

Your Ref: HAD TM DC/13/15/DC21

13 September 2021

Dear Sir / Madam,

Thank you for your letter dated 23 August 2021 regarding the meeting of the Tuen Mun District Council on the 14 September 2021. The School is unable to send a representative to the meeting.

The School is continuing to do everything within its power to reduce the traffic congestion with dropping off and picking up but there is more support required from authorities to support our work.

The School has issued the lowest number of drop off permits for the new School year in line with the 2020 Traffic Study Report, and only 50 permits have been issued, with the priority being for our K1 and K2 pupils who do not live on a bus route.

In the mornings, all permit holders are asked to drive via the Crossroads Foundation so as not to cause congestion on Tsing Ying Road and Castle Peak Road roundabout. The School buses will drive up Tsing Ying Road in the mornings.

The School has increased the bus subscription numbers to over 750 per day and are working on increasing this further with our newly appointed bus service supplier. The School has increased the number of buses coming to the School in line with the reduced car permit numbers

Only cars with permits may enter the school at any time. The School Security personnel will turn away any vehicles without permits.

The School has communicated regularly in a robust fashion with all permit holders so they are aware of the times for picking up and not to arrive too early and outlined that anyone without a permit or travelling by taxi should not travel along Tsing Ying Road

Tsing Ying Road is a public road and the School has no jurisdiction outside of the gates for traffic management and especially on the road itself. This has been made very clear to the School by the Police.

The School is aware that a number of cars do drop off and pick up daily on the road without permits. If these cars approach the school, they will be turned away but many of them will simply drop off and pick up on the road away from the School. This is dangerous and illegal due to the double yellow lines and the nature of the road but the School has no authority to exercise anything other than caution.

Vehicles who approach the School too early at pick up time are turned away but many of them will wait out of sight, further down the road nearer to Castle Peak Road. This often delays our buses getting to the School on time.

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The School would be grateful if the concerns we raise about the parking on Tsing Ying Road and the drop off and collection along the road by non permitted vehicles can be brought up at the meeting for discussion as it is only the authorities that can stop this and not the School.

The School needs more of a Police presence and we ask that daily policing and appropriate actions taken for those not abiding by the requests are made a priority.

As stated above the School will continue to do everything within its jurisdiction but we cannot police the road and we require the support on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Nightingale Director of Operations

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