



Orritor Primary School and Nursery Unit

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17th April 2026

Dear Parent/Guardians, please find attached a link to a short survey regarding parking at Orritor Primary School and Nursery Unit.

<https://forms.office.com/e/ANzbDMepu9>

As you will be aware, recent development work around the new Nursery Unit has highlighted an important opportunity to extend the existing parking provision in this area. The Board of Governors has proposed the creation of nine additional parking spaces, which would significantly support both the daily operation of the school and, crucially, the safety of our pupils, staff and families.

Improved parking would not only help to ease congestion at peak drop-off and collection times but would also have a strong safeguarding benefit, helping to reduce the risks associated with traffic movement close to the school grounds.

As a school, we consistently seek to manage traffic movement on and around the school site as effectively and responsibly as possible, particularly during busy drop-off and collection times. We have implemented a range of measures and continue to review our practices regularly. However, there are clear limitations beyond the school's control, including the restricted number of parking spaces currently available, the layout and location of the school site, and the increased demand resulting from the expansion of our Nursery provision. Despite the best efforts of staff and families alike, these constraints mean that congestion and safety concerns remain an ongoing challenge.

Unfortunately, despite several formal attempts by the school to secure this improvement, we have been unsuccessful in obtaining approval from the Department of Education and the Education Authority. The reason cited is that the school is currently deemed to have a sufficient number of parking spaces for its size.

We firmly believe, however, that any additional parking provision would make a meaningful difference, particularly in light of the nursery expansion and the day-to-day realities experienced by our school community. For this reason, the parent voice is vital.

We would therefore ask that you take a few moments to complete the survey to help highlight:

- The lack of available parking around the school
- The safety concerns experienced by parents, pupils and staff
- The need for a practical solution that reflects the lived experience of our school community

The survey will remain open until Friday 24th April, and we would really appreciate your support in completing it. Your responses will be used to strengthen our case and support any further engagement with the relevant authorities.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Mr I. Cheevers

Principal of Orritor Primary School and Nursery Unit