



Parking Lot Guidelines

Morning Drop-off Expectations Grades 1-8:

- Upon arrival in the parking lot, all cars that are dropping off students should circle toward the back of the parking lot, before looping back towards the exit alongside the curb line closest to the school.
- Cars should pull up as far as possible along the curb line closest to the school, staying inside the cones that have been put out.
- Once your car is along the curb line, and has pulled up as far as possible, students should exit the car through the passenger side doors. Students should never exit their cars through the driver's side doors.
 - *Exiting through the passenger side doors ensures that no student will exit his or her vehicle into an area where cars may be passing by.*
- Students should not wait until their car is at the front of the line to exit their car—they should exit onto the sidewalk once their car has reached the curb line and pulled up as far as possible.
 - *If students only exit once their car has reached the front of the line, a tremendous backup of cars onto Diamond St. will ensue.*
- Parents should never get out of their cars while in the drop-off line.
 - *Doing so holds up the drop-off line, which can often back up into Diamond St. during the busiest times each morning.*
 - If parents do need to get out of their car for any reason, they should park their car in one of the available spaces and assist their children away from the drop-off line.
- There should be no dropping off on Diamond St.

- All students and parents who are walking to the building must cross at the designated crosswalk.
 - *This will allow our teachers to control the flow of pedestrian and automobile traffic in ways that will ensure the safety of all students and adults in the parking lot.*

Morning Drop Off Grades PS,PK, and K (until Morning Assembly returns)

- Parents will enter the lot and keep to the right allowing space for parents of grades 1-8 to enter to their left to loop around to the sidewalk
- Parents will drive up Adrienne's Way (formerly Debbie's Way) all the way to the top of the drive
- Staff will mark where the first car will begin drop off
- Cars within the marked "drop off" area will unload their child(ren) immediately, all other cars should wait until they are in the drop off zone
- We ask that parents have their child(ren) prepared to exit the vehicle as quickly as possible on the left side of the vehicle
- Parents are responsible for unbuckling and exiting their child from their vehicle and walking them as quickly as possible to staff waiting to help them enter the building
- As advised by the Walpole Police to avoid back ups, ALL cars must take a right turn onto East st. to exit Adrienne's Way
- If you have an older student you may stop at the sidewalk at the bottom of Adrienne's Way and have your older student exit the left side of your vehicle and head down the sidewalk. You may also park in the lot, walk your older student to their entrance, and then drive up to Adrienne's Way to drop off
- We ask that all have their children ready to exit their vehicle, factoring in any separation issues. Parent's are welcome to park in the lot and walk their child up Adrienne's way to the door but will need to be wary of traffic flow.

Afternoon Pickup Expectations:

- Upon arrival, please pull up as far as you can to the car in front of you, and close to the cars in the rows next to you.
 - *By parking close to one another, we can maximize the limited space we have in each row and in the parking lot as a whole.*
- If you are the first one in a new row, please park perpendicular to the school building and pull up all the way to the end of the parking spaces where drop-off occurs each morning.

- *If all cars park in the same direction, there will be very little wasted space in the lot.*
- There are six specific sections for pickup—please make sure that you park in the section designated for the oldest child in your family or your carpool.
 - *If a car parks in the wrong section, it will inevitably lead to delays, because other cars will be unable to depart at the appropriate time.*
- The six sections for afternoon parking are:
 - Preschool: the first row (closest to Diamond St)
 - Grades Pre-K & K: rows 2-4
 - Grades 1-3: from the end of the Pre-K & K parking section to the Blessed Sacrament Sign on the side of the school building (approximately rows 5-8)
 - Grades 4-5: Beginning at the Blessed Sacrament School sign to the convent driveway (approximately rows 9-12)
 - Grades 6-8: from the convent driveway (Adrienne’s Way formerly Debbie’s Way) to the playground (approximately rows 13-16)
 - Families with students whose oldest child is in Grade 6 should try to park closest to the playground, since the Grade 6 classes are typically the last classes to exit the building.
- If you prefer to wait outside for the arrival of your child, please return to your car as promptly as possible upon your child’s arrival.
 - *It is important to clear the waiting area quickly so that teachers can begin directing cars out of the parking lot quickly and safely.*
- If a cone is placed at the end of a row, it means that these rows have been closed off for the remainder of dismissal.
 - *By closing off rows, we help to ensure that no cars are blocking the entrance way to the parking lot, thereby allowing all cars to safely navigate their way to the back of the parking lot.*
- Even though spaces will open up closer to Diamond St as dismissal continues, these spaces should remain empty, with all late arrivals pulling into the spaces reserved for middle school families.
 - *The issue here is one of both safety and equity:*
 - *Safety—when cars that pull into these spaces seek to depart the parking lot, it is often difficult for the teacher moderators to negotiate two different traffic patterns, while also making sure that students are crossing safely into the parking lot.*
 - *Equity—parents who follow the established protocols for dismissal shouldn’t have to wait longer to depart than parents who have entered these open spots.*
- There should be no parking on Diamond Street.

- *There are several problems related to parking on Diamond St.:*
 - *Students who walk towards cars parked on Diamond St. walk behind the backs of teachers who are directing traffic out of the parking lot. If the teacher fails to see them, the safety of the children is at risk.*
 - *We want to make sure that we are good neighbors to our neighbors who live on Diamond St. Families who live on Diamond St. have often expressed concerns to us about having difficulty getting in and out of their driveways, and about BSS families using their driveways as places to turn their cars around.*
 - *When cars on Diamond St. are looking to depart from school, they often do so by pulling into oncoming traffic, thereby creating a difficult situation for the teachers who are directing traffic.*

- The one exception to the above expectation regarding Diamond St. is the following:
 - The parking spaces on Diamond St. that are in front of the parish house may be used by drivers that need to leave school quickly for a valid reason (medical appointment, etc.).
 - *Parents that wish to park in these spaces should make a request to the BSS administration.*

- The convent driveway should not be used as an exit driveway during dismissal time.
 - *This is a safety concern: this passageway needs to be kept clear in case of the need for emergency vehicles.*

- Cars may use the 15-minute temporary parking spaces at the top of the convent driveway during the school day. This driveway is a one-way road that can only be entered from the parking lot (not from East St.)

- Please do not leave your car idling while waiting for your children to be dismissed.
 - *The Massachusetts Anti-Idling Law implores us to limit unnecessary idling to no more than five minutes. This is one small way that we can be better stewards of our environment.*

- The BSS administration will work with our teachers to make sure that our dismissal times are as consistent as possible.

Additional Thoughts:

- If your children are being dropped off or picked up by someone else—grandparents, nannies, babysitters, etc.—please make sure to share this information with them so that everyone is well aware of our community expectations for the parking lot.
- Please make sure to always be conscious of your speed as you drive through the parking lot, and on our surrounding streets.

- Please remember that as parents, we must be a model for our children, especially when following the directions being given by teachers. If any parent feels that they have been treated unfairly or disrespectfully in our parking lot, we ask them to notify a member of the BSS administration as soon as possible.