

EDEN VALLEY GARDENS – SCHOOL STREETS



I. INTRODUCTION

This report seeks delegated authority to implement a new Traffic Order in association with the Eden Valley Gardens – School Streets Traffic Regulation Order.

2. TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS REQUIRED

2.1 The elements that need a Traffic Regulation Order are as follows:

Prohibition of Motor Vehicles except authorised vehicles

Road Name (Column 1)	Time Period (Column 2)
Eden Valley Gardens – for its entirety	Mon-Fri 8-9am and 2.15-3.30pm
Ambleside Place – for its entirety	Mon-Fri 8-9am and 2.15-3.30pm
Ravenglass Close – for its entirety	Mon-Fri 8-9am and 2.15-3.30pm

3. STATUTORY CONSULTATION

Proposals

The proposals for the Experimental TRO were advertised on street, in the Herald and on the Plymouth City Council website on 13th September 2024. Details of the proposals were sent to the Councillors representing the affected wards and statutory consultees on 11th September 2024.

There have been 4 representations received relating to the proposals included in the Traffic Regulation Order.

Consultation comments	Response
Having received your letter today with the proposed closure with barrier of Eden valley gardens through to Ambleside place and ravenglass close due to safer school street's. As a resident I'm deeply concerned on having access to my home. I do not want to stop at a barrer to give my identity to get to my own home. Nor do I want to carry a piece of paper in my car wherever I go giving out where I live. Anybody could break into my car and see my address.	<p>Thank you for taking the time to respond with your view which is appreciated</p> <p>Our School Street scheme for Tor Bridge / Cann Bridge Primary Schools is now subject to a public consultation and implementation process under an Experimental Traffic Road Order which lasts for 18 months. Parents, carers, residents, businesses, and the school are now able to have they say regarding the school street.</p> <p>Over the years I have received several emails from residents complaining about the inappropriate parking from parents in</p>

How will a visitor to my home get though at these times? Why should I not have visitors to MY property at these times.

It's absurd you have given the go ahead to this. All this will cause is inconvenience to the residents of the estate who pay to live here and pay a management fee, because parents and staff of the school cannot park where they shouldn't so residents have had inconvenience of cars blocking drives, not being able to drive up the road, and now we have the inconvenience of having a barrier blocking us from FREELY accessing our homes.

Ambleside Place and Ravenglass Close. As the local highway authority, we have installed double yellow lines and a timed loading bay. The school has been proactive in undertaking Safer Journey to school Campaigns however there are still over 120 cars entering and leaving Eden Valley gardens at school peak travel times, mostly parents.

Other local authorities across the country have already successfully implemented hundreds of School Streets. Benefits of School Streets by closing the road directly outside a school, we help to reduce road danger and improve air quality locally. This will also help to encourage more people to choose to walk, cycle, wheel or scoot for at least part of the school run.

This will reduce congestion at peak times and improve the health and wellbeing of young people.

As you know the road closure is for an hour in the morning 8-9 and 2.15 to 3.30 Monday to Friday at school term time. All the other school streets we have worked on in Plymouth we have had positive reviews from residents in the street. We do have residents who already support this School Street campaign, I think you will find that there will be very little disruption regarding access to Eden Valley Gardens which is maintained by the local highway authority. Please only display the permit to the stewards if required no one else will view it. After a few days, the stewards will know who the residents are meaning they will remove the barrier quicker. If you do have a visitor, they can inform the steward. While driving during the road closure please drive at walking pace only.

It is well known that streets around schools are always very busy with school traffic so having the road closed will be an improvement in traffic congestion and less stressful for all.

All views will be taken into consideration before any changes are made permanent.

<p>I've just read a letter you've sent regarding safer school streets.</p> <p>Can you confirm what street you're planning to block off between 8-9am and 2:15-3:30pm?</p> <p>In the letter it states we will have access to get to our homes at all times, but can you tell me how that will happen if you're blocking off the only road to get into my house?</p> <p>I should be able to access where I live at snh time with no questions and not have to rely on someone to grant me access to get to my home, that really isn't acceptable. What if they've wondered off or chatting away to someone else, it's not really acceptable to the residents in the street because some parents park like idiots, address those people.</p> <p>The issue with where we live are the pick up parents who park all up the street, the workers who park in the street and in visitor bays, sort this out and the traffic up this road reduces (Ambleside place).</p> <p>The street is too small to have such a regimented micro management system in place that will just add to traffic build up on the main road, multiple cars having to turn around on a narrow road. It's the only entry and exit to the estate.</p> <p>How will I prove I live here, what if I change my car?</p> <p>What's wrong with the stewards or a teacher coming out and telling parents sat in their car to move, or exit the students out of a different exit.</p> <p>Our children's school told us where we can and can't park and the school monitored it adhocly, that worked fine.</p> <p>Your option for this street will cause more chaos than what it is now.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments they have been noted and recorded</p> <p>There will be trained stewards at the barriers which will be placed at the junction of Eden Valley Gardens with Miller Way, who will allow you through during the time of the road closure, so you can leave as normal to take your child to school. The stewards will get to know who is allowed through during the closure after a few days. Another letter will be sent to residents in early September for further information.</p> <p>There will be exemptions permits allowed for certain drivers which is only approved by the school. All deliveries, blue lights, taxis and residents will also be exempt. We are encouraging parents who do have to drive to school to use the Asda car park to drop off to park and stride as its less than a 5 min walk to school.</p>
	<p>Thank you for your comments which has been recorded and noted.</p>

I have just received your letter via Tor Bridge Primary School and would like to clarify something with you.

Whilst I appreciate the frustration of residents living in the estate at Eden Valley, how can this be justified when;

- a) the residents have chosen to live directly opposite a school
- b) traffic is then forced into the main housing area which is already terribly congested and dangerous during school drop off and pick up times
- c) there is no parking available for the primary school
- d) the 10 minute parking limit is not enforced 24 hours a day 7 days a week and these residents of Eden Valley regularly park in the drop off bay which heightens the problem further.

I look forward to hearing your attempt at justifying this.

The trail of this safer school street has come about after several attempts by the school to dissuade parents from parking in Eden Valley Gardens where it's all double yellow lined except for the drop off bay.

There are plenty of other parking available less than 5 mins walk. The safety of the school children is always paramount. Our road safety team has been working with the school since the school was opened and undertaken several traffic and pedestrian surveys.

The local highway authority or the school does not have to provide parking directly outside a school.

Unfortunately, some parents have been parking on dropped kerbs and junction mouths which is dangerous as it restricts visibility for the pedestrians in the area, as well as on the parking restrictions. We have discussed road safety several times in the school over many, many months and we have now suggested a trail of a road closure. The trail is for 18 months under an experimental traffic order and is supported by both schools, the police and the ward councillors.

We are encouraging all parents to use the Asda car park it's less than a 4-minute walk and involves no public highway to cross. There are traffic island and zebra crossings on Miller Way which is also a 20 limit zone

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/safer-school-street-scheme>

Further details will follow nearer the time of the road closure

4. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Experimental Order is implemented in its entirety as a permanent Order as advertised.

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

The lawful implications and consequences of the proposal have been considered and taken into account in the preparation of this report.

When considering whether to make a traffic order it is the Council's responsibility to ensure that all relevant legislation is complied with. This includes Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) that sets out that it is the duty of a local authority, so far as practicable subject to certain matters, to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway. It is considered that the proposals comply with Section 122 of the Act as they practically secure the safe and expeditious movement of traffic in and around Plymouth and provide for suitable and adequate associated parking facilities.