

Parent/Carer,

As you will be aware, a 'Safer Schools' pilot was due to be implemented in April 2020 which would see certain streets outside the school unable to be used by cars during restricted times – namely the start and the end of the school day.

This aims to improve safety at the school gates, reduce congestion and emissions, and encourage active travel for our parents, carers and pupils on their daily commute by walking, wheeling or cycling to school instead of driving.

Those who do need to drive are asked to park safely away from the school gates and walk the final part of their journey.

We want to create a safer, healthier environment for your child to learn in so I hope you will do all you can to support this pilot when it begins on Monday 19 April, having been delayed from April 2020 by the Coronavirus pandemic.

This means that on weekdays, between 8.30am-9.15am and 2.30pm-3.15pm, no vehicles will be allowed in Rowan Street and part of Thrushcraigs Crescent – except those with an exemption.

Exemptions will be in place for residents in the restricted streets and school staff through a permit scheme, as well as automatic exemptions for the emergency services, including doctors on call, district nurses, carers and support workers, postal service vehicles, school buses and transport vehicles, school contract taxis and blue badge holders dropping their child off or residing at or visiting a property in the restricted street.

An experimental traffic regulation order (ETRO) will be in place for the duration of the pilot and Police Scotland will be able to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for anyone found driving in these streets during the restricted times without a valid exemption.

I will issue permits out to staff as I receive them, please let me know if you want to discuss this further in confidence.

There was significant consultation around this project which has helped shape its design and the council will be seeking further feedback during the pilot which is set to run until 31 December 2021, so I will be looking for your thoughts at different stages to feed back.

You can find out more about the project here – www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/SaferSchoolsPilot.

Kind Regards,

Gerard Hannah
Infrastructure, Transportation & Change Manager