

Islington School Streets F.A.Q's

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1. What is a School Street?

A School Street is a road near a school that temporarily closes to become a pedestrian and cycle zone during the school's opening and closing times. School Streets are designed to improve air quality and reduce road danger near schools, and to encourage more pupils (and their parents and carers) to travel actively to school, by walking, scooting or cycling.

The first School Street in Islington was delivered in 2019 and following this successful pilot Islington Council delivered 15 school streets across the borough. As part of the people-friendly streets programme, the council committed to accelerate the delivery of School Streets with an aim to deliver all feasible School Streets by the end of 2020. A further 14 schools were implemented by September 2020 taking the total number of School Streets in Islington to 29.

2. Why are they being installed now?

To improve air quality and provide space for social distancing outside schools at drop off and pick up times. Walking and cycling has become a more preferred method of travel as a result of the COVID 19 crisis, which has increased the urgency to deliver School Streets.

As part of the Council's commitment to improve all residential areas in Islington to create a healthy, fair, accessible and enjoyable environment. Safer streets that are easier for walking, cycling, using buggies and wheelchairs. School Streets helps to deliver these objectives further.

As more people may choose to drive as lockdown restrictions are eased, this is predicted to increase, making streets more dangerous and unhealthy for the people who live on them. This is why we are taking action now.

3. How do they work?

The streets around the school temporarily become a **pedestrian and cycle zone only** at set times in the morning and afternoon, during term time only. Residents who live within the restriction will be exempted from the scheme.

Vehicles are not allowed to enter the zone unless they have been granted exemption.

4. What times are the restrictions in force?

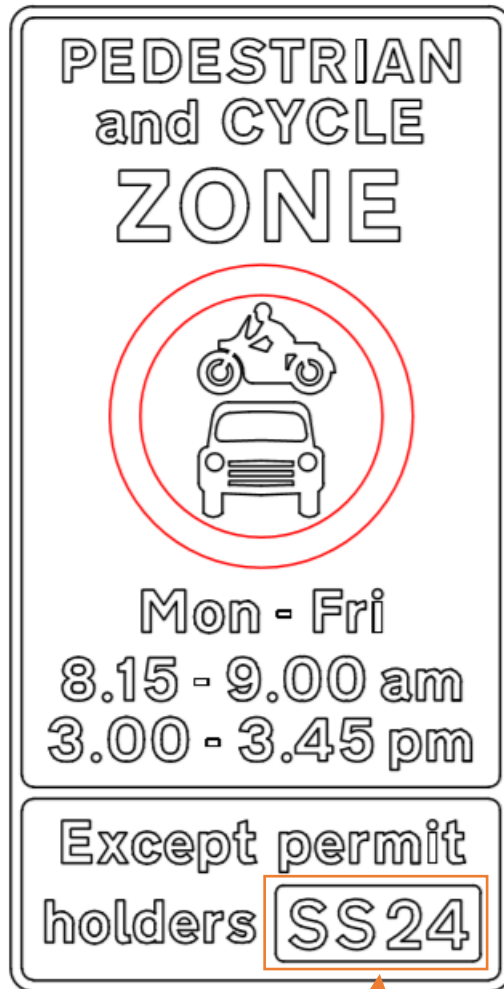
The schemes operate for set periods during the morning and afternoon pick-up and drop-off times during school term. They will not operate during school holidays or weekends. The length of each restriction is usually between 45-60 minutes, often longer in the afternoon when schools may have staggered finish times. Vehicles are not allowed to enter the scheme between these times unless they have been granted exemption.

5. What restrictions will be in place?

Vehicles will not be able to enter the streets between the times of operation unless they have been given an exemption. The times of operation of each school street are clearly displayed on the signs on the entrances to every school street. The School Street is a pedestrian and cycle only zone.

6. How will I know it is a School Street?

Advance signs inform drivers of the restrictions on both sides of the road at the entrance to the street. Temporary warning signs are installed in advance of the restrictions going live to notify drivers when enforcement will start and will be removed once the scheme is live. When the scheme is not in operation, the signs are be closed and not visible to the public, for example school holidays. Below is an example of one of the School Street signs which can be found at the start of the School Street zones:



Example School Street Sign (Please note the permit identifier and operational timings will differ at each School Street).

