

St. John the Apostle, Knocknacarra NS

This Traffic Management Plan is in place to ensure Child Safety and to prevent serious injury of a child due to vehicular traffic at Drop off or Pick up times. The Board of Management appeals to all parents/guardians for their cooperation with this Road Safety Plan, which is in place to protect all of the children in our school. These Traffic Management guidelines are issued to all parents/guardians annually;

Traffic Management Plan

When dropping off and collecting children by car, please adhere to our Traffic Management System for Set Down/Pick Up and for the Turning Circle which is inside the school grounds. To protect all children, and prevent serious injury of a child, please adhere to these guidelines;

1. For the safety of all children, we ask everyone to **drive slowly and with extreme care at all times on the approach road** that links the Western Distributor Road and our school gates.
2. All cars exiting the Western Distributor Road to approach the school, must enter the school grounds for drop off/pick up of children at the allocated Set Down zone in the school grounds only. Please note that Set Down/Drop off and U-Turning of cars is not possible or permitted on the Approach Road. All cars enter the school grounds to drop off children at the designated 'Set Down' area and to avail of the Turning Circle to exit the school grounds safely.
3. **Supervision and assistance will be provided** for children exiting cars at the Set Down zones, to assist smooth progress of traffic and to eliminate the need for parents/guardians to step out of their car. Our system is **Set Down – Drop Off - Drive on**. Parents using the system do not exit their car.
4. Children should be dropped off at the Set Down kerb only and should never be dropped off on the Turning Circle itself. Please remember that we advise NO REVERSING in the school grounds, as this presents a huge danger to small primary school children.
5. Children with a disability or who have a diagnosed mobility issue may be dropped off at the designated Disability Spaces adjacent to the school building. Parents/guardians must notify the School Office in advance regarding their child's Disability Permit.
6. It is not necessary for older children to be dropped off by car inside the school gates. We encourage older children in particular to walk/cycle or avail of Park and Stride to get to school.
7. Drop off times and Pick up times for each class level are staggered to allow for safe arrival and dismissal of the children. The assigned times are circulated to each class group of parents at the start of each term. Drop off times range from 8.25am to 9am. Pick up times for Infant classes range from 1.05pm to 1.20pm and for 1st to 6th classes 2.10pm to 2.20pm. Please allow sufficient time at these times to avail of Set down/pick up by car. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to inform any other persons who will be picking up or dropping off their child of this Traffic Management Plan.
8. Parents/Guardians who intend to pick up children from school must allow sufficient time for their child's safe Drop off/Pick up within the school grounds.

9. The above traffic measures are for Set Down and Pick up only. Those dropping off or collecting children do not leave their cars when doing so. Parents arriving by car who wish to walk with their children to or from the school gates will need to park safely and then walk to the school with their child or to collect their child.
10. Our school participates in the **Park and Stride** initiative, with Park and Stride available at Aldi, Monkey Business and Joyce's currently and hopefully at additional locations locally, over the new school year. Details of the Park and Stride Initiative are provided to all parents/guardians ahead of each term. If sufficient demand exists, plans will be put in place for a Walking Bus facilitated by parent volunteers which will accompany children from the designated Park and Stride zone to the school building. Details of the Walking Bus will be provided to all parents ahead of the start of each term.
11. The school Board of Management requests that parents/guardians adhere to all standard parking regulations, in accordance with Galway City Council's zero tolerance policy regarding parking in cycle lanes and/or disability parking spaces or non-designated parking areas. The Board of Management wishes to highlight that it is not responsible for any parking violation outside of school grounds.
12. The Board of Management appeals to all parents/guardians to please ensure that local residents are not blocked off in any way by school drop off or pick up traffic.

Important statement from the Board of Management: Our school's caretaker, is appointed to assist with the smooth running of the morning set-down period and afternoon pick up and to ensure adherence with the Pedestrian Entrance Policy at the White Oaks Estate. All parents have signed agreement to our Pedestrian Entrance Policy at Enrolment. This ensures that no cars drive into White Oaks Estate to drop off school children. Access to the school through White Oaks Estate is by walking or cycling only, as per the attached policy.

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Pedestrian Policy at the Doire Gheal (White Oaks) Entrance

The Board of Management (BoM) of St John the Apostle, Knocknacarra NS operates the following policy regarding the use of the school pedestrian entrance at Doire Gheal (White Oaks) housing estate. This is in compliance with the original grant of planning permission (No. 61.220897).

Parents/guardians of pupils will be notified of the terms and conditions of the policy and advised of the BoM commitment to implement the policy.

Parents/guardians will be asked to confirm in writing that they are willing to cooperate with the BoM in ensuring compliance with the policy

The school's enrolment conditions stipulate that only pupils approaching the pedestrian/bicycle entrance gate on foot will be allowed entry through the Doire Gheal access gate

The entry will be supervised by the school. Passage will be refused to any pupils who are delivered or collected by vehicle at the Doire Gheal entrance

The pedestrian/cycle access will be closed and locked at all times except during the following times on school days:

Morning: 8.20am to 9.10am

Afternoon: 1.10pm to 1.40pm and 2pm to 2.35pm

Vehicle drivers will be redirected to the vehicular entrance

The Board of Management will review the effectiveness of the foregoing measures on an ongoing basis and will take such steps as may be legally enforceable in order to remain in compliance with the provisions of planning permission

This policy was reviewed and ratified by the Board of Management of St. John the Apostle NS, Knocknacarra on January 24th 2017



Michael Gallagher

Chairperson,

For and on behalf of the Board of Management July 21st 2021