

1st April 2025

Dear Parent / Carer,

We are keen to work positively with our community and local primary schools.

Unfortunately, I have had some complaints from Harrogate Hill Primary School and members of the public, regarding the conduct of a small number of our pupils in the community.

Harrogate Hill Primary School

We are aware that some of our children pick up siblings from Harrogate Hill. We have received reports of poor language and inappropriate conversations that can be heard by younger children. When challenged by Harrogate Hill staff, it has been disappointing to hear that, in one or two cases, the staff have been met with rudeness and disrespect.

If your child collects a sibling or relative from Harrogate Hill, we politely ask that you discuss the following with them:

- Mobile phones are not permitted on the school yard - any telephone conversations should be finished before going onto the Harrogate Hill site
- Pupils must dismount from bikes before going through the Harrogate Hill gates
- Please be mindful of language used and be respectful to everyone
- Only children picking up a relative from Harrogate Hill are allowed on site – any other pupils should wait on the roadside, politely and respectfully.

Road Safety

We have recently had reports of a young person riding an electric bike at dangerous speeds on Longfield Road. We have identified this person and the necessary conversations have taken place. However, I would like to use this opportunity to ask parents / carers to speak with their children regarding road safety, reinforcing the safety requirement of a helmet.

Wearing a helmet significantly reduces the risk of head and brain injuries, with studies showing reductions of up to 88% in head injury risk and 65% in fatal head injuries.

It is also important to remind pupils not to ride on the pavement, to dismount at crossings and respect the highway code. [The Highway Code, road safety and vehicle rules - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-highway-code)

Electric bikes will no longer be stored outside the staff entrance in the locked compound.

Headteacher: Angela Sweeten

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If your child has an electric bike and wishes to use it to travel to / from school, they must store it in the bike shed with all other bikes. Although the bike shed is locked during school hours, **please ensure your child also has sufficient locks to protect their bike.** We are not responsible or liable for any lost or stolen items being brought onto school site, this is done at the user's own risk.

Electric assisted pedal cycles (or EAPCs for short) must meet the following DVLA requirements:

- A maximum continuous motor output of 250w
- Motor assistance up to a speed of 15.5mph (but not over this speed)
- The power must be "pedal assist" meaning the pedals must be in motion for power to be delivered. Crucially, this means you cannot use a throttle.
- If your bike ticks these boxes, then you can ride an ebike just like a normal bike, if **you are 14** or over
- You must obey the same traffic laws as cyclists do - i.e. stop at red lights, do not ride on pavements, ride in a safe and responsible manner
- You can use roads or cycle lanes (but you must not ride on dual carriage ways or motorways)

It is against the law to use a privately owned e-scooter on public land. **No child should use an e-scooter for school. They are now banned from school site.** If you use an e-scooter illegally:


- you could face a fine
- you could get penalty points on your licence
- the e-scooter could be impounded

Please take an opportunity to discuss these points if they are applicable to your child.

On a final note, I would like to say that the vast majority of our pupils, your children, are deeply respectful and compliant and are a credit to our community.

We would greatly appreciate your support in these matters to ensure our community remains a safe and pleasant place for all.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Sweeten
Headteacher