

From mountain to sea

Fraserburgh South Park School Streets Scheme

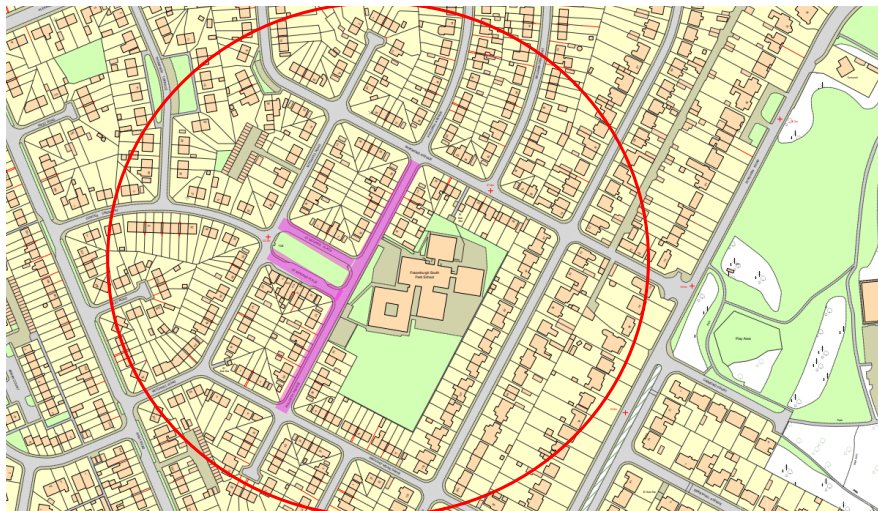
Introduction

Fraserburgh South Park School are involved in a project designed to reduce traffic at the school gate. The 'School Streets Scheme' was the first in Aberdeenshire Council and was put in place as a trial in Spring 2023. It's success led to the scheme being made permanent and it is being used as an example for other sites across Aberdeenshire.

What is the 'School Streets Scheme'?

Formally named the 'Peak Time Road Closure project', now renamed the 'School Streets Scheme' in line with similar schemes across Scotland. This project considered the value and benefit of introducing part-time closure of roads around the school gate to all traffic, with exemptions for those who are entitled to permits or any vehicles on the exemption list, i.e. emergency or other service vehicles. The objective is to reduce the number of vehicles in the location where pupils are entering and exiting the school, this is to help create a safer and cleaner environment at the school gate. This project has an impact on all school users, so please take the time to read the information in this leaflet.





If you need to park your car please try and avoid parking within the red circle which shows a 10 minute walking zone.

How will this operate?

Vehicles without a valid permit or those that are exempt, are not able to drive in, out of or around the school area when the scheme is in operation.

Which streets are closed and at what times?

- 8.15am to 9.15am
- 14:30 to 15:30pm
(Mon-Fri only, term time only).

How will I know where and when the road closure is in operation?

Signage with flashing beacons are in place at either end of Philorth Avenue and on St Modans Place. The lights flash when the closure period is in operation. When the lights flash, only exempted vehicles or those displaying a permit are allowed access/egress the zone.

What are the benefits of the School Street Scheme?

There are many benefits of a school streets scheme. A range of benefits were achieved throughout the duration of the scheme. The below findings have been proven from the monitoring that took place at Fraserburgh South Park;

- Reduction in traffic circulating around the school to help create a safer environment at the point where all children are going in and out of the school.
- Encouraging more families to travel actively to school for example walking, cycling, scootering or 'park and stride' leading to positive impacts on mental and physical wellbeing.
- The air quality around the school improves as a result of traffic reduction. Poor air quality can exist even in rural areas at peak congested times and removing traffic will help improve air quality for young people

Who will enforce school streets?

As this project is covered by a Traffic Order (Road Scotland) Act 1984 the school streets scheme can be enforced by Police Scotland. A fine can be issued for failure to comply with the Traffic Order.

Will I receive a fine if my car remains parked on the street during the road closure times?

No, you would only receive a fine if you move your car when the closure is in operation. This is a driving ban rather than a parking ban, however you will have to wait until the road closure times have finished before you can move your vehicle.

Who is entitled to a Permits or is Exempt from the scheme?

Residents and school staff are entitled to a permit to display in their vehicle windscreen. Those who are exempt from the restrictions are:

- Blue badge holders
- Emergency services
- Council vehicles (waste collection and road maintenance)
- Carers/ district nurses
- Delivery drivers
- Taxi Drivers

Note: This is a traffic reduction project and not a zero traffic zone, therefore traffic will still be present on the streets in question but at a reduced level..

What can I do as a parent / carer?

The aim of this project is to create a safer and healthier environment at the school gate. This requires all school users to play their part for the benefit of all. Please read below key advice on travelling to and from school

Where you can please walk, cycle or scooter to school. This will reduce the number of cars parking on neighbouring streets around the school. Around 60% of pupils already choose to travel to school this way and by opting to consider how you travel to school you can be a part of this. Remember, even if you are unable to walk from home, simply parking further away from the school gate will still allow you to spend time with your child(ren) and help them to stay healthy.

An 8 point guide to walking and cycling/ scooting:

1.

THE BENEFITS

These are great ways to travel to school for reducing congestion and allowing exercising. A walk/scoot or cycle to school can help to keep your family fit healthy and mentally active.

2.

INDEPENDENT TRAVEL

If you feel your child is not ready to travel on their own and if you can find the time to walk or cycle with them, it will provide a great opportunity to learn essential road safety skills. The age your child can walk or cycle on their own is very much a parental decision and responsibility and will differ with each child.

3.

PLAN YOUR ROUTE

Fraserburgh is a large town with many paths and possible routes to school. There are many crossing points but also busy roads. Some paths are great during the day but may not be lit at night. It's a good idea to plan a route from home to school and talk about the safest way to travel, this can be made into a fun activity to do with your child.

4.

SAFE PLACES TO CROSS

Think about the best place to cross the road. There are some formal crossings in Fraserburgh but there may also be roads you will need to cross that don't have crossings. Crossing the roads should be somewhere with good visibility and away from parked cars. Teach your child how to identify a safe place to cross. Remind them of the Green Cross Code. Please note younger children may not be able to judge speed and distance of an approaching car in the same way an adult can, so making the right decisions can be tricky for them but practicing this skill from a young age can help.

5.

ROAD POSITION

If cycling on the roads remind your children the correct side of the road and what to do if a car is approaching.

6.

SHARING THE SPACE

If you are cycling or scooting in an area where there are pedestrians, make sure your children know how to share the space, slow down, use bells to warn pedestrians they are approaching.

7.

BIKE GEAR

Helmets, bike lights and reflective clothing are important.

8.

BIKE STORAGE

Storage for bikes/scooters is available at school, but the school will not be held responsible for any lost or damage.

