

# Mounts Bay Academy School Street FAQs

## What are School Streets?

School Streets temporarily restrict motor vehicle access into streets near school entrances during school opening and closing times. They help to encourage families to walk, scoot or cycle to school, making the area outside the school safer for all.

## What is the aim of a School Street?

The main aim of a School Street is to reduce the amount of traffic on the roads around a school. There are many benefits for everyone from doing this, including:

- Reduce congestion
- Allow school buses to enter and exit the school without traffic backing up onto Madron Road
- Create a safer, calmer environment
- Help to improve air quality outside the school
- Encourage walking, wheeling and cycling to school

## How does a School Street work?

A specific street or a section of the street around a participating school will temporarily restrict non-essential motor vehicle access at set times in the morning and afternoon. Vehicles will not be allowed to enter the street during operating times unless they are exempt.

Signs and barriers at the entrances to the scheme will inform drivers of the restriction. Advanced warning signs will be installed where necessary. Stewards at the barriers will grant access for residents of the street, or for disabled access, emergency vehicles, etc.

## How long will this be in place?

The School Street is currently a trial scheme and will be in place for up to 6 months. Cornwall Council will be monitoring the impact of the measures, and the scheme will undergo a full review at the end of the trial period.

There will be an opportunity for members of the public to provide feedback via consultation in the first 6 months of the trial.

## What times will the restriction apply?

The School Street will be in place from **08:00 – 09:00 and 14:00 – 15:30** every weekday during term time.

### **Are these schemes legal?**

Yes. An experimental traffic regulation order (ETRO) has been put in place, which allows the road to be closed by law, at set times. If the trial period is successful and the outcome of any consultation is positive, the scheme can be made permanent by putting in a traffic regulation order (TRO). Local authorities can implement TROs to help manage the highways network for all road users, improving safety and access.

### **As a parent/carer taking my child to school, can I drive into the School Street?**

During the restricted times, you will not be allowed to enter the School Street in a vehicle, unless you have prior agreement with the school (for example, you or your child is a Blue Badge holder), are a resident of the School Street, or have a business premises in the street.

You will still be able to walk, cycle or scoot to school. If that's not an option for you, you will be able to drive and park nearby and walk the final section.

### **Where do I park if I can't park outside the school?**

We recommend parking safely and legally on one of the surrounding roads and then walking the short distance to the school.

### **Will school staff be allowed to enter the School Street?**

No. School staff are not on the exemption list for the ETRO. We would encourage all school staff to arrive at and leave the school outside of the operating hours where possible. If you do arrive during the closure period or need to leave while it is in place, please consider parking away from the school and walking in if possible.

### **Could this create congestion on surrounding streets?**

A recent review of evidence from several School Street schemes around the UK and abroad showed that in almost all cases, the total number of cars on streets around the school and local area, reduced significantly.

Furthermore, there is no evidence to show that moving cars away from the roads around a school causes road safety problems elsewhere in the local area.

### **What if I am already parked inside the scheme when it comes into operation?**

Other drivers who want to access the School Street must arrive outside the hours of operation, or they can temporarily park outside the zone and then move their vehicle once the timed restrictions end.

Vehicles already parked within the School Street area before the restrictions start will **not** be able to leave unless they have an exemption.

### **How can I give my views once the School Street closures begin?**

You can email your feedback to [mountsbayss@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:mountsbayss@sustrans.org.uk)

## **FAQs for residents**

### **Can I drive in and out of my street when the road is closed?**

Yes. Residents will be permitted to enter or leave the designated School Street during operating times. The stewards will let you through the barriers; they may ask you to confirm your address. As there may be children and families in the road, anyone needing to drive through the restricted area is asked to limit their speed to walking pace (approx. 5mph) for everybody's safety and comfort.

### **Will my carer be able to get to my property?**

Yes. Carers can enter and leave the scheme at any time to carry out their caring duties. They may be asked to show their work ID to the stewards on the barrier.

### **What about deliveries to my property?**

Royal Mail deliveries are permitted. We would ask residents to try to schedule deliveries outside the restricted times. If this is not possible, delivery drivers will be permitted to enter the road closure.

### **What about tradespeople coming to my house to carry out work?**

Access for tradespeople will still be allowed, although we would ask residents to make them aware of the School Street and try and schedule them outside the restricted times if possible.

### **What if there's an emergency?**

Emergency service vehicles will be able to access the street while the restrictions are in place.

## **FAQs for volunteer stewards.**

### **What if first aid is needed?**

In an emergency, call 999. Report all other first aid situations to your point of contact at the school.

### **What happens if someone ignores the barrier and drives straight through?**

Do not attempt to stop the car or put yourself in any danger. Alert others to the danger by using your whistle. Use the School Street notepad to log the incident. Include any information you can that will help to identify the person including car make, model, colour, registration. Note down the time and date of the incident and the details of any witnesses.

### **What if cars arrive before the closure is in place, are they able to leave?**

Any cars that arrive before the closure is in place will not be able to leave once the road is closed unless they are on the list of exemptions.

### **Can school staff come through the closure?**

School staff will be encouraged to set a good example by arriving and leaving outside of the closure times or parking outside of the School Street.