SCHOOL-KEEP-CLEAR

These are the reasons for not parking on the zig-zags
Aims and objectives for a school participating in the zig-zag parking programme

★ To involve young people and give them opportunities to take responsibility.

★ To raise awareness in parents of the reasons for not parking obstructively e.g. on zig zags, resident’s driveways etc.

★ To reduce car journeys to school.

★ To reduce carbon footprint and improve air quality.

★ To increase walking / cycling journeys to school, which will help combat obesity and support the NHS ‘Change for life’ agenda.

★ To provide opportunities for parents to teach their children Road Safety skills on the walk to school (Footsteps).
Additional benefits for a school participating in the parking programme

1. Increased contact with your local PCSO(S).

2. Increased support and resources from OCC Travel Choices and Road Safety teams.

3. Increased awareness amongst the school community of the issue.

4. Demonstrates a commitment to addressing local concerns in a practical and proactive way.

5. Provides a framework for long term sustained behaviour change. This will lead to reduced vehicle use, increased walking/cycling and improved health and fitness.

6. Draws together the school community, Thames Valley Police (TVP) and other bodies e.g. Parish Councils, NAGS, local residents.
Introduction

A number of schools across Oxfordshire experience inappropriate parking outside the school at the beginning and the end of the school day.

In conjunction with support from officers from Oxfordshire County Councils Road Safety and Travel Choices teams and Police Community Support Officers from Thames Valley Police, this pack will provide you with a step by step guide to help your school to raise awareness of this issue.

In order to effect a permanent cultural and behavioural change to promote walking and cycling to school and create a climate where obstructive parking is unacceptable, a sustained campaign will be necessary. A number of activities and ideas are included to help establish this. Typically a three year plan should yield significant results.

If you require further information or assistance please contact the Road Safety or Travel Choices Team at travelchoices@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Parking Programme

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Stage 1

Making Contact

1. Contact PCSO or travelchoices@oxfordshire.gov.uk for an initial discussion with Headteacher.

2. Headteacher to identify a student S.T.A.R.S. team.

3. Invite representatives from Travel Choices, Road Safety and Thames Valley Police to a meeting.

4. The S.T.A.R.S team will be given a Debra the Zebra as a permanent member of their S.T.A.R.S team to front their campaign (Debra’s blog on website, Debra’s slot in school newsletter, Debra introduced in assembly etc).

5. A school specific postcode plot map (showing students postcodes and travel modes) will be brought to this meeting and, for active schools, will be updated yearly.
Stage 2

Collecting information

1. Pupils to complete site audit.

2. Identify if zig zag lines (if you have them) need repainting. S.T.A.R.S contact highwayenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

3. Pupils to conduct a before survey - How many cars are regularly parked inappropriately? Draw a plan of where this occurs.
School name _______________________________________________

School address _____________________________________________

Postcode ___________________________________________________

Date completed ___________________________ by S.T.A.R.S team
Your first mission as S.T.A.R.S is a fact finding one!

Before you embark on any school travel projects it is a good idea to find out about the current situation.

Carrying out a site audit reveals clues about why pupils, parents and staff are travelling as they do, things that are good about the school site and things that need improving.

If nobody cycles to school it could be because:

• of concerns about safety

or

• there is no secure cycle parking on the school site
• the school has a ‘no cycling’ policy
• the cycle parking is located too far from the main entrance

As a group, travel around the school site on a fact finding mission, answering the questions on the following pages (you may wish to take photos of what you find).

Some of the questions will be easy to answer straight away, whilst some may require you to carry out pupil surveys in classes and consult your teachers.

If you are unable to answer some of the questions you will hopefully find the answers in your school’s Travel Plan (ask your teacher to show you a copy). Do you share the same views?

Once you have completed your fact finding mission, contact travelchoices@oxfordshire.gov.uk to arrange a meeting to discuss.

