

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

**Brighton & Hove (Prohibition of Motor Vehicles) (Balfour Primary) Experimental Order 2023
(ref: TRO-34-2023)**

STATEMENT OF REASONS

In a “School Streets” scheme, all non-exempt motor vehicle access to streets near school entrances is restricted during school drop off and pick up times, principally to reduce vehicle congestion around the school gates and improve road safety. This also encourages and better enables active and sustainable travel by children and their parents/carers on the school journey.

In October 2021 the Council mandated the delivery of a School Streets programme within the prevailing national and local policy context. Nationally, the Government released their ‘Gear Change’ vision document in July 2020 which sets out the national ambition to make walking and bicycle riding the natural choice for short journeys, or as part of a longer journey. Locally, the new Local Transport Plan 5 (LTP5) is being developed to help everyone move around the City more safely, sustainably, and easily. School Streets will further support the vision, outcomes and principles of the new LTP5, as agreed by the ETS Committee on 22 June 2021. One of the key principles is shifting how people travel – prioritising walking and bicycle riding for shorter journeys and public transport for longer journeys.

In service of the fulfilment of a School Streets scheme at Balfour Primary School, Balfour Road will be closed to non-exempt motor vehicle traffic at its junction with Ditchling Road to its junction with Bates Road at school drop off and pick up times. The enforcement hours for this School Street will be Monday to Friday 8.15am to 9.15am and 2.45pm to 3.45pm -Term Time Only.

Loder Road (between Balfour Road and Loder Place will) also be converted to full-time one-way operation in the westerly direction, except buses and cycles who will retain bi-directional access. This will allow for the full extent of the School Streets scheme to be realised and enforced with physical barriers on Balfour Road alone, while minimally impacting access for Loder Road residents who will still be able to enter Balfour Road via a short diversion through Loder Place.

In support of the mission and aims of this School Streets scheme, the existing widened footpath near the school gate on Balfour Road will be extended both along and into the carriageway and raised to form a raised table. While the carriageway will remain bidirectional at this location, a one-way give-way point will be created where the extended crossings meet on both sides of the carriageway. An additional School Keep Clear zone will also be added on the east side of the street, just north of the raised crossing. No parking bays will be affected by these alterations.

Dated: 27th July 2023

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