

SCHOOL STREETS

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for School Streets

What is a School Street?

A School Street is a pedestrian and cycle zone that operates at set times during the school term. Vehicles must not enter the zone unless they have an exemption.

Restrictions only apply at drop-off and pick-up times on school days and are not in place during school holidays or weekends.

What are the benefits of a School Street?

- Create a safer and more pleasant environment for students to walk, wheel and cycle to and from school.
- Reduce traffic and congestion.
- Less cars help to improve air quality outside of schools gates.

When did Medway Council's School Streets start?

The first seven School Streets were introduced in Medway on 11 March 2024. We are now proposing to introduce a further nine across Medway.

A School Street has been approved for my school. When will it become operational?

We are excited to say that the new School Streets launching on Monday, 29th September 2025, will be at the following schools:

- Cliffe Woods Primary School, Cliffe Woods Pre-School, and City of Rochester School, Cliffe Woods
- Fairview Primary School, Rainham
- Hilltop Primary School, Frindsbury
- St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margaret's Infant School, Rainham

On Monday, 3rd November 2025, High Halstow Primary Academy will also introduce its School Street.

How are School Streets enforced?

School Streets are enforced by ANPR cameras located at the entry to the School Street zones.

There will be a 6-month warning period at the beginning of the programme, so road users have time to get used to the new system.

The first time a driver enters a School Street without an exemption, they will receive warning notice. After receiving the first notice or once the 6-month warning period is over, drivers who do not follow the rules will receive a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN).

What do I need to do before the School Street becomes operational?

Check if you are eligible for an exemption.

If you are a staff member, parent or carer please complete the travel to school survey here: <https://jwa7noi0vwy.typeform.com/traveltoschool>

This survey is an important part of our monitoring programme for the scheme. While not a requirement, it helps us measure the success of the scheme and gather feedback from school communities.

Feedback from residents, businesses and other stakeholders will be gathered using different methods.

Exemptions

Who is eligible for an exemption?

You can apply for an exemption if you:

- live in a restricted street.
- work at a business in a restricted street.
- work at a school in a restricted street.
- you or your child are a Blue Badge holder and need access to a restricted street.
- are a carer of vulnerable residents who live in a restricted street.

We will also consider other exemptions on a case-by-case basis.

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How do I apply for an exemption?

To apply for an exemption if you are eligible, visit medway.gov.uk/schoolstreets.

What documents do I need to apply for an exemption?

- **Resident:** proof of address such as a utility bill (dated within the last three months, and not vehicle related)
- **Business employee:** a letter from the business you work for to prove you're an employee
- **School employee:** proof you work at a school such as a letter from your manager on headed paper
- **Blue Badge holder:** a photo of the front and back of your Blue Badge. You'll also need to describe why you need access to a School Street during operating times
- **Child with disability:** a letter from a health professional to confirm your child is unable to walk or finds it very difficult to walk
- **Professional, a carer or medical practitioner:** a company letter to prove you're an employee and need an exemption.

You will also need to prove you own a vehicle or drive a company vehicle. We will accept either:

- your vehicle registration document (logbook or V5C)
- insurance certificate
- motability lease
- a letter from your employer with details of the company vehicle you drive.

How long does it take to apply for an exemption?

We aim to respond to your application within 10 working days. If your application is approved, we'll send you an email and add your vehicle registration to our list for the School Street you

have an exemption for. If your application is rejected, or we need more information, we'll email you to let you know why.

How long do exemptions last for?

Exemptions expire after 2 years. You'll receive an email reminder 30 days before the exemption expires. You'll then need to apply again online.

If I have two cars, how many exemptions do I need?

You need an exemption for each car that you own.

Can I park on the street while the School Street is in operation?

Yes, the School Street does not impact parked cars, as long as you have already parked when the timed restriction begins.

If my car is already parked in the School Street, can I drive out of the zone while it is operating?

Yes. The School Street only prevents motorists from driving into the zone during operating hours.

Can residents park on a School Street?

Resident parking areas can be accessed by vehicles with an exemption. Anyone living within the School Street zone is eligible for an exemption.

How do I request a School Street?

If you would like us to consider introducing a School Street in your community, please email us at transportinitiatives@medway.gov.uk