



Redbridge School Streets Consultation

Highlands Primary School



Consultation Letter



Ambitious for Redbridge

Dear Resident,

REDBRIDGE SCHOOL STREETS CONSULTATION HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Redbridge Council has a School Streets programme which aims to create an active, safe and healthy environment near schools. The Council is now proposing to implement School Streets at Highlands Primary School as part of its plans for a Greener Redbridge and the "Our Streets" programme to create great streets and neighbourhoods. This will protect children from traffic at the school gate, ensure that children breathe cleaner air, and encourage more children, parents and carers to travel actively and walk, scoot and cycle to school. School Streets also help to reduce congestion and pollution on the rounds surrounding schools. We're reaching out to residents living on or near the proposed School Street scheme to provide you with some information and to let you know how you can have your say.

WHAT IS A SCHOOL STREET?

A School Street is where non-residential motor vehicles from outside the School Street zone are restricted from entering the designated zone and travelling past school entrances during the schools' start and finish times. School Streets operate during term time only. Traffic signs at the entrance to the School Street zone will inform drivers of the time that the restrictions will operate. Redbridge already has numerous School Street zones in place across the borough that have proved successful at making the school journeys safer and healthier. They are popular with residents, parents, children and schools. Further evidence demonstrating the effectiveness of School Streets can be found at <http://schoolstreets.org.uk/resources/>.

WHY IS THIS SCHEME BEING PROPOSED?

School Streets aim to:

- Improve air quality near schools which has positive health benefits for children. Exposure to poor air quality is now acknowledged as being a cause of death in children.
- Reduce congestion and the risk of accidents to make streets safer
- Reduce traffic on the road and improve traffic flows at school drop off and pick-up times
- Make it safer for school children to cross the road with fewer cars parked or waiting and obstructing visibility
- Create a healthier street environment
- Make it easier for local residents who drive to enter and exit their street
- Encourage families to walk, scoot and cycle to school. In 2019/20, one in four children in Redbridge were finishing primary school obese.

We always carry out evaluation and monitoring of the School Street schemes and impacts to assess if any changes are needed to improve the operation of the zone.

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THE PROPOSAL

It is proposed that during term time only, non-residential vehicular traffic - cars, vans and lorries, which do not belong to residents living in the school street zone or businesses located in the zone will be restricted from driving along certain roads in the vicinity of the school at school start and finish times.

Residents and businesses with vehicles registered to an address within the restriction area will be able to apply for a free exemption from the restriction by notifying the Council of their vehicle details.

The roads that are proposed for inclusion in the School Streets scheme are:

- Lennox Gardens
- Highlands Gardens between junctions with Wanstead Park Road and Stanhope Gardens

These roads are shown on the below map and have been chosen as the entrances/exits to the school are located on these, or adjacent roads.

The proposed times of the restriction are between:

- Morning: 08.15 – 09:15
- Afternoon: 14.30 – 15:45

These times have been proposed after discussions with the school.

The restriction will be indicated by advanced signage, and signage at the relevant junctions. It will be enforced by traffic enforcement camera. A Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) will be issued to the owner of any vehicle that breaks the restriction.

WHAT OTHER SUPPORTING MEASURES ARE THE COUNCIL TAKING?

The Council's Smarter Travel Team will work with the school to further develop their School Travel Plan and to increase the numbers of children walking and cycling to school. Measures considered include:

- Improving footways and pedestrian crossings
- Placing drop kerbs at desirable crossing locations
- Improving cycle routes and cycle facilities
- Setting up a 'walking bus' programme where local children walk together to school, accompanied by a responsible adult.

Statutory Consultation

School Streets zones are legally enforceable. The council will implement School Streets by making a Traffic Management Order (TMO) which is the statutory basis for restricting motor vehicles from entering the School Street zone.

Any objections and other representations to the proposed Order must be made in writing stating the grounds on which they are made and sent by email to: schoolstreetsdesign@redbridge.gov.uk or by writing to: School

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Streets Team, 2nd Floor (Front), Lynton House, 255-259 High Road, Ilford, IG1 1NY within 21 days from the date of this letter.

WHAT ROAD USERS ARE PERMITTED TO ACCESS THE SCHOOL STREET?

Exemptions will be available for the following:

- Residents living within the zone
- Businesses located within the zone
- Emergency Vehicles
- Black Cabs
- Council Refuse Collection Vehicles
- School buses (Passenger Transport buses operated by the Council)
- Carers
- Other exemptions may be granted on a case by case basis

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

We'd like to hear your views on the proposed School Street scheme for Highlands Primary School. You can get involved and have your say, highlight any issues or raise any suggestions by completing the form on our website at: <https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/roads-and-pavements/redbridge-school-streets/>. All responses should be received by **23:59 on Wednesday 27th July 2022**.

Attend one of our pop-up information sessions which will be held at each School Streets location between 27 June and 8 July 2022. Please check the above School Streets website for further details.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

We welcome your feedback during this public consultation. All comments will be analysed and considered carefully before a final decision is made on implementing a School Streets zone. The decision will then be publicised, and the Council will write to all respondees advising them of the decision. The Council will also write to the residents and businesses located within the School Streets zone to inform them of how they can obtain their free vehicle exemption.

Yours Sincerely,

Redbridge School Streets Team

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Figure: Highlands Primary School - Proposed School Streets

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