Good luck S.T.A.R.S.
General information

1. How many pupils are there on the school roll?
2. How many families?
3. How many staff work on the school site (including support staff)?
4. What time does the school
   Start?
   Finish?
5. On a school day how many vehicles enter the school site?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicles</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff cars</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent cars</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliveries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (such as school buses or taxis)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. How many of these are parked on the school site for the whole day?
7. How many pupils travel to school by:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Travel choice</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walk/Scooter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cycle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School bus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pupil bus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car (including taxi)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. How many entrances are there to the school site?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of entrance</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. How would you describe the pedestrian route/s onto the school site, eg is the surface good/bad/wide enough/in the right location?

10. Does your school share the site with any other schools or businesses?
   
   If you have answered ‘Yes’ please provide details in the box below.

11. Does your school have a School Travel Noticeboard?

12. Do you have a School Crossing Patrol outside your site?

13. Do you have a bus stop outside your school entrance?

14. Do you have Zig Zag or Keep Clear markings on the road outside your school?
   Do they need repainting?

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**Outside the school site**

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**Cycle facilities**

15. How many cycle stands are there on the school site?  
16. How many of these are covered?  
17. How many cycles does it hold?  
18. How many cycle lockers does the school have?  
19. How many pupils wear a cycle helmet?  
20. How many pupils wear high-visibility clothing?

**Education and events**

21. Has your school got an up-to-date School Travel Plan?  
   (You will need to bring this to the next meeting)

22. Does your school participate in any of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Yes or No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WOW (Walk on Wednesday) or Walk Once a Week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Footsteps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cycle training</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk to School Weeks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eco Schools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Schools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking Bus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
23. Does your school have assemblies on school travel or road safety issues?
   If yes, what subjects do the assemblies cover?

24. How many pupils have experienced an accident or near-miss accident when walking or cycling?

Well done on completing your mission

If there are any other issues or concerns that you think that you need to address as S.T.A.R.S, please outline them below.
Stage 3

Establishing the issue

1. Invite Thames Valley PCSO’s and Road Safety and Travel Choices staff in for S.T.A.R.S to present findings and to put together an action plan.

This meeting will be an opportunity for students to ask PCSO about his or her job and other policing issues.

★ Why are there zig zags outside school?

★ Who do the cars belong to?

★ Why are they parked on the zig zags/obstructively?
The following pages contain a selection of parking related activities that have been tried and tested. These activities will help your school to not only highlight the issue of inappropriate parking but also establish a school culture whereby this practice becomes unacceptable.

Some of the activities also have the added benefit of communicating to the local community your commitment to addressing the problem.

As a school you may feel that some of the activities are not appropriate for your community or location. They are offered as a menu from which to select those you feel will work for you. However they are designed to work together to reinforce each other.

If you need assistance or further suggestions please contact travelchoices@oxfordshire.gov.uk
1. Parent communication

A number of schools already communicate with parents in newsletters about parking concerns. More often than not this takes the form of 'please don’t park on the zig zags’ etc. To achieve long term results, we believe it is important that any communication is a positive recognition of those drivers who are parking appropriately, therefore rephrasing to say thank you for not parking on the zig zags etc can often be more effective.

Sample parent communication letter

Dear Parent

Healthy travel, safety and well-being of children

This year / term we are looking at healthy travel and safety in and around the school site in partnership with Thames Valley Police Community Support Officers and officers from Oxfordshire County Council’s Road Safety and Travel Choices teams. We have established a group of children within school to research this for us, our S.T.A.R.S team (School Travel and Road Safety) who have been busy conducting surveys and looking at the school environment.

A major problem to come out of this work is that of vehicles parking on the zig zag lines (and / or) inappropriately, particularly in the afternoon. (Your letter might also want to highlight specific problems or locations. It may be that inappropriate/ excess speed has also been identified as a matter of concern.)

The Zig-Zag lines have been put in place to keep the area immediately adjacent to the school clear, in order that children can have a clear field of vision to see traffic and so that drivers can have a clear field of vision to see children. If they are blocked by inconsiderate parking then neither can see the other and the potential for a collision becomes much greater. In addition the children have told us they feel afraid and insecure when there are a large number of vehicle movements in the vicinity and they can’t see. “I think the cars are going to hit me and I don’t like it.” Year 3 student.

