

School Streets FAQs

What is a School Street?

A School Street is a timed road closure at the beginning and the end of the school day designed to improve safety for the children and parents using the school. The school Street will be enforced by moveable barriers manned by trained volunteers. This is achievable via a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) and will last for a maximum of an hour at the beginning and end of the day. In practice, most schools find they do not need to use the full hour they have been allocated.

What is the purpose of a School Street?

- To create a safer and more pleasant environment for families arriving at school, while also tackling congestion and reducing risk from motorised vehicles
- To encourage active travel to and from school, which has many benefits to children's physical and mental health and wellbeing.
- To improve air quality in the immediate area outside of the school
- To encourage a long-lasting mode shift away from the car

When are the School Street restrictions in force?

Restricted vehicle access would be in place at set times around drop-off and pick-up on weekdays during school term time. A School Street does not operate during school holidays, inset days or at weekends. Please see your school's website for more information including maps, TTRO's and specific closure times.

What if I'm already parked inside the School Street zone when it comes into operation?

All vehicles already parked in the street before the times of operation would be able to leave when they need to. The volunteer stewards will be able to let you in and out of the School Street closure. However, we ask that where possible residents and businesses avoid moving their vehicles or arranging deliveries during these times, in order to keep traffic in the School Street to a minimum.

Who is exempt from School Streets restrictions?

Specific arrangements differ between School Streets, but in all cases blue badge holders and emergency vehicles would be able to enter the School Street zone during the closure times. Additional exemptions may include home to school transport and children or parents with mobility issues. It is important to remember that all School Streets operate on a trial basis to begin with, and exemptions would be one aspect of the scheme that would be examined based on feedback during the trial.

I'm a blue badge holder, would I still be able to access the School Street zone?

Yes. Blue badge holders would be able to enter the School Street zone. You would be required to drive at walking pace within the zone to ensure the safety of people within it.

I'm a parent or carer, could I drive into the School Street zone?

No. Parents or carers dropping children at school are not able to drive into a School Street zone unless they can show that they are exempt. If you do need to drive you will be able to park on nearby streets and walk or wheel the rest of the journey to school.

How long do School Streets last?

School Streets are implemented on a trial basis, using Temporary Traffic Orders (TTRO's). The trial period will be for seven weeks. If the trial is judged to be successful based on the results of monitoring and feedback from the school community and local residents, we will explore options to make the School Street permanent.

Who do I contact if I want to find out more about a School Street in my area?

A dedicated email address has been created specifically for School Streets in Portsmouth!

Please contact:

schoolstreets@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

*Please allow five working days for a response

A survey will also be launched about half way through the closure to enable everyone to give detailed feedback about the scheme.