

School Streets and Vehicle Access Policy

Member(s) of staff responsible	Assistant Headteacher (Behaviour Lead)
Governor responsible	Attendance and Behaviour Governor
Date approved at Governing Body	
Frequency of policy review	Bi-annually
Date next review due	September 2028

Document Version Control

Issue Number	Issue Date	Summary of changes
1	September 2026	New policy

1. Purpose

The School Streets initiative has been introduced to make the roads surrounding Warden Hill Primary School safer for children who walk, scoot, or cycle to school. By reducing vehicle traffic during the busiest times of the day, the scheme:

- Improves pupil safety at the beginning and end of the school day.
- Encourages active and healthy travel.
- Improves local air quality.
- Reduces traffic congestion around the school.
- Supports the school's commitment to environmental sustainability.
- Creates a calmer and safer environment for pupils, families, staff, and local residents.

2. School Street Restrictions

Durham Close

Durham Close is designated as a School Street. Vehicle access is prohibited during the following times on school days:

- 8:15am to 9:00am
- 2:45pm to 3:30pm

No vehicles may enter Durham Close during these restricted periods unless an approved vehicle access permit has been issued by the school.

After-School Club Collection

Vehicles are not permitted to enter the school site to collect pupils attending after-school clubs until after 4:15pm

3. Parking and Drop-Off Arrangements

Lincoln Avenue

Lincoln Avenue forms part of the School Streets scheme and must not be used for:

- Parking
- Waiting
- Stopping
- Dropping off or collecting pupils

Families who need to drive for part or all of their journey should park away from the immediate school area and complete the final section of the journey on foot.

This approach helps to:

- Reduce congestion around the school.
- Improve visibility for pedestrians and motorists.

- Increase safety at crossing points and entrances.
- Support the objectives of the School Streets initiative.

4. Monitoring and Enforcement

The school regularly monitors compliance with School Street arrangements.

The Headteacher and school staff may undertake periodic checks to support the effective operation of the scheme and ensure expectations are being followed. The scheme is also supported by:

- Traffic Wardens
- Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)

Traffic Wardens have the authority to issue penalty notices where parking and traffic restrictions are not observed. All members of the school community are expected to comply with the requirements of this policy.

VEHICLE ACCESS PERMIT SCHEME

5. Commitment to Accessibility

The school recognises that some families may require vehicle access due to individual circumstances. We are committed to ensuring that all pupils and families can access the school safely and appropriately while maintaining the aims of the School Streets initiative.

6. Eligibility for Vehicle Access

Applications for a vehicle access permit will be considered where one or more of the following criteria apply.

Disability or Mobility Needs

- The pupil, parent, or carer is a Blue Badge holder.
- The pupil has a physical disability or long-term medical condition affecting mobility.
- A temporary mobility issue exists, such as an injury or recovery from surgery.
- A parent or carer has mobility difficulties that prevent them from walking from nearby parking locations.

Medical or Safeguarding Considerations

- Transport is required to support essential medical appointments or treatment.
- There are safeguarding concerns that necessitate direct vehicle access.

Exceptional Circumstances

- Emergency situations or temporary family crises.
- The transportation of essential equipment, medical devices, or mobility aids.

7. Conditions of Access

Vehicle access permissions apply only when the approved circumstances are present.

For example, where access has been granted because of a Blue Badge holder, the permit may only be used when the Blue Badge holder is travelling in the vehicle. If the approved individual is not present, normal School Street restrictions apply.

Where possible, all families, including permit holders, should continue to park outside the restricted area and walk to school.

8. Application Process

Step 1: Send your permit request via email to the school office
admin@wardenhill.gloucs.sch.uk

Step 2: Provide Supporting Evidence

Applicants may be required to provide:

- A copy of a valid Blue Badge
- A medical letter or healthcare professional's note
- Other relevant supporting documentation

Step 3: Review and Decision

- Applications will be reviewed by the school leadership team.
- Families will receive a response within five working days.
- Successful applicants will be issued with either a temporary or permanent vehicle access permit.

9. Permit Conditions

All permit holders must comply with the following requirements:

- Permits must be clearly displayed within the vehicle at all times when accessing the School Street.
- Drivers must observe all school site safety procedures, including speed limits and designated drop-off arrangements.
- Temporary permits will be issued where access is required for a defined period.
- The school reserves the right to review, amend, suspend, or withdraw permits where circumstances change or permit conditions are not followed.

- All permits will be reviewed annually to ensure continued eligibility and alignment with the aims of the School Streets scheme.

10. Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually by the school leadership team to ensure it remains effective, equitable, and aligned with the school's commitment to pupil safety, accessibility, and sustainable travel.