



School Streets - Information Sheet

Proposed Trial at Oatlands Junior School, Harrogate

Introduction

The School Streets initiative is a national scheme promoted by the Department of Transport to restrict most traffic movement on a street or streets directly outside a school at drop off and pick up times, to create a safer environment and encourage more children to walk, cycle or scoot to school.

It promotes the opportunity for a healthier lifestyle, reducing congestion, improving air quality and overall leading to a better environment for all road users. Scotland was the first to introduce School Streets schemes in the UK in 2015, with the London Borough of Camden the first in England in 2017.

North Yorkshire Council is proposing to trial School Streets in two locations, to see how they perform and see if there is scope for more throughout the county

How does it work?

On school days in term time only, Beechwood Grove would be restricted to traffic in the mornings (08:30 – 09:00am) when children arrive to school and on afternoons (3:00pm – 3:45pm) when they go home. During these times, parents and carers would not be able to enter Beechwood Grove by vehicle to drop off or pick up their children. Children, parents, and carers will be encouraged to walk, scoot and cycle to school, or to park further away and walk the rest of the journey.

Residents of Beechwood Grove and those with an essential need, including blue badge holders, will still have access and eligible for a permit, but all other traffic will have to use alternative routes during these times of day.

What are the benefits?

School Streets schemes allows roads outside school significantly reduces the number of vehicles near to the school at the start and end of the school day, reduces air pollution and enables families to be more active, by doing more walking, cycling, or scooting as part of their journey, which helps towards better health. This also benefits staff at the school as well as local residents by creating a less trafficked, quieter and cleaner environment.

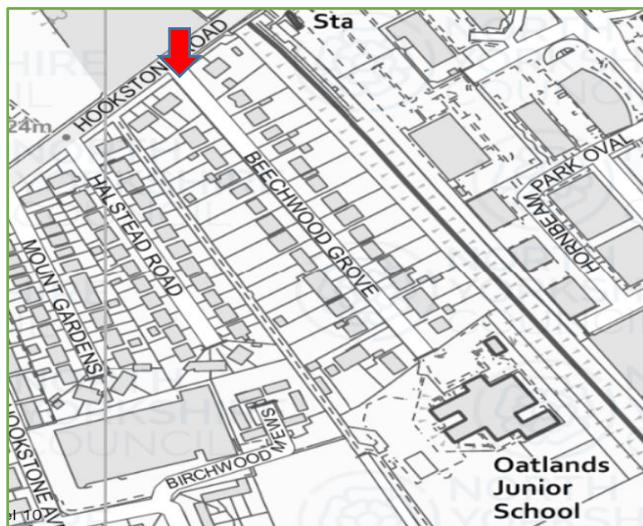
Why was Oatlands Junior School selected?

Oatlands Junior School was proposed as a potential pilot location along with a number of school sites that suffer from road safety and parking issues. An assessment of those schools to identify the best locations to trial a School Street identified Oatland Junior School as a preferred site.

How is a School Street implemented?

To legally close the road to all but permitted traffic, a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) will be made. This TTRO can remain for a period of up to 18 months. The trial will be subject to close monitoring and a decision will be made whether to make the School Street permanent or remove. It is possible to vary the terms of the order, e.g. the times and day of operation.

Signs would be erected at the entrance to Beechwood Grove as shown in the below images detailing the restriction and its times of operation.



How is it enforced?

Traffic Management and signage is placed out in the highway at the times the restriction is in operation indicating to motorists that Beechwood Grove is temporarily closed.

Residents of Beechwood Grove within the closure will receive permits to show that they are a resident and that the restriction does not apply to them. Emergency service access will be maintained at all times.

North Yorkshire Police are supporting the scheme and are able to issue fixed penalty notices to drivers who contravene the terms of the closure.