The best way to avoid problems of parking at the school is to walk or cycle with your child; research has shown that children who walk to school are more alert in class and are at less risk from health problems in later life. (The map printed overleaf shows the areas up to a gentle 10 minute walk to school and some of the cut-throughs that other parents use on their trips to and from school). Walking to school is also an ideal time to socialise, both for children and parents!

Not able to walk all the way to school due to other commitments or you live too far away?

If you do have to drive, please respect the safety and well-being of all members of our school community by parking safely and in an appropriate location. Why not see if you can arrange to car share with other parents to help reduce the number of cars around the school, or use the designated Park & Walk site? (Enter agreed location if there is one), by kind permission of the (enter name of land owner)

By working together we can make our school healthier and safer for all.

Headteacher

Thanks to Langford Village School
You may choose to make your expectations explicit in your home-school contract. The following is a sample wording, which you can adapt to fit the requirements of your school.

★ School will offer advice and guidance on the safest and healthiest ways for pupils and their families to travel to and from school.

★ Parents agree to consider the advice on healthy travel and safe parking offered by school, and will act in line with this advice wherever possible.

★ Pupils will begin to take responsibility for their own health and safety, as appropriate to their age and experience.

Your home school contract can be put on your web site – perhaps in the Debra section?
2. Thames Valley Police Communication

Your local PCSO might offer to send a communication out to parents which will complement the work you are doing and reinforce the partnership.

Dear Parents,

*Have you ever been late dropping your children off at School?*

*Are you the Parent/Guardian who parks on the Zig-Zags outside the School?*

This is an on-going problem at every school, but Langford Village Primary School has a severe problem with inconsiderate and illegal parking. Children have been put at risk due to the lack of consideration by Parents/Guardians when parking and dropping off pupils at the beginning and end of the school day.

The Zig-Zag lines are put in place to keep the area around the school clear of traffic. This gives children a clear view of the traffic and means children can be seen by other motorists. Parked cars block this view and increase the risk when children are crossing the road.

**THIS NOW HAS TO STOP.**

We are working with Oxfordshire County Council and pupils at the school to promote SAFER PARKING at this School. Some pupils at Langford Village Primary School will be selected to become members of the STARS team (School, Travel and Road Safety) where they will help to promote Safer Parking and pass on this message to the parents of the School.

We will be increasing our patrols at key times in the school day and will be issuing £30 fixed penalty tickets to motorists parking dangerously and illegally.

**GIVE YOURSELF MORE TIME, THINK WHERE YOU PARK AND BE MORE CONSIDERATE.**

Yours faithfully

PC 3203 LEES & PC 285 ENTWISTLE

*With thanks to Bicester Neighbourhood Team*
Considerate Parking and YOU....

A general note to all drivers / parents

What actions are taken against bad parking, and why it is dangerous?
Illegally parked vehicles cost thousands of pounds a year in damage to paving and grass verges, and cause serious problems for other motorists, blind, disabled / older people and parents with small children and buggies.

Why is bad parking a problem?
Pavements alone are constructed and provided for pedestrian use. Vehicles parked on pavements / junctions and ZigZag School markings are:
★ A hazard to pedestrians causing an obstruction, which may result in them having to step off the pavement and onto the highway, thus putting them in danger.
★ A hazard by restricting the width of a pavement, making it difficult for someone with a pushchair or wheelchair to pass safely - again this person may have to go into the highway to avoid the obstruction.
★ Badly parked vehicles obstruct the flow of traffic along roads and in and out of estates / schools and junctions and raise the risk of injury to pedestrians and other road users.

