

Changes are coming to your school!

We're making it safer for children to walk, wheel or scoot to and from school.

Find out more at www.bathnes.gov.uk/schoolstreets



Bath & North East
Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Working together to improve the school run

We're working with the Widcombe Infant and Junior schools to introduce a School Street on Archway Street and Excelsior Street in Spring 2026.

This leaflet explains our proposal, how you can share your views, and the simple things we can all do to make the school run safer and calmer for everyone.

What is a School Street?

School Streets use timed vehicle restrictions on streets outside schools to create safe, calm spaces during drop-off and pick-up. They can apply to a street, part of a street or several streets and are well established across the UK.

Restrictions usually last 30–60 minutes on school days only, and still allow essential access for those who need it. Enforcement is typically managed through signage, stewards, and temporary barriers. In some cases, enforcement cameras are used.

Along with timed restrictions, School Streets encourage more children and families to walk, scoot or cycle their journey to improve their physical and mental health, and to reduce the number of vehicles driving into the neighbourhood.

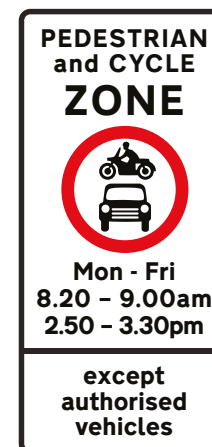
Our proposals

We're proposing to restrict through-traffic outside the school on the full length of Archway Street and Excelsior Street, during these times:

8:20am – 9:00am

2:50pm – 3:30pm

Monday to Friday, term-time only



Signs would show where the School Street begins and ends. Trained school staff and volunteer stewards would put up and take down temporary barriers, welcome families, and help manage any essential access, including for residents living on Archway and Excelsior Street and other authorised vehicles.

Exemptions

We're proposing that Blue Badge holders, some school transport vehicles and emergency, utility and service vehicles would be able to enter without a permit during School Street times.

Residents living on the School Streets would be eligible to apply for an exemption permit, and we would also consider permits for families with pupils who have an EHCP or temporary accessibility needs.

Exemptions wouldn't normally be given to residents living outside of the School Street, parents/carers, or school staff.

How School Streets help

- A calmer, safer start and end to the school day
- More children travelling actively
- Safer and more pleasant walking and cycling routes
- Better physical health and improved focus in class
- Quieter, cleaner streets for residents



Broadway

Excelsior St

Archway St

Widcombe
CofE Junior
School

Widcombe
Infant School

Pulteney Rd A36

Key
School Street
zone

School Street
signage

Expandable
barrier

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Have your say

We're sharing these early proposals now so you can take a look and ask questions before the formal consultation in the new year. Simply send us an email with your feedback.

Email: school_streets@bathnes.gov.uk
Call: 01225 394025 (9am–5pm)

What's next

In the new year, we'll ask residents and the school community to complete a short survey and join us at a drop-in session at the school as part of a formal consultation.

If the plans are supported, we'll make any necessary amends, finalise the design, and invite applications for exemptions. We'll also train stewards and work with the school to encourage more active travel. We are aiming to launch the School Street later in Spring 2026.

Keep informed

- Visit www.bathnes.gov.uk/schoolstreets
- Subscribe to our e-news via the web page
- Look out for updates in the school newsletter



How you can help

We'd love the whole community to get behind the plan and help keep children safe.

- ✓ **Choose active travel.** Walking, cycling or scooting even part of the trip reduces congestion around schools and helps children arrive refreshed and ready to learn.
- ✓ **Drive with care.** If you need to drive to school, please slow down, park a little further away and avoid U-turns or sudden manoeuvres. Look out for children crossing between cars.
- ✓ **Avoid idling.** Switching off your engine helps reduce noise and air pollution.
- ✓ **Park considerately.** Please avoid parking on yellow lines, pavements and white or yellow zig zag lines.
- ✓ **Cycle and scoot safely.** Encourage children to slow near the gate and walk bikes or scooters through busy pedestrian areas.
- ✓ **Volunteer as a steward.** We'll train school staff and local volunteers to welcome families and help keep the street calm and car-free during School Street operating hours.

Together, we can make the school run safer, cleaner and more enjoyable for everyone.

Timeline

From December 2025

- Proposals shared
- Early engagement
- Pre-launch monitoring

From the new year 2026

- Formal consultation and drop-in event
- Decision to proceed or not
- Proposals confirmed
- Exemption applications open
- Steward training

From Spring 2026

- Sign installation
- Launch of the School Street
- Ongoing monitoring

