

What is a School Street?

A School Street Scheme is where the road outside a school temporarily closes to become a pedestrian and cycle/scoot zone during the school's opening and closing times. By removing traffic from around schools, carriageway space can be used for waiting, walking, scooting and cycling.

This will help to implement social distancing and encourage active travel, with the added benefit of reducing congestion and pollution at the school gates and improving safety for children on their way to and from school.

The Council is supporting the implementation of a number of School Street Schemes under a temporary traffic regulation order this will be in place until the end of July 2021

What the School Community need to do

Schools need to commit a minimum of 4 volunteers from the school community to be trained. They would be required to:

- Set out traffic cones, road signs and barriers at the beginning and end of each closure.
- Securely store the cones, road signs and barriers on site.
- Remain at the road closure for the duration of each session.
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- Following a suitable risk assessment the school will operate and own the scheme.
- Record and report any incidents associated with School Streets
- Schools will need to register and complete STARS, school travel planning tool and additional associated activities to promote active travel and road safety.

Modeshift STARS is a hugely successful and popular national school travel planning system. In Cambridgeshire, STARS is an excellent way of promoting sustainable travel to school. Over **90** schools and early years settings in Cambridgeshire are already taking part in Modeshift STARS.

Schools taking part in Modeshift STARS can expect an **average 3% reduction** in trips made by car to school.

Modeshift STARS is **free of charge** and schools can use the system to update or create travel plans which can be used for planning applications. Support, advice and resources for school travel planning are supplied free of charge to all schools in the county by the Road Safety Education team in Cambridgeshire. Support and on-line training is available to schools to assist with using the system and helping schools gain National Accreditation and planning compliant school travel plans which will support school planning applications.

Modeshift STARS also helps participating schools to:

- reduce congestion around the school
- improve air quality
- encourage active, healthy school travel
- improve road safety around the school
- gain national awards
- support Eco-schools
- have an up to date travel plan free of charge
- involve young people in active citizenship

Our Commitment to you

Schools will be supported by Cambridgeshire County Councils Road Safety Team. The Council will:-

- Supply all resources, cones, signage and high visibility waistcoats free of charge
- Risk assess school sites following a criteria to make sure the site is suitable for closure during both school entry and leaving times.
- Train all volunteers on how and where to place the cones, barriers and signs at the beginning and end of each session. Training manual will be provided.
- Provide a template letter for you to inform all parents/carers of the temporary road closures.
- Send out letters to all local residents and businesses about the closure. Under the temporary traffic regulation order there is no requirement for consultation and given the time constraints with Covid 19 funding this it would be extremely difficult.
- Encourage residents and local businesses to avoid accessing the area during the closure. Blue badge holders and school transport will be given exemption.
- Post information about the closures via social media
- Encourage local Parish/District Councils to be involved and support the scheme by promoting in their local areas.
- Provide ongoing monitoring and support to school staff and volunteers for the duration of the scheme.
- **Evaluate the scheme** - all schools must agree to take part in the evaluation.

Once we have received your application to take part, we will carry out a risk assessment of the site around the school to ensure it meets the criteria for safe closure of the road during school arrival and leaving times. Following the assessment we will contact you to advise on the site suitability. If your site meets the requirements we will:-

- apply for an TTRO (Emergency Temporary Traffic Regulation Order)

- Contact you to set up training for your volunteers which will take place on site for approximately one hour.
- Give you further information on how to register and set up for STARS

This is a very exciting opportunity for schools in Cambridgeshire. The reopening of schools, including safe provision for travel to school will give parents/carers the confidence to allow children to travel safely.

If you are still interested in joining the scheme or have any questions, please complete the Acceptance Form and email to road.safety@cambridgeshire.gov.uk and we will be in touch.

Thank you.
Cambridgeshire County Council's Road Safety Team