Chertsey Library Parking Permits for St Anne's Parents

9th March 2023

Overview

- St Anne's Catholic Primary School has a wide catchment area to allow it serve Catholic families across the area as well as serving other faiths in the local community.

- We currently have 429 pupils, many of those with SEND and in an area which has high deprivation.

- We are situated on a residential road with very limited parking options.

- An agreement was made with the council to allow parents to park in the library carpark during term time between the hours of 8.45am and 9.15am and 2.45pm till 3.30pm to elevate the parking on the main road and keep the children safe.

Context

- This agreement has worked perfectly well for many years.

- On 16th December the school were advised that Free Prae Road would be closed from 19th December for Road works, the school term ended on 21st December for all Xavier schools.

- After a lot of work and panic and a decision to issue permits to all families to allow them to have an option on collecting their children on these days we received a letter from the council informing us with immediate effect we could no longer use these permits.

The letter

- This letter arrived immediately after discussing the road closure in the Christmas holidays.
- We were given no notice that permits would be removed and were only advised that they would continue by a parent who had contact the council and been advised of this meeting.

The impact

- This facility allows parents to park and walk to school safety.
- It keeps Free Prae Road clearer which helps the residents, makes it safer for the children and parents who are able to walk or cycle.
- The school handle the admin of the permits currently and advise parents they will receive a ticket if parked outside of the permit times.
- The school regularly reminds parents not to park on yellow and zig zag lines or block driveways.
- The school fully supports greener travel, and runs many projects to do so. However, there must be understanding that this not possible for all our families.

We asked our parents....

How do you currently travel to school to drop off and collect your child(ren) most of the time?

🔵 Walk	35	
🟠 Bus	0	
🟢 Taxi	0	
🔴 Bicycle	7	
🟣 Own Car	79	
🟤 Train	1	
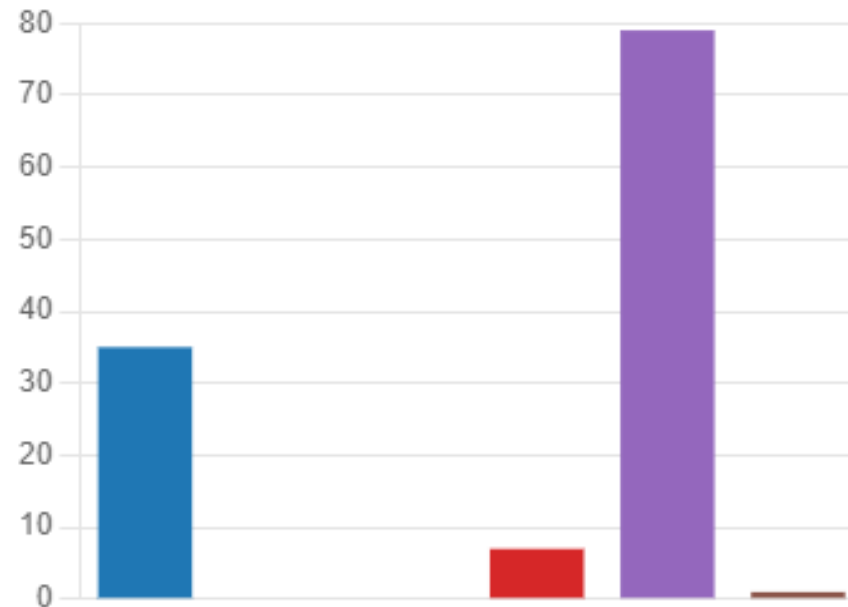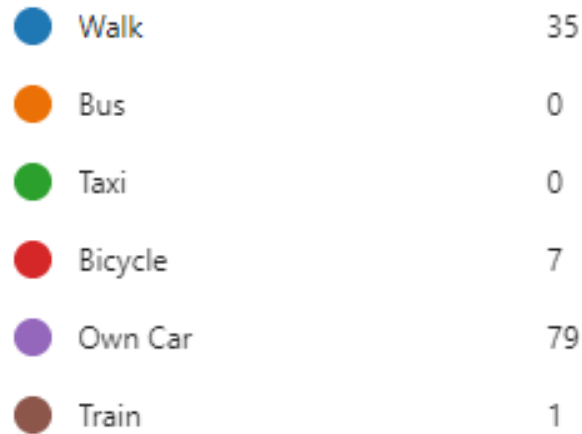
If you Travel using your own car, what is the main reason for this?

