LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 9

SCHOOL STREETS SCHEME - EXPERIMENTAL INTRODUCTION OF PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE ZONES IN STREETS IN THE VICINITY OF OAK HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL (IG8 REGION) (ET3(26))

The Waltham Forest (Prescribed Routes) (Pedestrian and Cycle Zones) (No. 28) Experimental Traffic Order 2026

STATEMENT OF REASONS

School Streets are an initiative to improve local air quality, make it easier and safer for pupils and their parents to walk and cycle to school, and create a safer and more pleasant environment for everyone. Restricting traffic movements around the school should lead to an improvement in road safety, a reduction in anti-social behaviour from inconsiderate parking and dangerous manoeuvres, improved air quality around the school gates due to reduced vehicle engine idling, and subsequently, more active and healthier lifestyles for pupils, their parents, staff, and surrounding residents.

In order to balance the needs of local residents and businesses and minimise impact on local access, a number of road users will be exempt from the planned restriction (i.e. they will be able to use the road at all times unimpeded). The users that will be eligible for exemption are as follows:

- Businesses located within the pedestrian and cycle zones;
- Residents of streets located within the pedestrian and cycle zones with a valid parking permit for a controlled parking zone;
- Emergency services;
- Any vehicle already parked within the pedestrian and cycle zones when the restriction commences will be able to leave without penalty;
- Blue badge holders who have a bona fide reason to enter the zone i.e. those who are residents or vistors to any property within the zone and blue badge holders who need to pick up and drop off;
- Taxis where use is associated with a resident with registered additional mobility needs;
- Other key Council services (e.g. Social Services);
- Mobility Services vehicles;
- Trades if they are working at a residency which is within the respective School Street zone;
- Car club vehicles *(accessing a* car club parking place in a *pedestrian and cycle zone which is* available for use by car club vehicles which are part of a car hiring scheme run by a London Borough of Waltham Forest approved Car Club operator.)
- Public service vehicles (e.g. Community Transport, Dial-a-Ride).

The following road users will not be eligible for an exemption:

- General through traffic;
- Registered vehicles of residents or businesses outside of the restricted roads;
- Parents of children attending Oak Hill Primary School IG8, unless they qualify for exemption;
- Taxis and private hire vehicles;

Any other vehicles which may require access in the zone will be considered at the Council's discretion.

Exemptions will generally be managed via the grant of a permit for the School Streets scheme. Residents and businesses within a pedestrian and cycle zones who have vehicles with a valid, current parking permit will have their vehicles automatically migrated to the School Streets permit. Residents and businesses of pedestrian and cycle zones who have vehicles that do not have a valid, current parking permit (e.g. because they have off-street parking provision and do not require one) will need to apply for an exemption.

A full list of exempt users, whether users will have their details automatically migrated or they will need to apply for an exemption, and how to apply for an exemption, will be included on the Council's website and in future publicity about the scheme.

In proposing to make this order consideration has been given to securing expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway.

These measures above are initially being introduced experimentally in order to assess their effectiveness with a view to making them permanent.