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Bohunt Horsham Headteacher: Ms G Ayling BA (Hons)

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Dear families,

As may already have seen, the Rusper roundabout is now fully operational. This is good news in terms of traffic flow as it is easing congestion to and from the school site and so families who are currently still picking up and dropping off in the Lemmington Way area are hopefully more likely to come onto the school site and use our pick up and drop off areas/car park. It does however, mean that the pedestrian crossings, that weren't a part of the original designs for the roundabout and appeared as part of the infrastructure without our involvement or agreement are also now operational.

We are very concerned about students using these crossings in large numbers, this is because they are likely to queue in numbers that would tail back out of the pavements and into the road – the road is a 40mph limit and this could be very dangerous indeed. As such, as a trial measure, this week we have asked students that only those using bikes/scooters/skateboards etc. use the crossings and all those on foot use the bridge. The bridge is our preferred method – absolutely – but we are trialing this separation to see if keeping those on wheels apart from those on foot makes it feel safer for those on foot. If you/your child would prefer to use the bridge but arrive on wheels we ask that they simply get off and walk their bike/scooter etc. over the bridge.

For the most part, students are following this instruction, we know that a few have ignored the rule and we are periodically staffing the various crossings to deter students from doing this. It's not a perfect system and I personally never wanted pedestrian crossings, seems counter intuitive when we campaigned so hard to get a bridge! So I have called West Sussex, Horsham, Highways and Legal and General and requested a meeting to again ask for buses to be redirected to the school site and to discuss other measures such as traffic calming etc. I will keep you updated as and when I make any progress but I thank you as always for your support. I am sorry I didn't write to you sooner with this update, I was hoping to have more news from the other parties but none is yet forthcoming so I write to you all now.

I wish you all a positive and restful weekend,

With best wishes,
Ms Ayling