We live too far away to walk/cycle 22

Logistics/timing of getting to & ... 45

Public transport options are not... 3

I or my child has a disability or s... 1

We rely on grandparents to coll... 4

Other 12
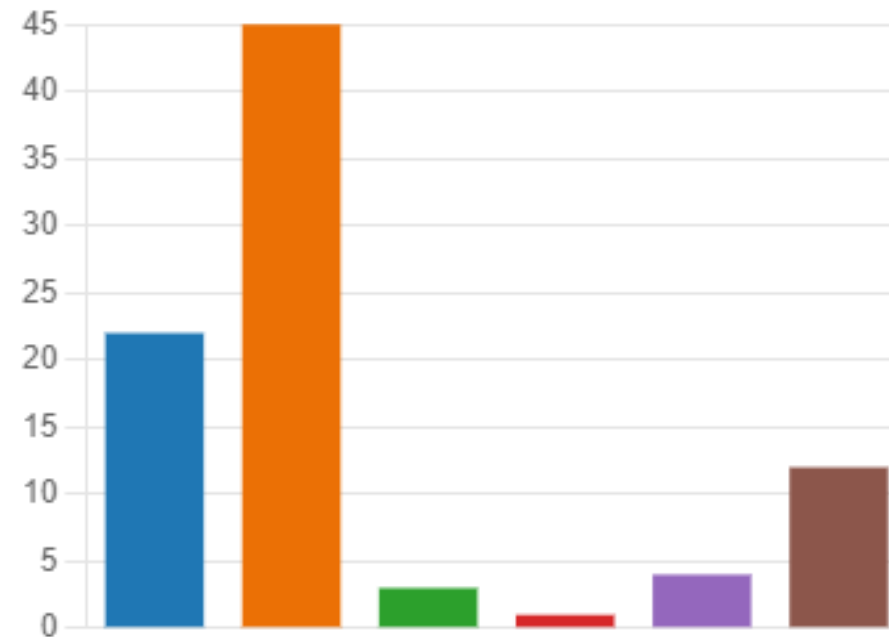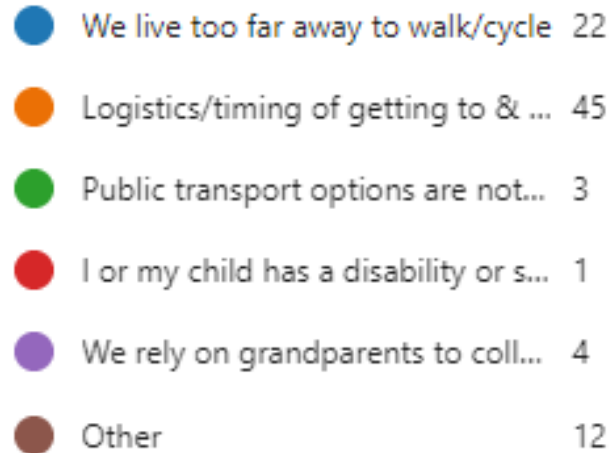
Do you currently take advantage of the parking permit?

🔵	Yes in the morning only	1
🟠	Yes in the afternoon only	22
🟢	Yes morning and afternoon	39
🔴	Occasionally use it	18
🟣	Never use it	7
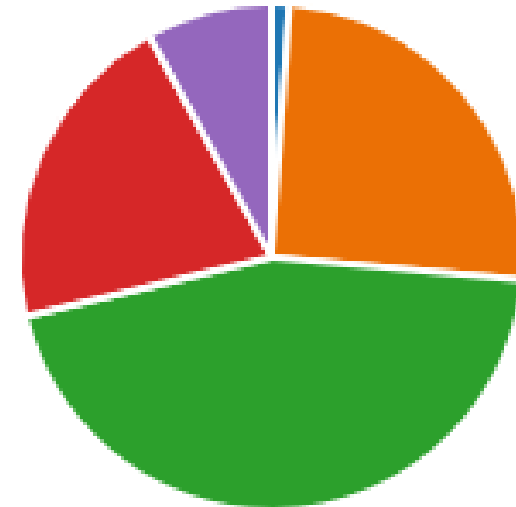
If you could no longer use the parking permit how would this impact you?

We live on the corner of Eastworth Road and Free Prae road and experience the congestion, road chaos and pollution school drop-off creates in this area. By effectively closing off the library parking option you are likely to funnel more traffic onto these two roads. In short, you are making a bad situation unbearable.

Parking on free Prae road and surrounding roads is very congested so I think you will see lots of parents double parking which then becomes dangerous

It will impact financially and it is already a very difficult time

parking around drop off and pick up is too congested already.

I would have to drive to the school and find parking around there. Paying for parking will not be an option for us

Will be late to pick up my children as is hard to found any parking space after I finish work, can't leave working place any earlier.

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Conclusion

- We can see that we do have a significant number of parents who drive their children to school. Although, this is mainly due to the logistics of dropping their children to school, getting to other schools, nurseries, work or simply they live too far away to be able to walk.

- The permits are used, mainly in the afternoon by around 60 families on a daily basis, the impact of not having the permit would mean another 60 cars on the main roads surrounding the school.

- If this option is removed please can the council contact all local residents to advise of your decision and provide us with information on how you plan to control the parking on Free Prae Road & surrounding areas.