



# Swimbridge CE Primary School

*Inspire, Enable and Educate for 'Life in all its Fullness'.*

School Office:

School Email:

Website:

01271 830 437

[admin@swimbridge-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@swimbridge-primary.devon.sch.uk)

[www.swimbridge-primary.devon.sch.uk](http://www.swimbridge-primary.devon.sch.uk)

Dear parents and carers,

I am sure you are fully aware of the challenges we face regarding the traffic situation around the school. There are currently road works on the A361 and people are trying to loop around through Swimbridge. This coupled with inadequate parking, pavements and signage is resulting in a congested road system around the school. Our Chair of Governors who is also an elected member of our Parish Council has previously made a formal request to Highways to upgrade the pavement and signage to prepare for the increase in traffic past the school when we were first informed of the link road improvements. Their response was that there will not be any full closures of the link road - simply a lane restriction policy; hence there should be no increase in traffic through Swimbridge from any diversions. Having seen first-hand the increased volume and challenges the school faces in the lack of signage, parking, pavements and therefore, the potential danger in drop off and pick-ups, we need your help to support your school to make sure North Devon District Council are proactive in supporting us to make the outside areas fit for purpose in order that children are kept safe.

You can do this in a number of ways:

- 1) Can you go to <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/help-and-support/make-a-complaint/highways-feedback-form/> and Click on the "complaint form", and record the "complaint" as a child safety hazard (or similar), with a photo if possible of traffic congestion.
- 2) As a school we need to compile a number of official complaints/concerns that you have regarding the dangers from traffic, lack of parking, pavements (opposite the school) and signage coming into Swimbridge to indicate that they are approaching a school. We also feel that there should be a crossing of sorts going from the pavement on the school side across to the park/playing fields to make this safer for our children in the community. Along with this we need to record "near misses" which we truly hope never happens, but as things stand it could easily be a possibility. So if you can officially raise any concerns to us based on the points above or witness any "near misses" could you please email us on the admin email: [admin@swimbridge-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@swimbridge-primary.devon.sch.uk) so we can gather concrete evidence as to the problems faced.

We will also compile video recordings to support the official process and be in direct contact with Highways as we move forward.

We have spoken to many parents and carers and would like to thank all of you for your support and vigilance with regards to the traffic situation. If possible, could you park closer to the village and walk up to help take some of the weight off the parking. We know this will not be easy for many but we appreciate your support. Hopefully by working as a village and school community we can get those changes made to the outside areas to make it safer for all involved.

Kind regards.

Mathew Harts and Gemma Poland  
Joint Acting Headteachers.

Our school vision is to embrace the spiritual, physical, intellectual, emotional and social development of all.  
We strive for educational excellence by supporting and developing the following values:

**Wisdom**

**Hope**

**Community**

**Dignity**

**Love**