



Winter travel safety

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you to ask for your support in ensuring the safe arrival and return of your child to and from school. As we progress in to the winter months we will experience the darker mornings and evenings. Therefore we are asking all parents of children who walk, cycle and scoot to school to consider the following:

- Is your child visible? A high visibility vest and or lights on bikes will help motorists identify your child when driving.
- Is your child wearing a helmet? A helmet is a lifesaving piece of equipment and students should wear one when cycling to and from school. We reserve the right to not allow students to leave the school grounds with their bike if they are not wearing a helmet. In this instance the bike would be stored securely until the child can prove they have a helmet.
- Safe crossing. We have received a number of reports from concerned members of our community who have witnessed students taking unnecessary risks when crossing the road. Students should be reminded to use the appropriate crossing points when crossing the road, rather than put themselves at risk and other road users who may have to take avoiding action / perform an unexpected emergency stop to avoid collision.

We are proud of the number of students who come to school by bike, scooter or walking and continue to endorse this as a part of encouraging students to be more active and to reduce congestion on the surrounding roads. Over the summer we increased our bike rack capacity. However a small number of students have been padlocking their bike to the MUGA (thus leaving handlebars poking through) and the fire exit behind the sports hall presenting a health safety risk, compromising our ability to evacuate the staff and students in the event of an emergency.

As a consequence all students were briefed in assembly that if they continue to padlock their bikes / scooters to these two areas we will cut the lock and move their bike or scooter.

Thank you for your support in keeping our students safe.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Cordwell

Assistant Headteacher

Bohunt School Worthing

65a Broadwater Road, Worthing BN14 8AH 01903 601361 www.bohuntworthing.com

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