

Parents / Guardians

Date: 26th September 2024

Contact: Sustainable Travel Team

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Dear Parent / Guardian

UPDATE ON 'SCHOOL STREET' AT KINGSLEIGH PRIMARY & THE BOURNE ACADEMY



Further to our letter in July and following the initial engagement period, I wanted to update you on the 'School Street' trial planned at Kingsleigh Primary and The Bourne Academy. Feedback from the engagement indicated that the majority of respondents supported the School Street, which is now due to start on **14th October 2024**

The Kingsleigh Primary and The Bourne Academy trial 'School Street' will be in Hadow Road and will be in operation for a minimum of six months, during which a further public consultation will take place. This section of Hadow Road will be closed to motor vehicles via a timed Traffic Order, displayed on signs at the entrance to the road, for a short period at the beginning and end of the school day. Timing of the restrictions will be 08:15am until 09:00am and 14:45pm until 15:45pm.

School Streets have been very effective elsewhere, by:

- Reducing road danger at the place where the most children and their families are likely to congregate
- Improving the air quality outside the school, protecting young lungs
- Encouraging physical activity into the children's routine, which makes them healthier, happier, more energised and ready to learn.

During the closure times, parents and carers are asked to either walk, wheel, scoot or cycle with their children to school, or to park a little further away and walk the last few minutes of the journey. Stewards will be present at the barriers to help enforce this and to welcome families

arriving at the School Street on foot, scooter or bicycle. Parent volunteers are needed to help make this a success and to keep it going. If you would be interested in volunteering to help steward the School Street, please email BCPSchools@sustrans.org.uk for further information. All volunteers will be provided with the necessary training and guidance.

Blue Badge holders, residents, businesses (including those making deliveries on the street) and their clients, carers and school transport providers that require access into the closed section of the School Street will be able to enter and leave the zone during the times of operation. Emergency services will of course also be permitted access.

Sustrans 'Bike It' officers have been working with the school to educate and enthuse the children about active travel and will be encouraging those parents/guardians who currently drive, to consider leaving their car at home or to park further away and walk some of the distance. We have also been liaising with the Police and Civil Enforcement Officers regarding parking issues in the area. Monitoring will take place during the trial and a formal six-month consultation will enable people to feed back to the Council during this time. This feedback will help inform the final decision about whether or not to make the scheme permanent. The consultation survey will be available on the Council website after the School Street starts running, and further information can also be found there:

www.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/SchoolStreets

Kingsleigh Primary and The Bourne Academy will be among the first schools in the BCP Council area to benefit from a School Street and we hope that you and your children will find it makes a positive difference to the school day.

Yours faithfully

Emily Cooper
Sustainable Travel Team
BCP Council