



Eastlands Primary School

Engine idling Facts & Figures Leaflet

Aims:

- To raise awareness of air pollution in
 - a. pupils,
 - b. parent and
 - c. staff
- To promote walking to school
- To promote using alternative modes of transport
- For every Eastlands family to consider how they can contribute to improving air quality around school grounds.



Idling is fuelish



Turn off your engine for cleaner air

Eastlands Primary School

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What is Engine idling

Idling is the running of your engine unnecessarily while your vehicle remains stationary.

Legal Definition: Vehicle idling is an offence against the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) Regulations 2002.

The law states under Rule 123 of the Highway Code that: "You must not leave a vehicle's engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road."

Many vehicles idle in certain hotspots which have sensitive age groups within them, such as children or older people. These include at bus stops, outside of schools or shops or in long traffic pauses. In these cases, idling can be avoided.

Why is it bad?

Idling your engine in this way is highly polluting and can produce twice as many exhaust emissions as an engine in motion. Exhaust emissions contain pollutants, principally carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of nitrogen (NOx), volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and particulates (PM10). These can seriously affect the air quality of the surrounding environment and the air we breathe. Indeed, these pollutants have been linked to asthma and other lung diseases and

approximately 50,000 deaths a year in the UK are linked to air pollution (according to the Lancet Commission on Pollution and Health, 2017). Cutting out vehicle idling within the District will invariably improve air quality in congested areas, but only through awareness and enforcement will idling offences be reduced.

So, if you have to park near school please switch off your engine.

Air pollution

Did you know that air pollution can be 30% higher outside schools because of idling cars? And that 6,500 schools in Britain educating 2.6 million children are in areas where fine particles in the air exceed 'WHO' recommended limits?

Switch off your engine

Turn off your engine when parked, loading or waiting at the roadside as vehicle fumes can damage your health and the environment.

Park & Stride

[Park & Stride](#) is when parents and carers who have to drive to or from school are encouraged to park well away from the school gates and walk the last part. Their children can get the benefits of walking some of the way to school and congestion around the school gates is reduced for everyone.

What can I do to help?

1. Walk to school all or most days
2. Walk, bike or scoot to school (and this will increase your fitness)
3. If you live far away park further away from school so fumes don't build up in the area immediately around school.
4. Use alternate routes to school –
 - a. The pathway from Whinfield Recreation Ground, Clifton Road has been widened. This path leads to the back-school gate or
 - b. Park by the Hart Field Park off Hillmorton Road.
5. Share this message with other parents and continue let school know of unsafe behaviours.
Thank you.



Keeping Our Kids Safe at drop off and Pick Up!



Dear Parents and Carers,

At drop off and pick up times, Lansdowne Place becomes very busy with cars, pedestrians and cyclists. Recently there was a near-miss involving a child and a vehicle.

All children at Eastlands have a right to feel safe, and the school is committed to helping children and families be more active on their journeys to school.

Therefore, we are kindly requesting parents with cars to park away from the school, if possible.

There are two good car parks within easy walking distance of the school, shown on the map overleaf. Both give access to the school via excellent footpaths:

- GEC Recreation Ground car park, Lower Hillmorton Rd is 4-minute walk to school
- Whinfield Recreation Ground car park, Butlin Rd, is a 6-minute walk

Parking away from school has additional benefits besides safety:

- Reduced traffic fumes around school
- Less queueing to get in and out
- Helps the residents of Lansdowne Place
- Walking in the morning can help children feel healthier and more relaxed