

**Safer Mobility Team** 

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Dear Parent/Carer,

## **RE: School Crossing Patrol COVID-19**

We hope that you and your family are well following the recent COVID-19 lockdown.

It is important that we outline changes that are necessary for the reintroduction of your school crossing patrol whilst they work in unusual circumstances. Our aim is always keeping your patrol and all crossing users as safe as possible. The challenge is to comply and integrate the Public Health England Guidance alongside existing road safety protocols; we know that you and your children will be able to assist us in achieving this.

Firstly, please understand that although your patrol may seem less approachable, they are having to work in a different way to maintain their social distancing wherever possible.

We have outlined below some of possible changes you will see, or we ask that you can assist us with;

- Please stand 2 metres (approximately 6 feet) away; the SCP will stand with their back to you, or side by side.
- When approaching the crossing you may want to avoid other waiting pedestrians and be tempted to cross away from the patrol; please avoid this as it increases the risk to you and the SCP
- To minimise overcrowding the SCP will have to make more crossings, possibly longer in duration
- Please listen carefully to the instructions given; do not move forward when the patrol enters the road but wait until you are invited to cross
- When crossing, and if safe to do so, move slightly away from the patrol, but always cross in front of them
- The patrol may be working on the opposite of the road to what you are used to seeing them.
- A 'one-way' crossing may be implemented with priority to those going to school; this assist keeping distance on the crossing
- Your SCP will not be able to accept those hugs and high-5's whilst stood on the pavement and please do not congregate around the patrol.
- SCP's are not required to wear a face mask/covering; however, some may choose to do so to protect you

If you must drive to school, you can also really help your patrol by:

- Where possible, please do not **drive** near schools to avoid delays
- Remember there may need to be more crossings because of social distancing and sometimes longer in duration please be **patient**
- Expect there to be pedestrians who may cross in unexpected places keep your **speed** down around all schools
- Times of patrols at schools may have changed because of staggered arrival/departure times
- When requested to stop, please do so but remember to keep a greater distance with you and the patrol, to allow pedestrians to keep 2m from them as they cross
- Please remain **stationary** until the patrol to leaves the road before moving off
- Please do not stop, wait or drop children off on any yellow line markings

Finally, we thank you in anticipation of keeping support to your school crossing patrol during these 'new' times.

Yours sincerely,

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David Weller Safer Mobility Officer