7. How will the School Street schemes be enforced?

Non-registered vehicles entering the street during the times of operation will be identified by a fixed ANPR camera and issued a fixed penalty notice (FPN). Advanced warning signs are installed leading up to the School Street, in addition to camera enforcement warning signs that notify non-exempt drivers that the School Street zone is enforced.

8. Exemptions (Virtual Permits)

If you are a resident or business within a School Street zone who has an on-street Islington parking permit for your vehicle, your vehicle's registration will automatically be added to our list of exempted vehicles, meaning you do not need to apply for an exemption. Please note this is a virtual permit so you will not receive anything in the post.

If you live on a housing estate and the only access to your property is via a School Street zone, then you must get in contact with us at schoolstreets@islington.gov.uk to apply for an exemption.

If you change your vehicle, do not have an Islington parking permit or you have recently moved in to the School Street zone and your new address is one of the exempted addresses, it is your responsibility to tell us and register a new number plate for the exemption using the above email address.

Blue Badge holders can contact us to apply to be put on the exemption list if they need to use one of the School Street roads for access purposes only. Blue Badge holders are not permitted to use the road as a through route.

9. Vehicles not permitted to enter the School Street zone

Only exempted vehicles are permitted to enter the zone during the times of operation. Vehicles that are not permitted to enter the zone include (but is not limited to) trades vehicles, delivery vehicles, contractors, school staff, visitors, parents and carers. Local residents are exempt, and blue badge holders can apply for exemption (see above).

All deliveries must be made outside of the School Street operational hours.

10. I am a resident of a School Street, what do I need to know? Can I drive in and out of my street during operating times?

Residents with an Islington parking permit living within the zone will be automatically added to the exemption list. This will allow you to pass through the restrictions when they are closed to general traffic. It is your

responsibility to tell the council if you change your vehicle and therefore need to update your Vehicle Registration Number (VRN).

If you need to drive during the times of operation, please be aware there will be many children using the pavement and in the road so you should exercise extra caution. You may prefer to plan your journey so you are driving before or after the operational times.

11. I'm a Blue Badge holder, can I apply for an exemption?

Yes, but only if you need access to the street. You must apply for an exemption so the council can assess your application before making a decision as to whether you are eligible. If you are granted an exemption, you must only use the road for access purposes and not as a through-route during the hours of operation.

12. I'm a parent/carer of a child, can I apply for an exemption?

Parents and carers dropping off their children will not be eligible for an exemption. You can only be granted an exemption if you or your child are a Blue Badge holder and you require access to the school that they attend, or if you live within the School Street zone.

13. Can I drive if I am already parked in a school street when the restriction comes into force?

All vehicles already parked in the street before the times of operation will be able to leave without incurring a fixed penalty notice (FPN) when the zone is in operation.

14. How long will each scheme last?

The council is implementing a number of School Street schemes as a trial under an Experimental Traffic Order and monitoring the benefits over an 18-month period. At the end of the 18-month period, which will include a

public consultation 12-months into the scheme and consistent monitoring throughout; a decision will be made whether to make the scheme permanent or remove the School Street altogether.

15. How can I have my say?

To ensure that you can have your say on how the measures are working, we have chosen to implement the schemes on a temporary basis, under an Experimental Traffic Order. This means that during the first six months you can give us your views on how the measures are working and we can make any necessary changes so that the School Street works as well as possible. For more information, including on how you can object to or comment on the measures, please see the FAQ on how Experimental Traffic Orders work.

You will also have a further chance to have your say on whether we make the School Street permanent, change it or remove it. A full public consultation will take place after 12 months to find out what you think of the measures. This will allow enough time for you to experience the changes and for traffic patterns to have settled down.

Based on feedback and monitoring data, we will decide whether the measures will be changed, made permanent or removed at the end of the 18-month trial period.

