

Parking Services
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The Occupier

«Address1»

«Address2»

«Address3»

«Address4»

Contact: Parking Services
frede.jensen@croydon.gov.uk
Our Ref: PS/FJ/P813
Date: 7 October 2020

Dear Occupier

Proposed amendment to School Street times

I am writing to notify you of a consultation on a proposal to change the operating hours in the School Street in your road, as per the attached information.

The statutory Public Notice is also attached. This Notice is further published in the London Gazette and Local Guarding newspaper. If you wish to comment or object to the proposal then please respond by **29th October 2020** as described in the Notice.

More information on the Council's decision to consider this proposal can be found here: <https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=173&MIId=2262&Ver=4> (item 8). I apologise for the complicated direct link text, but the page can also be found on the Council's website under: *Council meetings > Traffic Management Advisory Committee > meeting date 8th July 2020 > item 8.*

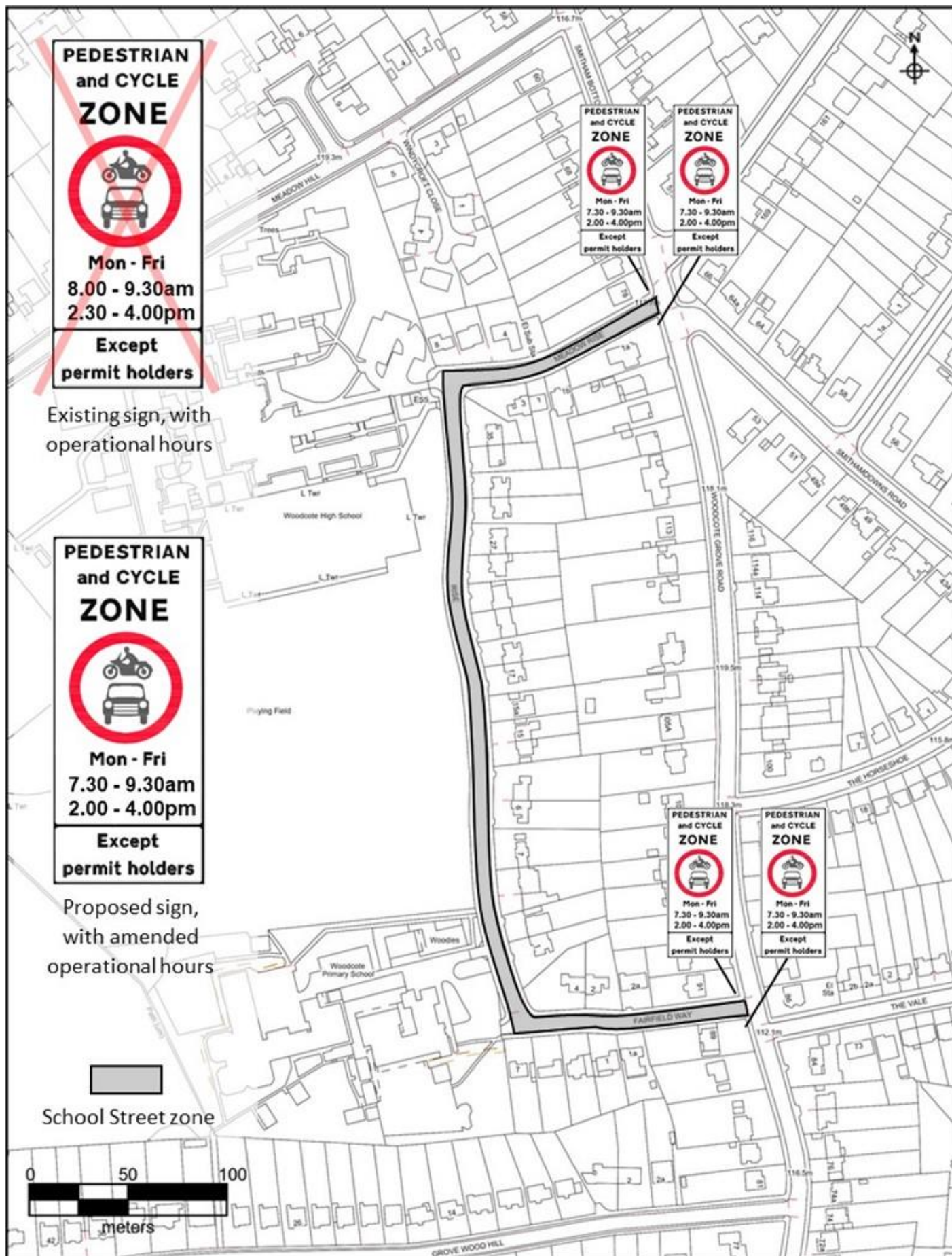
In summary, the Woodcote School Street is unique in having retained a 2.30pm afternoon starting time, when the 20 other active School Streets in the borough all start at 2.00pm. As the school intake has grown, so has the competition for car-borne pick-up space. Consequently, an increasing number of school parents now drive into and park-up in the School Street before 2.30pm, to wait for 45min until the school day ends. The Highway Code for the pedestrian zone (School Street) sign allows for the car to drive out of the road at any time. Secondly, there are also an increasing number of older students driving their own cars to school. When arriving just before the 8.00am morning start time, these cars can park-up in the residential road all day. The proposed 7.30am start time would deter some all-day parking and help prioritise pedestrian and distancing space in the road.

