

16 February 2022

Dear Parents and Residents of our local community

School Street Scheme

We are delighted to announce that the School Street scheme in Crescent Road will commence on 28 February 2022. This will be on a trial basis which will last for up to 18 months after which, if successful, may become permanent.

Initially, the scheme will commence on a mornings only basis. This will mean that the stretch of Crescent Road from the junction with Bulmershe Road to the junction with Wokingham Road will be closed from 8:15-9:00am, Monday to Friday and term time only.

When the scheme is in operation, we strongly encourage parents to either consider alternative methods of transport to school other than by car or to make use of the local park and stride locations. Further information about the park and stride locations are attached, these can be used to either park and walk your child into school or where children can be dropped off within a short walk to the school and college premises. **Please can we ask that parents do not block neighbouring streets or use the private part of Bulmershe Road, which runs parallel to Maiden Erlegh School in Reading, during the closure periods. Please can we also encourage parents and visitors to park and behave considerately to local residents at all times.**

Marshals and other representatives from the schools/ college and Reading Borough Council will be handing out information relating to the scheme on the mornings of Thursday 17 February and Friday 18 February. Later in the morning, we will be undertaking a run through of the closure and reopening procedures to ensure that everything is ready for the scheme to commence on Monday 28 February (Maiden Erlegh School in Reading students are not in school this day due to staff training).

In order to extend the scheme to cover afternoons as well, we need further volunteers to act as a marshal for the scheme. If you would like to volunteer, please complete the form [here](#). If you are considering whether to volunteer, we have included further information about the role and the level of commitment below.

We do hope that you will be able to come forward to support us in improving safety in our local area. Should you have any further questions or wish to discuss this further, please contact us via meroffice@maidenerleghtrust.org in the first instance with "school street" in the subject line (communications will be shared between the schools).

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank those members of the local community who have already volunteered to act as a marshal, we are extremely grateful for your support.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Johnson
Headteacher
Maiden Erlegh School in Reading



Mr R Howell
Headteacher
Alfred Sutton Primary School



Mr J Nicholls
Principal
UTC Reading

What is the proposed scheme?

More information about the scheme is available on the Reading Borough Council at the following link:

<https://www.reading.gov.uk/schoolstreets>

For the proposed Crescent Road scheme:

- Crescent Road (between Wokingham Road and Bulmershe Road) will be made a pedestrian and cycle only zone between 8:15-9:00 and 14:45-15:30 Monday to Friday, term time only. Initially, the scheme will operate only in the mornings;
- Access for residents to enter the zone will be maintained for vehicles that register an exemption;
- Other vehicles driven by visitors and parents will not be permitted to enter the zone during the closure;
- Access will be granted to blue-badge holders;
- All vehicles that already in the zone during the operational times will be able to exit;
- Signage will be erected in the area;
- The trial has been approved and will be implemented in February 2022 to run for 6 months;
- After the trial, a decision will be made on whether to make the scheme permanent.

Where can I drop off my child when Crescent Road is closed?

Details of the 'Park and Stride' locations are attached. Where car travel to school is necessary, we would strongly encourage parents to use these locations during the closure periods. There are additional areas of free 2 hour parking within the proximity of both schools.

What should I do if my child has medical or other needs which require that they are driven directly to the school/college entrance?

Please discuss this with the relevant school/college office team. Permits can be provided where this is considered necessary.

What is the level of commitment for a marshal?

We would ask that you sign up for at least one session per week where possible. If you are unable to commit to a weekly slot due to work or other commitments, we may ask you to act as a stand in to cover absence on the day/(s) that you are available.

Once signed up, we will ask that you let the marshal co-ordinator know as soon as possible if you are unable to attend.

What will the role of a marshal entail?

Marshals will need to collect the closure area signage from the schools and put it in place, ready for the closure to start at the times stated above. Marshals will police the area and will escort the cars of local residents needing to leave or enter during the closure times.

At the end of the session, the signage will need to be returned to the schools.

Will I be required to undertake training?

Training will be provided. Training is delivered virtually by Reading Borough Council and will last approximately 2.5 hours. This will need to be completed before your first marshal session.

How can I find out more information about the role of a School Street marshal?

To hear from somebody already carrying out the role, please watch the short You tube video available [here](#).