



## Parking Lot Safety

A safe and secure learning environment is a priority at Grace Valley Christian Academy. Therefore, we ask parents to observe the following guidelines when dropping-off and picking-up students:

1. **Arrival Time:** Students are not permitted to arrive before 8:00 am, as we have no yard duty on campus before that time. But do ensure that your child arrives at school **by 8:25 am** to line-up on time. Students are to proceed to their respective playgrounds immediately upon their arrival. Students are not permitted to loiter near the south parking lot.
2. **Speed:** A 10 MPH speed limit sign has been posted at the entrance to the school parking lot. Remember to drive slowly, adhering to the posted speed, and following the crossing guard's instructions. There are many children present – do not compromise the safety of others because you feel rushed.
3. **Yield Sign:** Cars exiting from the south parking lot (school side) **MUST** obey the Yield Sign near the entrance of the parking lot. Yielding means giving the right of way to all other cars, whether the car is exiting from the north parking lot (church side) or the car is entering the parking lot from Road 98. Not all the cars entering the parking lot are turning right to go to the south parking lot, many cars proceed straight going to the north parking lot. If you are exiting from the south parking lot and do not yield, you can cause an accident.
4. **Drop-off & Pick-up Area:** The designated drop-off and pick-up area is the yellow curb in front of the science lab. If you wish to avoid the queue, please park your vehicle and **escort your child to/from the yellow curb via the cross walk.**
5. **Cross Walk:** Use the cross walk at all times during the hours of 8 am – 4 pm. Walk only on the asphalt and do not cut through the trees (cars are parking and may not see a child emerging from the trees). Do not cross the parking lot toward the school along the south-most fire lane.
6. **Unattended Vehicles:** You may **NOT** leave your car unattended at any time during school hours (8 am - 4 pm). Unattended vehicles at the yellow curb interrupt the flow of cars passing through the parking lot.
7. **Access Road:** The access road to the east parking lot is closed during school hours (8 am – 4 pm). A chain has been placed at the entrance to the road as a visible reminder.
8. **Pick-up Time:** Make every effort to pick-up your child **by 3:45 pm**. If there is an unforeseen emergency and you cannot be at school by 3:45 pm, contact the school office.
9. **Adult Supervisor & Crossing Guard:** Always follow the directions you are given by the adult supervisor and the crossing guard.
10. **Bicycling to School:** We strongly encourage students who ride their bikes to school to do so accompanied by another student.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

## Bike Safety for GVCA Students

Students coming to and from GVCA on bikes can fall into the habits of routinely riding through stop signs without stopping, as well as conversing or racing with friends while paying no attention to traffic rules or to other bike path users. Please read and discuss proper and safe bike riding procedures with your students before school starts.

### General Considerations

- Don't expect other people to cover for your carelessness. Car drivers may not always see you in time to stop or know how to react if you act in a way inconsistent with traffic rules.
- Don't be in such a rush that you abandon safe riding habits. Better to arrive late in one piece than to have an accident and not arrive at all.
- Remember, bicyclists are required to follow all traffic laws for cars as well as specific laws related to bicycling. That means bicyclists must stop at all stop signs both on the street and along the bike path. STOP means you come to a full stop, look in all directions to see if it is safe, and then cross.

### Specific hazards at intersections along the way to GVCA from Stonegate and West Manor

1. **Lake Blvd. and Arlington:** Very busy intersection between 8:00 am and 8:30 am. Obey signs and crosswalks.
2. **Lake and Marina Circle:** Watch for cars not stopping for the north/south stop signs, and driving fast after stopping at the Portage Bay signs.
3. **Russell and Lake:** Bicyclists must always stop and look all ways before proceeding across Russell Blvd. Be sure oncoming cars are either turning or are very far away before crossing. Be extra careful on foggy days.
4. **Patwin Road and Russell:** The stop sign is for bicyclists, not cars. Always make sure cars are not turning into Patwin from Russell, or coming from Patwin to Russell before proceeding across intersection.
5. **First Baptist parking lot driveways:** Both driveways have blind spots for drivers. Bicyclists should always slow down and make sure there are no cars, or that the cars see them and are stopping.
6. **Road 98 bike lane:** Stay inside the bike lane delineated by the white bollards. Do not ever kick them or try to knock them over. They are there to protect your life from the cars.
7. **GVCC driveway:** Make sure cars exiting GVCC see you as you approach school; then observe the proper way of riding along the edge of the driveway until you reach the sidewalk by the church office.
8. **Russell bike path (coming home from GVCA):** Stop and look to your left to make sure it is clear before turning on to bike path. Bicyclists coming in from the country usually don't stop and are usually riding fast.
9. **Russell and Eisenhower:** Use extreme caution if you cross here. Cars are coming fast from three directions without stop signs, as well as turning onto Russell from Eisenhower. Not recommended for young riders. An alternate route is to ride to Arthur and cross with the light.

### Final Notes

Work out an emergency plan ahead of time with your parents and the parents of the people you ride with. For example, in case of flat tires or accidents, should students split up or stay together and get to school late? Do you try to flag down a GVCA parent or other adult in case of trouble, or keep going?

The goal is to get to school and home safely. Be courteous to other riders, pedestrians, drivers, runners, tree trimmers, phone repair people, and all others who share the bike path with you. Ride single-file when necessary. Ride defensively and anticipate problems.