How is this dealt with?
★ Fixed penalty notices for obstruction (£30 fine) to a path or a junction may be issued by a traffic warden or uniformed member of staff for Thames Valley Police
★ Civil action or fine for damage from the local council
★ A vehicle may be removed at the owners cost if causing an obstruction to the highways and through flow of traffic or junction
★ Simple words of advice given to the driver by a uniformed officer

What is being asked?
★ Park with consideration
(Not just for the paths, but the resident’s house you park outside and other road users)
★ Consider the safety of your child having to negotiate a badly parked car and other road users (How would it make YOU feel?)
★ Do Not Obstruct Junctions/Paths/Other road users and School ZigZag marked areas.

Officers from Thames Valley Police are monitoring the estates and school drop off points.

They will deal with the obstructions that they come across.

With thanks to Kidlington Neighbourhood Team
Your PCSO’s may also carry out education/enforcement activities. These can include notices or combined operations involving S.T.A.R.S children.

THAMES VALLEY POLICE

POLICE NOTICE

Under Section 22 of the Road Traffic Act 1988, you MUST NOT leave your vehicle in a dangerous position or where it causes any unnecessary obstruction of the road.

This includes opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space.

If your Vehicle is seen parking causing an obstruction again it will be issued a Fixed Penalty Notice of £30 under Road Traffic Offenders Act 1998.

Officer Issuing ................................. Date ..................

Abingdon Neighbourhood Team

08458 505 505

With thanks to Abingdon Neighbourhood Team
Dear Parent/Driver,

**S.T.A.R.S – Appleton School – 6th May 2009**

On the 6th May we carried out school patrols with a group of Year 6 children who are involved in a project to advise parents about parking on the Zig-Zag lines outside of schools.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your car was seen parked on the Zig-Zag lines outside the school on the above date.

We would like to remind you that if you park within the confines of the Zig-Zag lines you may be liable for a minimum fine of £30. In extreme cases your car may be towed away with a removal fee of £150.

On this occasion no further action will be taken. However, we ask you to be more considerate in the future and think about the safety of the children. We will support the school and will carry out more patrols during schools drop off and pick up times.

Yours Sincerely,

ABINGDON RURAL NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

With thanks to Abingdon Neighbourhood Team
3. Using Debra as a communication tool

Using Debra as a face for the campaign can help the young people to communicate with pupils, staff and parents about a difficult issue in a non-confrontational way. A Debra section could be included in the newsletter, in school assemblies (especially those for the younger pupils) or she could have her own blog on the website. If you think of any other ways Debra could help please let us know.

Survey of after situation

To measure the effect of your activities, it is a good idea to undertake a survey of how many cars are parked inappropriately regularly so that you can tell if the issue needs re-visiting. The S.T.A.R.S team could undertake these surveys with adult support and report back.
4. New starter information

Information about the need for appropriate and sensible parking should be on the school’s website, the school’s prospectus and in communications with new parents.

Sample text

‘As a healthy school that is committed to safer and sustainable travel, we would like to encourage the whole school community to walk, cycle or use the bus for the journey to and from school whenever possible.

Walking provides you with the opportunity to teach your child about the road environment and the fresh air and exercise will mean s/he will be more ready to learn on arrival in school.

If you do have to drive we encourage you to park a short distance away from the school, use the park and walk (specify details), or consider car sharing. Obstructive parking near school makes it harder for children to see and judge traffic and can upset or inconvenience our neighbours.

Thank you for keeping the area around school clear.’

★ During welcome meetings, the fact that the school encourages parents and children to walk or cycle to school should be mentioned. It is important that each new set of parents is aware of the issues concerning parking at the school and the benefits of walking and cycling before they form a routine based on car use.

★ If you share a site with another facility, ask for their co-operation and involvement.

Survey of after situation

To measure the effect of your activities, it is a good idea to undertake a survey of how many cars are parked inappropriately regularly so that you can tell if the issue needs re-visiting. The S.T.A.R.S team could undertake these surveys with adult support and report back.
Travelling to and from School

Wherever possible, walking to school is encouraged as the healthiest option. If your child wishes to cycle, we recommend that he/she is accompanied by a parent or guardian until such time that they have passed their Cycling Proficiency Test.

