



Walsall Council

Dear Head Teacher,

Creating a safer environment outside schools - School Enforcement Cameras

I am writing to inform you Walsall Council will be implementing enforcement of moving traffic restrictions in September 2023. The information below outlines the enforcement and exemptions regarding this restriction.

Details on how to apply for a special exemption will be given closer to the time of implementation.

Parking problems around school arrival and dispersal times are a long-standing concern for the Council. With this in mind, we have been working to create a modern technological system for the purpose of enforcing school Streets (prohibition of Vehicles) on a daily basis.

Walsall Council will roll out a new camera system for use outside selected schools in Walsall. This is to conduct CCTV enforcement of moving traffic in prohibited streets during the time the restriction is in force. This innovative camera technology is designed to promote a safer environment around the school gates by reducing congestion, which in turn will help contribute towards improved air quality. Local residents should also benefit from improvements in driver behaviour, and ultimately we hope it will encourage some motorists to reconsider the need to drive to school.

Penalty Charge Notices will be issued to those vehicles that contravene the prohibition of vehicles restriction. This will be during the legally enforceable times displayed on the regulatory signs as the enforcement software can only record traffic contraventions during those times.

The cameras may be used outside of these times for testing and maintenance, the cameras can only be used for enforcement there will be no surveillance for the purpose of crime prevention.

To ensure a high degree of privacy is maintained, all our cameras have a privacy filter to obscure the school and properties so that only the enforceable section of each street can be viewed.

The Restriction

A 'No Motor Vehicles' moving vehicle order will be introduced along Pineneedle Croft, from the junction with Furzebank Way. The operational times of the restriction will be between 0830 and 0915 in the morning and 1445 and 1530 in the afternoon, Monday to Friday during term times. The restriction will be applicable during school term times only and consideration will be given to the use of camera technology if compliance levels require.

The restriction applies only to vehicles entering during prohibited time, you can leave at any time.

Exemptions

Residents and local businesses with vehicles registered to an address located within a School Safe Haven Zone can apply for an exemption permit.

The exemption will give a legal right to drive the registered vehicle into the zone during the scheme's operating times. Please note, that this exemption does not allow the vehicle to stop or park on the school keep clear markings during the school keep clear restriction times.

Emergency service vehicles, when responding to an emergency, will also be exempt but parents, school staff, employees of businesses within the zone, delivery drivers and trades people will generally not be granted an exemption.

Special Exemptions

Special exemptions will be available for blue badge holders requiring access to the Zone and carers for vulnerable residents living within the Zone. Special exemptions will also be available for school staff if regular access is deemed

necessary during the operational period of the restriction. Applications for a special exemption will be considered on a case-by-case basis and determined following appropriate validations of status and journey purpose.

Although permits are free they will be limited so that only essential vehicle movements are made during the short operational periods of the restriction. This is done to protect the safety of children outside the school and to encourage walking and cycling.

For further information please feel free to email carparks@walsall.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

The Parking Services Team