16. How will the scheme be monitored?

Monitoring will be carried out consistently throughout the 18-month trial period and will consist of traffic counts, traffic displacement, air quality and through the use of traffic surveys. The safety and environmental impact of the scheme will also be monitored. The data will be analysed in due course and some data will be published as part of the formal consultation, 12 months into the trial period.

17. How will the success of the scheme be measured?

Ultimately children and families will feel happier and safer walking and cycling to school. The area outside of schools will be visibly calmer (less traffic), cleaner and quieter during drop-off and pick-up times. Data such as travel modes (such as by car, on foot or by bicycle), traffic flow, speeds and air quality will be collected and compared to before and during the trial period. The school community and local residents will also be offered give their views on the scheme.

18. What is an Experimental Traffic Order?

An Experimental Traffic Order is like a permanent Traffic Regulation Order in that it is a legal document that imposes traffic and parking restrictions. However, unlike a Traffic Regulation Order an ETO can only stay in force for a maximum of 18 months while the effects are monitored and assessed.

An ETO is made under Sections 9 and 10 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Once an ETO comes into force there is a six month period in which objections can be made. If the ETO is subsequently modified, objections can be made in the six months following from the date of the changes.

Any formal objection must be in writing, must refer to the relevant area, and must state the grounds on which it is made. Objections should be sent to:

Email: PublicRealm@islington.gov.uk

Post: Public Realm, 1 Cottage Road, London, N7 8TP.

Please note that that any formal objection that is submitted may become a public document and could be published.

In addition to the objection period described above there will be a second opportunity to have your say during the full public consultation which will take place after 12 months to find out what you think of the measures. Based on feedback and monitoring data, we will decide whether the

measures will be changed, made permanent or removed at the end of the 18-month trial period.

19. What schools are part of the School Streets Scheme?

Existing:

Ambler Primary School and Children's Centre (Romily Road)

Ashmount Primary School (Hornsey Rise Gardens)

Drayton Park Primary School (Avron Road)

Duncombe Primary School (Sussex Way and Hatchard Road)

Hanover Primary School (Noel Road)

Hugh Myddleton Primary School (Gloucester Way, Myddelton Street, Garnault Place, Whiskin Street and Meredith Street)

Moreland Primary School (Moreland Street, Pickard Street and Gard Street)

Rotherfield Primary School (Elizabeth Avenue)

St John Evangelist RC Primary School (Duncan Street)

St Mark's CoFE Primary School (Sussex Way, Whewell Road, Landseer Road and Alexander Road)

St Peter and St Paul RC Primary School (Compton Street and Cyprus Street)

Winton Primary School (Killick Street and Collier Streer)

Yerbury Primary School (Tytherton Road, Yerbury Road and Foxham Road)

Copenhagen Primary School (Treaty Street)

Laycock Primary School (Laycock Street)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Primary School (Boudicea Street)

Gillespie Primary School (Gillespie Road)

Hargrave Park Primary School (Hargrave Park)

Pooles Park Primary School (Hatley Street and Playford Street)

St Andrew's (Barnsbury) CofE Primary School (Matilda Street)

St John's Highbury Vale Primary School (Conewood Street and Legard Road)

St Jude and St Paul's CofE Primary School (Kingsbury Road, Kingsbury Terrace and Burder Close)

St Mary Magdalene Academy (Primary) (Lough Road and Bride Street)

St Mary's CofE Primary School (Fowler Road)

The Gower School (Cynthia Street)

Thornhill Primary School (Thornhill Road and Lofting Road)

Tufnell Park Primary School (Carleton Road and Dalmeny Road)

Vittoria Primary School (Half Moon Crescent, Maygood Street and Eckford Street)

Whitehall Park Primary School (Ashmount Road and Gresley Road)

Schools Streets to be delivered by December 2020

St John's Upper Holloway CofE Primary School (Pemberton Gardens)

St Paul's Steiner Primary School (Marquess Road)

Grafton Primary School (Eburne Road and Hercules Street)

William Tyndale Primary School (Sable Street)

The Children's House School (King Henry's Walk and St Jude Street)

Hungerford Primary School & The Bridge Primary School (Hungerford Road)

For further information please contact:

Email: schoolstreets@islington.gov.uk