Children are only allowed to cycle to school if they hold a school cycle permit. An application form is available from the school office. This must be signed by parents, the children themselves and then returned. A pass will then be issued, which may be cancelled at any time should the school consider it appropriate. Children will not be allowed to bring bicycles to school unless a correctly fitted helmet is worn.

In the interest of child safety a School Patrol Crossing Officer is in place at the start and end of the school day on Oxford Lane.

To prevent accidents, parents’ vehicles are not allowed into the school grounds at the start or finish of the school day for dropping off or picking up children. Due to the narrow nature of North Drive, we would ask that you avoid driving down it if at all possible.
5. Parental Agreement

By putting together an agreement such as this you are setting out your expectations about parking arrangements in a fair and agreeable manner.

APPLETON CE (A) PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARKING AGREEMENT

September 2009

Dear Parents

Children use a variety of methods when traveling to school including walking, cycling and traveling by bus as well as by car. We would like to draw everyone’s attention to the potential dangers to our children at both ends of the school day due to the number of vehicles on the road and sometimes thoughtless parking.

We recognise that we all have a responsibility in keeping our children safe and request that every family signs the Good Parking agreement below each year. This will demonstrate an ongoing commitment towards safe and responsible parking in and around the village. This agreement covers both the safety of all road users when parking and the proper supervision of all children outside school.

We appreciate that the beginning and end of the school day can be a quite stressful and busy time, particularly if parents are running late, but the safety of our young children is of paramount importance. As such there is no justifiable reason for the yellow zig-zag lines or beyond the pavement outside Manor Barn to be used for parking, even for a short period, since both areas compromise visibility for both pedestrians and other car users. There are other equally bad places for parking including Church Lane, the junction of Badswell Lane and parking on pavements and I would like to remind you that rules of the Highway Code apply.

There is parking further up Eaton Road and The Plough public house kindly continues to offer the use of its parking facilities to alleviate pressure on the roads outside the school and contribute to the safety of our children. Police Support Officers will be in the village regularly issuing tickets to repeat offenders.

We hope you will support us in taking this matter as seriously as we do and will ensure that you always park safely and considerately.

from The governors of Appleton School and Appleton and Eaton PCC.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

PARKING AGREEMENT - SEPTEMBER 2009 – AUGUST 2010

Child’s/Children’s Names: Class:

.........................................................  .....

.........................................................  .....

.........................................................  .....

.........................................................  .....

I have read the Parking Agreement and understand the dangers of inappropriate parking in and around the school. I agree to park in a safe and considerate manner at all times. I also agree to the careful supervision of my children outside school to ensure their safety.

Signed ............................................Date .............................................

With thanks to Appleton CE Primary School
6. Parking Promise (badge)

When parents have signed up to the parking agreement you may wish to give them a badge to display in their windscreen to mark this. If you do then there are a number of benefits:

a) You will run a competition in school for the design, so all children and parents will be aware the scheme is coming. You will also involve the whole school community in forming your scheme

b) You will have a design specific to your own school

c) You will “reward” parents who have signed up

d) You will make it harder for parents displaying a badge to park inappropriately, as it will be very noticeable

e) It will give you a measure of how many parents you have e.g. Debra would like to say “Well done everyone. We now have 65% of the parents who have to drive to school signed up to our Parking Promise. We aim to make that 100% by Christmas” or something similar

Tax disc holders to display the Parking promise are available free of charge from the Travel Choices team.

Sample Parking Promise Badge

Design courtesy of a Year 3 pupil at Langfields School, Bicester

Survey of after situation

To measure the effect of your activities, it is a good idea to undertake a survey of how many cars are parked inappropriately regularly so that you can tell if the issue needs re-visiting. The S.T.A.R.S team could undertake these surveys with adult support and report back.
The area around the school is busy in the morning and even more so at leaving times. The STARS team would like to ask all parents and carers on behalf of the school to make a PPP to reduce the risk of an accident to children and adults.