All responses to the Public Notice will be considered before a decision is made regarding the operating hours. If it is decided to go ahead with the change, or a variant of the change, then it could possibly be implemented in about 6 weeks from now.

Please let me know if you require clarification or further information.

Yours faithfully,

Frede Jensen
Project Manager



Frequently Asked Questions

What is a School Street?

It is a street with a school entrance, which is restricted to use by pedestrians and cyclists, with most motor vehicle traffic prohibited, between the hours of 07:30 to 09:30 and 14:00 to 16:00 on weekdays. In accordance with the Highway Code for the School Street signs, the restriction applies to the act of driving into the road during the stated hours. Vehicles arriving outside these hours will be permitted to remain parked in the road and to drive out of the road at any time. In practice, the restrictions are not enforced outside the school terms. Exempt vehicles can drive into the road at all times (see below).

Why is the Council doing this?

The School Street is proposed, firstly, in response to credible requests for something to be done about obstruction, safety and air pollution concerns from the high volume of traffic and parking that can happen at school times. The Department for Transport and the London Mayor has made it a policy that local Councils must introduce measures to help children and parents to use cars less and to walk, cycle and use public transport more.

What is the experience from similar schemes in other places?

The Council introduced the first School Streets schemes in 2017. Follow up surveys show that schools and residents inside the zones remain in overall favour of the schemes and that significantly more children now walk to school. The inconvenience of having to apply for a permit is disliked, but is outweighed by the benefits. The displacement of residual parking into neighbouring roads has been a cause for initial concern. However, this effect is reduced in amount and is dispersed over a wider area. Driving school parents have needed time to become influenced and find alternative arrangements to their usual car journey. The eventual reduction in car use can benefit the surrounding road network.

What if I need to drive my car in the street during the restricted hours?

Motor vehicles belonging to the following groups of drivers are eligible for an exemption permit, to enable them driving into the School Street during the hours of operation:

- Occupier within the zone, with a registered vehicle or a hire, company or courtesy car.
- Vehicles used in the transport of children and adults with special access needs, including private vehicles, taxis and minicabs declared for such use.
- Business and school employees with allocated parking on their premises inside the zone.
- Essential health and care visitors, including relatives of residents with care needs.
- All day commercial operators, such as builders, decorators and heavy goods suppliers, are eligible for a temporary permit covering the duration of their necessary work activities.

The exemption permit is simply an electronic record in the compliance system and there is no need to physically affix anything to a vehicle.

Motor vehicles belonging to the following groups and situations are automatically permitted to drive in a School Street, without first obtaining an exemption permit:

- Emergency services.
- Statutory public services, such as gas/electricity companies and refuse collectors.
- Universal postal service providers, such as the Royal Mail.
- Breakdown and recovery vehicles, when serving an address inside the zone.
- Exemptions stated in the Highway Code, such as with the permission or at the direction of a police officer.

How do I request an exemption permit?

The permit is free (£0.00) and requested by email to schoolstreets@croydon.gov.uk. The following information should be provided:

- Name and address.
- Vehicle registration number.
- Scan or photo/picture copy of the DVLA V5C form (front page of vehicle's Log Book).

