St James School Street FAQ's

1. What is a School Street?

A School Street is a timed road closure which reduces vehicular traffic into the restricted area, supporting active travel, reducing vehicle movement and creating a safer and more pleasant start and end to the day. School streets operate Monday to Friday during term-time using signs to denote their presence. The extended School Streets proposed for St James's Catholic School are proposed to operate Monday to Friday between 8.00 to 9am and 2.00 to 4pm, term time only. These are the same operation hours as the existing School Street on Stanley Road. For School Street term times please visit our locations webpage where you can find a timetable for all School Street operating hours.

2. What does it look like?

For an experimental trial School Street, not a lot changes on site except that yellow backed School Street signs (shown below) are installed and where necessary, we also install advance warning signs ahead of the School Street entrance.



This proposal is being implemented to support school safety improvement engineering measures on Wellesley Road which forms part of this consultation, although each will be reviewed independently.

If the trial scheme is approved to be made permanent, it will be enhanced with our new entry treatment that is being rolled out at permanent School Streets in the borough (an example is shown below, but each location is designed with it particular road layout in mind)



3. How is it managed?

The proposal is to manage the extended St James's School Street with signage only. It is not proposed to install ANPR cameras to enforce these School Streets and for that reason exemption applications will not be necessary if a trial is approved.

More information on who is eligible for exemption can be found on our School Street Exemptions webpage.

4. Will I be inconvenienced?

The following drivers may apply for exemption from the restrictions:

- Residents and businesses
- Blue Badge holders – visiting a property in the School Street
- Medical and healthcare professionals or carers – visiting a property in the School Street
- AfC or SEN transport – visiting a property in the School Street
- Pre-approved by school or nursery – only if an exemption letter is signed by the school or nursery
- Pre-approved by exemption team – only if advised by the council's exemption team

- Other - Private taxi hire, emergency utility call outs, service providers, builders, overnighting house/hotel guests

The scheme will restrict access to parents/guardians and non-essential road users during peak school times.

Emergency vehicles are automatically exempt.

All parked vehicles can exit the School Street at any time without contravening the restriction.

5. Won't the parents/guardians park in the next available street?

A new School Street takes a few months for everyone to adjust to the changes, but as parents/carers are having to park further away some may find active travel and park and stride a more convenient option. Parking then becomes dispersed wider and is less concentrated than before.

The result is a safer and healthier environment outside the school gate. Schools have always been encouraged to promote park and stride to parents as part of their school travel plans. We also undertake post-implementation traffic counts around the area and travel to school surveys, which we compare with baseline data.

6. What do you mean by trialling the School Street under an experimental traffic order?

This is a pre-trial consultation and is the first step towards seeking your views on the proposals.

If supported, School Streets are first implemented with an experimental traffic order (ETO) as a trial. This allows the council to reopen the consultation and gather views from residents and businesses as well as the school community, during the first 6 months of the trial whilst they are experiencing the impacts of the School Street live. It also allows the council to monitor the impacts and make any necessary amendments to the scheme.

After a few months we monitor traffic counts and ask the school to undertake travel to school surveys in the area and compare these against baseline (pre installation) data to see what impacts the School Street has had in the area.

Results of this consultation, along with the monitoring data, will help inform the decision whether to make permanent, amend or remove the School Street after the 6-month trial consultation closes.

For more information, please visit our School Street webpages.

7. Process, timeline and decision making:

Autumn Term 2026

- Baseline Monitoring data undertaken (traffic counts and travel to school survey)
- Online pre-trial consultation on school safety measures and a support School Street with public and school community
- Consultation feedback and monitoring data reviewed and reported to local ward councillors and Transport and Air Quality (TAQ) Committee Chair and Vice Chair
- Delegated Decision signed before proceeding with Traffic Orders and trial

Spring Term 2027

- Launch TMO for School Safety Measures and ETMO School Street trial respectively with reopened School Street consultation for 6 months

Roughly 6 months after launching School Street ETMO/trial

- Undertake post implementation monitoring for comparison with baseline
- Close consultation
- Report School Street consultation feedback and monitoring data to local ward councillors and Transport and Air Quality (TAQ) Committee Chair and Vice Chair to steer a decision on whether to make the School Street permanent, amend or remove it.

Up to 18 months from the ETO/trial launch

- Action any decision to make permanent with an new permanent traffic order and installation of the School Street enhanced gateway similar to above image