The Langford Village Parents Parking Promise asks parents and carers to:-

- Observe the ‘Keep Clear’ zig-zag signs to maintain an area outside the school which is totally free from parked cars thereby increasing visibility for pedestrians and drivers.
- Park carefully and considerately to ensure the drives of neighbouring properties remain accessible and never within 10 metres of a road junction.
- Walk all or part of the way to school wherever possible to reduce traffic directly outside the school.
- Use the shop and pub car parks, not the car parks on the school site when you drop your child at school.

Sign the Parking Promise and make Langford Village a safer place.

The pub has given permission for you to use their car park.

Please help us by signing up to the Parking Promise. By giving the school an undertaking to park appropriately, you are protecting the lives of all the children who attend the school.

When you sign up to the Parking Promise, the school will issue you with a car sticker which demonstrates your commitment to the scheme. Hopefully your example will encourage other parents to do the same.

THANK YOU

This is an initiative by Langford Village School, Thames Valley Police and Oxfordshire County Council

I sign up to the Langford Village School Parking Promise and will help to make the area around the school a safer place for everyone.

Child’s Name and Class: ...........................................................................................................

Your Name: ..............................................................................................................................

Signed ............................................................................ Date ..............................................
(Parent/Guardian)
7. Park and Walk

A Park and Walk initiative is used when walking, cycling or bus use for the whole journey isn’t an option. The main benefits of such an initiative are that car parking is reduced around the school site and there is an opportunity for pupils to walk to school. A site (a short distance from the school) is located and permission for parents to park is sought. Once agreed, this can be promoted as an appropriate place to park if you have to arrive by car.

If this is not already established at school could it be considered? Is there a suitable car park a short distance from school where parents who have to drive could be persuaded to park?

Designed by students at St John Fisher RC Primary School
St John Fisher RC primary school S.T.A.R.S obtained permission from the Bowls Club next door to their school for 20 parent parking spaces in their car park

Thanks to Oxford & District Indoor Bowls Association for their support
How do you travel to school?

This Map shows the zone surrounding the school that is a gentle 15 minute walk and some of the common routes and cut throughs that other families currently use.

We have arranged for parents to use the Vine Pub car park as a park and walk location to help ease the parking around the school entrance.

This car park is a short stroll walk from the school gate.

Why not get out of the car and give walking or cycling to school a try!

With thanks to Cumnor CE School
8. Roadside event

A roadside event (i.e. students stood behind banner at the beginning or end of the schools day) is an effective way of spreading the message visually to not only the school community but also the local community. An event such as this can also have the added benefit of attracting coverage from the local media, if desired.

N.B. it is advised that PCSO’s are present during the event and that this is a silent demonstration to reduce the possibility of conflict.

Preparation

1. School to confirm staff and students for the event.
2. Headteacher to seek parental permission and photo permission for students involved.
3. Consider whether media attention is welcomed. Press release written (if appropriate) and sent out.
4. Undertake risk assessment.
5. Consider who else to invite to the event e.g. local County Council member, Governors, Parish representatives etc?

Event

1. Banner/s to be hung in prominent place.
2. Risk assessment checked.
3. PCSO’s, staff and students stand outside school for designated time (suggest no longer than 20 minutes) to highlight issue.
Post Event

1. Discussion to be held with S.T.A.R.S and PCSO’s regarding the success or otherwise of the event and follow on activities to be undertaken.

Survey of after situation

To measure the effect of your activities, it is a good idea to undertake a survey of how many cars are parked inappropriately regularly so that you can tell if the issue needs re-visiting. The S.T.A.R.S team could undertake these surveys with adult support and report back.
The S.T.A.R.S can also organise their own roadside event, with support from their local PCSO

S.T.A.R.S from St Thomas More RC School
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School, Witney

STARs Group

We have been actively involved in improving the parking around our school. Together with our PSCO we spent two weeks patrolling outside the school in a small group looking at the parking. If the cars were not parked safely we issued the driver with a ticket, this received a variety of reactions!