The DVLA V5C form should show the vehicle being registered at the address within the School Street. Please ask schoolstreets@croydon.gov.uk if you have special circumstances, including if you are a carer or drive a company or hire car that is registered elsewhere. The scheme is not intended to hinder anyone with an essential access and mobility needs.

Unplanned events, such as a boiler repair for example, are issued with a day permit, which can be requested retrospectively up to 24 hours after the event. Please obtain the vehicle registration number and notify schoolstreets@croydon.gov.uk.

Note: As the number of schemes grow it is envisaged to eventually create an online exemption service, as opposed to manually processing emails; but such development is not yet justifiable for the low number of exemptions that are currently in place.

What about our visitors?

Other drivers who wish to access the School Street must arrive outside the hours of operation, or they can temporarily park outside the zone and then move the vehicle once the restrictions end. The vehicles that are not eligible for a permit notably include those of:

- General visitors.
- Home deliveries.
- Business and school employees without access to on-premises parking (the scheme is not intended to free up the road to substitute for workplace parking). It is though pragmatically accepted that on-site parking may occasionally create an over-spill into the public road.

How can it be ensured that motorists driving in the School Street zone are entitled?

A traffic camera with automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) and a detection algorithm will operate during the controlled hours. To prevent false triggers and to permit a driver correcting a turning mistake, the alleged contravention trigger point is a small distance into the road. The Penalty Charge Notice is £130 (discounted to £65 if paid within 14 days) and issued to the registered keeper of a vehicle. This penalty charge is set by a London-wide authority, to reflect a level necessary in deterring driving contraventions. Drivers can appeal any penalty, stating a legally valid reason for driving in the School Street.

What about my privacy when using the street?

Every individual ANPR camera has a Privacy Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA), which is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office. The DPIA checks and demonstrates that the processing of personal data is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018.

The fixed position ANPR camera is type approved by the Department for Transport and operates within the Surveillance Commissioners Codes of Practice. The ANPR camera is operated in a way that does not constitute surveillance and does not interfere with rights granted under the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). The camera focuses strictly on the traffic entry point to the street. It only uploads a short recording when a driving contravention is detected. The camera cannot be turned or used for any other purpose, such as for observing private individuals or recording anti-social behaviour.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CROYDON COUNCIL

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE OPERATIONAL HOURS OF A PEDESTRIAN ZONE OUTSIDE A SCHOOL

DUNSFOLD RISE, FAIRFIELD WAY & MEADOW RISE, COULSDON THE CROYDON (PRESCRIBED ROUTES) (NO.K94) TRAFFIC ORDER 20-

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Croydon Council propose to make the above Traffic Order under Section 6 and 124 of Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended and all other enabling powers.
2. **The general effect of the Order would be to amend the times when motorised vehicles are prohibited from entering the streets listed in the heading of this notice from the existing times (of 8am to 9.30am and 2.30pm to 4pm, Monday to Friday) to the new times of 7.30am to 9.30am and 2.00pm to 4pm, Monday to Friday. The exemption for those holding a valid permit issued by the Council would remain unchanged.**
3. A copy of the proposed Order and all related documents can be inspected until the last day of a period of six weeks beginning with the date on which the Order was made or, as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Order, between 9am and 4pm on Mondays to Fridays inclusive at the Enquiry Counter, "Access Croydon" Facility, Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 1EA.
4. Further information may be obtained by telephoning Parking Services, Place Department, Croydon Council on **020 8726 7100**.
5. Persons desiring to object to the proposed Order should make a statement in writing of their objection to the Parking Design Section, Place Department, 6th Floor, Zone C, Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, Croydon, CR0 1EA or email Parking.Design@croydon.gov.uk quoting the reference PD/CH/K94 by 29 October 2020.
6. The Order is intended to amend the existing operational hours of the school pedestrian zone operating in Dunsfold Rise, Fairfield Way and Meadow Rise from 8am to 9.30am and 2.30pm to 4pm, Monday to Friday, to the new times of 7.30am to 9.30am and 2.00pm to 4pm, Monday to Friday. The new times are being introduced in order to counter the growth in competition for car-borne pick-up spaces, which has increased as the primary school intake has grown and has led to parents arriving before the existing restrictions start in order to drop-off or pick-up pupils. It is also being introduced to counter the rise in students driving to the high school, arriving before the existing restrictions commence and parking all day.

Dated this 08 October 2020

Mike Barton, Highway Improvement Manager
Place Department