

IMPORTANT – HEALTHY SCHOOL STREET TRIAL

Changes are coming to your street

The Crescent & Saracen Close Healthy School Street



Croydon Council will trial a new Healthy School Street scheme on **The Crescent & Saracen Close** to benefit pupils and staff of **The Crescent & Brit Schools**, as well as local residents. This leaflet offers information on Healthy School Streets and explains how the trial scheme will work.

What are Healthy School Streets?

Healthy School Streets help pupils to make safer, healthier journeys to and from school, by closing the surrounding roads to cars and other motor traffic during busy school drop-off and pick-up times. **This will not affect residents' access – if you live in those roads, you will be able to apply for a free exemption permit starting 12 December 2022.**

These temporary closures encourage parents and carers to leave the car at home more often for the school run, and instead choose more sustainable and active means of travel, such as walking, cycling, or scooting. This leads to a reduction in traffic congestion, noise, and air pollution, so the streets are safer and more appealing for pupils making healthier journeys.

School Streets are also used to address traffic issues faced by residents living close to schools, where blocked driveways and congested junctions have made it very difficult for neighbours to enter and exit their own homes.

Croydon has put in 24 Healthy School Streets across the borough since 2017. You can learn more about how they work and find a full list of locations on the council website.

Benefits of Healthy School Streets:

- ✓ Safer, quieter streets
- ✓ Make it easier to choose sustainable travel like walking and cycling more often
- ✓ Improve local air quality
- ✓ Help to tackle the climate crisis and achieve a carbon-neutral Croydon by 2030
- ✓ Encourage active travel to promote healthy lifestyles

Why are we proposing to trial a scheme on your street?

The Department for Transport (DfT) and Transport for London (TfL) has awarded local authorities funding to implement schemes that encourage the use of active sustainable forms of transport. Both DfT & TfL support the introduction of Healthy School Street schemes as they help to meet several transport objectives which include creating safer and healthier streets particularly for children.

For this reason, the council has agreed to increase the number of the Healthy School Streets in the borough with a view to double the amount of such schemes in place by the end of 2023.

The Crescent and Saracen Close Healthy School Street scheme is 1 of 9 that are expected to launch on **23 January 2023**. The council carried out an informal public consultation on this scheme which ended on 30 July 2022. The results of the consultation show that 52% of respondents who live within the consultation boundary support the introduction of the scheme. The introduction of a Healthy School Street scheme should help in meeting the transport objectives set out by DfT and TfL.

How will the experimental Healthy School Street work?

The Crescent & Saracen Close will become a Pedestrian and Cycle Zone only (except for those eligible for exemption permits, and buses) between the hours of 8- 9.30am and 2 - 4pm from Monday to Friday, during school term time only. You can see how this will work in more detail in the drawing we have enclosed.

Advanced warning signs will be installed on approach and at junctions informing motorists of the Healthy School Street and closure times. The scheme will be enforced using Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras, which will only capture registration numbers of vehicles entering the Healthy School Street during operational hours.

The scheme will be live from 23 January 2023.

Free Exemption Permits

Residents living within the zone will be eligible to apply for a School Street Exemption permit from 12 December 2022 – free of charge – so they can drive through the closures without receiving a Penalty Charge Notice. In addition, the council will automatically exempt other motorists, such as emergency services or refuse vehicles.

The Healthy School Street permit scheme is separate to any existing Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) permit scheme in place. Anyone with a CPZ permit, must still apply for a Healthy Streets Permit.

You can apply for free exemption permits for up to three vehicles, starting on 12 December 2022. Applications can be made via the council website at: www.croydon.gov.uk/hsspermits

For queries about exemption permits please email: schoolstreets@croydon.gov.uk

What is an Experimental Traffic Management Order?

The scheme will be implemented as a trial under an Experimental Traffic Management Order (ETMO) for up to 18 months. **The first six months is known as the statutory objection period, during which those affected by the trial scheme can submit formal objections if they wish.** Introducing a scheme under an ETMO allows the council, school, and others to experience its true effects. The council collects this feedback during the first six months and will use it to make any necessary changes if a decision is taken to make the scheme permanent. For further information on Healthy School Streets, ETMO process and permits please visit: www.croydon.gov.uk/school-streets

