



Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association



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Parents and pupils encouraged to Walk and Talk

Parents and carers transporting their children to and from the schools in Downsview Crescent are being encouraged to park their cars well away from the school and then walk with their children for the last 5 or 10 minutes. The aim is to improve road safety and tackle inconsiderate and illegal parking.

The Walk and Talk campaign is the brain child of the Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association, which is working in partnership with Manor Primary School, Manor Twiglets and Uckfield Community Technology College to deliver the project. The Safer Wealden Partnership has funded campaign materials, including the radio ad that is being broadcast on Uckfield FM.

Paul Sparks, the Association's Chairman, said:

"We are confident that parents and carers will understand and support what we are working to achieve".

He went on to say "The situation in Downsview Crescent and the adjoining roads has become a real nightmare. Cars are regularly parked on the grass verges turning them into muddy ruts, there is also parking on the pavement, right on the road junctions, across white lines and even on the yellow zigzag lines.

All this makes it difficult to cross the road safely and obstructs the pavement for pedestrians, parents with buggies and mobility scooter users.

We know that a number of parents already walk their children to school and we hope to persuade more to follow their good example by parking well away from Downsview Crescent, or better still leaving their car at home altogether!

Walking for 5 or 10 minutes is good exercise, good for the environment, good for the community and best of all provides time for a relaxed chat at the beginning and end of the school day.

Most people understand that there's a good reason to do the right thing and nobody wants to be the cause of a serious accident with a child"

Police Inspector Tony Wakefield said:

"The Safer Wealden Partnership is pleased to support the Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association in the launch of their Walk and Talk campaign involving Manor Primary School, Manor Twiglets and Uckfield Community Technology College. This is a fantastic example of the local community taking the initiative and working together with the local schools to improve road safety for school children"

More information about the campaign and news about a YouTube video competition for UCTC students will be posted on the Association's Facebook page @ManorParkResAssoc

(the image shows the head teachers of Manor Primary and UCTC - Margaret Coleman and Hugh Hennebry together with Laura Ceylan the Deputy at Manor Twiglets and Paul Sparks Chairman of the Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association)

Secretary

Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association

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