Collegiate is fully open to students from 8.00am but students arriving earlier than this time are welcome to wait by the Student Entrance. All students must be on site by 8.30am.
- Students are encouraged to walk or use public transport where possible (buses are free).
- If parents are dropping students by car, students are asked to alight at some distance from the site, preferably towards the bottom of the hill and certainly before the Derwent Drive junction, and **walk the remaining short distance to the Collegiate gates** – the vast majority of students are capable of this and it would be good exercise.
- Parents in cars are asked to be considerate of other road users and the safety of students and other pedestrians by driving slowly, cautiously and safely.
- Parents in cars are asked to be considerate to local residents by ensuring that driveways are not left blocked at any time.

I would be grateful for your support and co-operation with this issue and I know that our neighbours would also very much appreciate it.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Dey
Principal