



## ALVERSTOKE COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted to tell you that we have been chosen as a pilot school for the Hampshire County Council's Safer Streets project. Please see the press release below.

*A trial, to test how a healthier environment for young people walking and cycling to school could be achieved by creating low traffic areas at the start and end of the school day, is set to take place next month.*

*Hampshire County Council's Executive Member for Highways Operations, Councillor Russell Oppenheimer, has given the go ahead for the feasibility of the scheme to be tested, with three schools taking part in a pilot from the middle of July and continuing in the Autumn Term.*

*Councillor Oppenheimer said: "This is a unique opportunity to encourage parents and schools to get more pupils travelling to school by walking and cycling, which will not only help to improve the physical and mental wellbeing of young people but, with far lower traffic levels at the beginning of the school day and at home time, should contribute to better air quality locally as well."*

*The schools trialling 'School Streets' are:*

- *Alverstone Infant School, Gosport;*
- *Cadland Primary School, Holbury, New Forest;*
- *Harrison Primary School, Fareham.*

*The scheme will involve selected roads on the approach to school, being closed to non-essential traffic at school drop-off and pick up times on school days only (so will not apply during school holidays or at weekends). The closure will be managed by trained stewards in high-visibility vests on between 08.15 - 9.00 hours and 14:45 - 15.30 hours.*

*Certain exemptions apply, including residents, emergency services, school transport, blue badge holders, deliveries and carers of residents on the street. Any parking restrictions will operate as normal. Unless exempt, parents will not be permitted to drive into the closure zone to drop off or pick up their children. Surveys will be undertaken with to seek the views of those affected by the schemes - residents, businesses, and the school community. This feedback will inform the decisions about potential future permanent School Streets schemes.*

Following the governors traffic questionnaire last week, I hope this initiative will address some of the concerns that were expressed by so many people about parking issues around school. Further feedback will be sought as the project gets underway.

As the project proceeds, I will update you with more information.

Kind regards

Steph Greenwood  
Headteacher

