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RAC comments on plans to fine parents for doing the the school drop-off

Parents and carers around the country are facing new tougher rules which threaten to end the school run as councils and head teachers struggle to manage road safety and air quality pressures.

RAC road safety spokesman Pete Williams said: "Many hard-pressed parents have little option but to drive their children to school as they juggle busy family and work lives but they would also be receptive to measures to improve air quality.

"Idling engines are a major source of pollution so we welcome authorities attempting to address this - however the best way to do this is to encourage parents to do this without a rush to hand out fines. Local authorities should work closely with schools to make it clear that leaving an engine running is not only bad for fuel economy, but is contributing to poor air quality around the school. We welcome an approach to educate drivers with signs and banners outside schools encouraging engines to be switched of or risk being fined."

The press office email address is press.office@rac.co.uk and media centre is at media.rac.co.uk. Please note: the press office is unable to help with individual customer enquiries - please visit the RAC contacts page to find the right contact.

About the RAC

The RAC, an iconic UK brand, provides complete peace of mind to nearly 14 million UK private and business drivers, whatever their motoring needs. As well as its premium nationwide breakdown assistance service – with an expert branded patrol workforce attending more than two million breakdowns every year – it offers a wide range of market-leading products across insurance, legal services, vehicle inspections and service, maintenance and repair. Included in this is the first-of-its-kind nationwide Mobile Mechanics service which brings the garage to homes and workplaces.

At the forefront of new solutions for business fleets and consumers, the RAC's breakdown service is electric-ready with mobile EV charging technology and can be called on using myRAC – the all-in-one route planner, fuel finder and breakdown reporting app.

Visit the RAC website.

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