

Kingfisher Hall Primary Academy The Ride Enfield Middlesex EN3 7GB

Email: kingfisher@chat-edu.org.uk

Website: https://www.kingfisherhallacademy.org.uk/

Tel: 0208 344 9890

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## Kingfisher Hall is now a 'School Street':

Our campaign to create a safe and calm atmosphere for our pupils as they arrive and leave school is a success!

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I delighted to be writing to let you know about a very important development taking place along The Ride, just outside Kingfisher Hall Academy.

Last year, as some of you will recall, I applied to the Council's Street School scheme - where the roads immediately surrounding a school are closed to motor traffic - and was just informed that we have been selected as one of the schools to benefit from this.

This great news.

As you know, I share your passion to provide the best environment for our pupils and with that in mind I responded to the many concerns I was receiving regarding the safety of our pupils at the start and end of the school day, due to the extreme traffic congestion we are all exposed to.

So many of you have raised this with me over the past year.

This daily occurrence is the worst I have seen since I have been in education and has resulted in many instances of verbal abuse (in front of pupils), road rage fights (attended by police) and tragically, a pupil being run over and hospitalised. All these incidents are very stressful for pupils, staff and families and are completely unacceptable. It is my responsibility as headteacher to ensure this does not continue.

As from Monday September 7th a section of The Ride between Collinwood Avenue and Cowland Avenue will be closed to all vehicles (except Waverley school buses) daily between 8:15am and 9:15am and 2:45pm to 3:45pm.

The scheme is being implemented by the Council and is underpinned by legislation from the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Owners of any vehicles in the zone during this time will be prosecuted.



The location and type of barrier are outlined below:



The scheme will create a safe and calm atmosphere for our pupils as they arrive and leave school. Free from the pollution, chaos and aggression that they were met with on a daily basis.

As well as making an improvement to our pupils' health and wellbeing, the School Street Scheme is designed to encourage more sustainable ways in

which to travel to school. Kingfisher will be working on other initiatives to encourage more cycling and scooting to school and we will inform you of these in due course.

## Call for volunteers

Finally, I am asking for your kind support. We need volunteers to operate the retractable barriers that will be deployed between the two permanent planters (shown in the diagram above.) I would love to have as many parent volunteers as possible so we have a pool to draw upon. I will consider providing childcare before and after school on the days you are volunteering.

You will shortly be receiving a link to a survey in which you can register your interest as a volunteer. Training for volunteers has been organised by the council and will take place on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:45am at Waverly School.

We may all find this new traffic calming system unusual at first but it will be of an enormous benefit to our pupils and I hope you share my pride in the fact that we have managed to change the road traffic law in order to drastically improve the environment for our children.

After all, the children are at the heart of all we do and we should put their health and safety before our convenience. Always.

Thank you for your continued support

Mr M Clifford

Headteacher

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