

Southampton School Streets Volunteers

About School Streets

Southampton City Council has produced its [Green Transport Recovery Plan](#), in line with the government's recommendations for encouraging safe travel as we come out of lockdown.

The council is keen to support and maintain the positive health and environmental benefits that residents have experienced over the last few months, from an increase in active travel and an improvement in local air quality, by putting in place measures which will support the return to a 'new norm' for getting around safely as lockdown is gradually lifted.

School Streets are among the schemes outlined in the plan to support social distancing.

What is a School Street?

A School Street is where a road with a school closes to motor vehicles - primarily by using signage - to become a pedestrian and cycle zone at the start and end of the school day.

Why School Streets?

By making a safer, cleaner environment, School Streets increase the likelihood that children will walk or cycle (and parents leave their cars at home). Fewer car trips to and from school will help to improve air quality, encourage more exercise, reduce congestion at peak times and reduce road traffic collisions.

How could it help with social distancing?

By removing through traffic and parents' cars from the road, it can be used safely by families to travel on foot or by bike or scooter to school. This will allow the 2 metre social distancing guidelines to be followed, especially by parents congregating at pick-up time.

We're looking for volunteer stewards to help these events run smoothly

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Volunteer Steward Role Description

The role of the steward is crucial to ensure the wellbeing and safety of all involved in School Streets.

Your role would be to close and reopen the road safely, positioning signs and cones according to official guidelines and never exposing yourself to danger from oncoming traffic. You will divert through traffic, guide drivers needing access and ensure that the young people involved stay safely within the closure area.

You would be volunteering alongside a dedicated SCC project officer and/or school lead.

A full briefing will be given to all volunteers before the event.

Why get involved?

- Make a difference to the health and wellbeing of young people and their families
- Improve the local environment for the wider community – by reducing congestion, improving air quality and helping to transform the street into a space for people
- Meet new people and give something back

Skills required

- Excellent communicators – able to engage with a range of audiences, including young people, their parents, local residents and motorists
- Punctual, reliable
- Enhanced DBS is desirable

Time commitment

- Weekdays in term time, from September
- Roughly one hour at school drop-off and pick-up times
- Regular (daily or weekly) commitment desirable. AM or PM only is possible

Location

- Initially at two sites
 - o Sholing Infants (Heath Road)
 - o Bitterne C of E Primary (Brownlow Avenue)
- Potentially others in different parts of the city

**If you would like to volunteer, please email
School.Streets@southampton.gov.uk to register your interest**

Please include an idea of your availability and at which school/part of the city you can help.

Many thanks.