Our PSCO continues to support us writing letters from Thames Valley and including our own letter to offending drivers. The letters are definitely making a difference to the safety around our school.

We regularly write in our school newsletter and have performed whole school assemblies to ensure that our message is being heard by the whole school community.
9. Direct communication from S.T.A.R.S

By email

From: headteacher
Sent: 14 November 2011 14:50
To: Highway Enquiries - Environment & Economy
Cc: Rigault, Mandy - Community Safety - Fire & Rescue
Subject: Zig Zag lines at New Marston

Dear council,
I'm writing on behalf of the STARS team, to inform you about the safety of our pupils. Because outside of our school, the zig zag lines are very faint. So we're asking you very politely to paint the zig zag lines including the 'SCHOOL-KEEP-CLEAR' bit.
We're looking forward to your reply,

From Omar and Nicole
(STARS team)
Date: 22/11/11

Dear Driver,

I am a school council member at New Marston Primary School. We recently watched you drive past our school too fast. We would like all drivers to drive no more than 20mph.

Please drive carefully to keep us safe.

Thank you.

From, Leanne

Z d'Archambaud, Headteacher.

Leanne (on behalf of the School Council at New Marston Primary School)
By leaflets and posters

A poster or leaflet designed by a child can have a lot of impact. Posters can be laminated and tied to railings or put on notice boards and leaflets can be given out at parent’s evenings or even given to local PCSO’s who can distribute them to people parked inappropriately whilst patrolling outside the school. Why not hold a school competition with the S.T.A.R.S team judging the best design?

Sample Parking Posters

With thanks to Dry Sandford School
Oops! 😊 Name ............... 
You parked carelessly on.......... 
Please help us keep Summerside safe 
by parking more carefully in the 
future! Thank you- Buckland School 
Council!

*With thanks to Buckland CE School*
The s.t.a.r.s project stands for safe travel and road safety.

Wootton St Peters are working to complete the s.t.a.r.s project to help the road safety at our school. We are trying to encourage people to walk to school than going in a car. Also to not park outside the school.

The people in the stars team have had an idea that everybody that comes to school walks on a Wednesday if they can. Also even if you park in the legion or from the church and walked from there that still counts as walking. And who ever walks to school gets a point each and the class with the most points gets a prize each term.

Debra is school council member who helps us look after all the road safety at our school.

Debra would really like to see our school really safe for road safety so we hope we can achieve it.

By school council

Thanks to the S.T.A.R.S team from Wootton St Peter Primary School

Survey of after situation

To measure the effect of your activities, it is a good idea to undertake a survey of how many cars are parked inappropriately regularly so that you can tell if the issue needs re-visiting. The S.T.A.R.S team could undertake these surveys with adult support and report back.
10. School Incentive activities

Recognising and rewarding children for walking and cycling to school can help to raise the profile of healthy, sustainable travel and make the journey to school fun. Activities such as school specific themed days (e.g. wet and windy welly walks) or more traditional walk to school weeks help to keep the walking or cycling message current. Incentives such as stickers or trophies can introduce a bit of healthy competition or challenge and provide positive encouragement within a team or class environment.

A visual display of progress achieved (steps or miles covered) can be inspirational for the whole school community. Pictorial representation can be based upon curriculum themes. For example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Gardening</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pictorial representation</td>
<td>Sunflower (each petal represents footsteps/ distance covered)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion

It is the hope that these combined activities of all the partners (School, Road Safety/Travel Choices and Thames Valley Police PCSO’s etc.) will make a practical difference to the issue of inappropriate parking. By increasing the number of people walking, we will automatically decrease the number of vehicles arriving at school. Walking or cycling for the journey to school provides a valuable opportunity for parents to teach their children road safety skills as well as addressing health and environmental issues.

Once established S.T.A.R.S teams can be used in a number of ways to investigate issues associated with young people’s travel e.g. concerns about excess or inappropriate speed in the vicinity of the school.