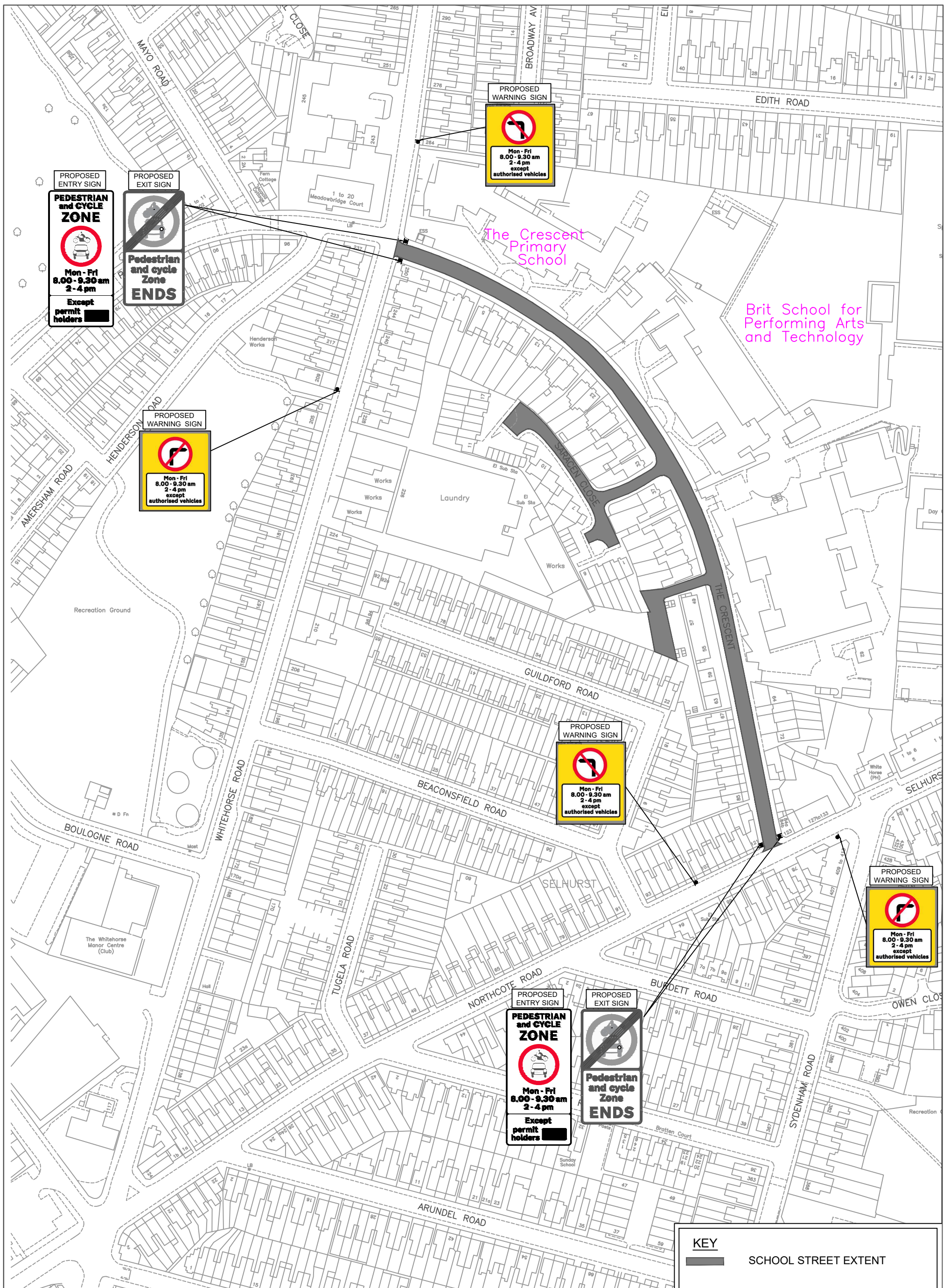
How do I give my views?

The trial process of an ETMO is designed to allow residents, businesses, schools, and other stakeholders time to experience the scheme, and then come forward with any issues or suggested amendments that could make the scheme work better and achieve its goals.

You will only be able to submit objections from **23 January 2023** to **midnight on 23 July 2023** via the following three methods, and responses received before or after these dates will not be accepted.

- 1) Online:** complete our online form at: www.getinvolved.croydon.gov.uk
- 2) Email:** submit your objection via email to thecrescent@croydon.gov.uk Please ensure that you insert the reference **CRESCENTSS/2023** in subject line and only write in from **23 January 2023**.
- 3) Post:** send your response quoting scheme reference **CRESCENTSS/2023** to Highway Improvements Team, Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, CR0 1EA, to arrive by **23 July 2023**. Please provide your full postal address if you would like us to record and consider your views.

Enquiries: for any queries – excluding queries about exemption permits – please email: healthyschoolstreets@croydon.gov.uk including the scheme reference. If you require the materials in another format such as a physical copy, braille or in a larger font size, contact us by phone on 020 8726 6000, 9am- 4pm Monday – Friday or via the email address above.



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