

17 January 2024
KOn/CGn

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for continuing to support King's Oak Academy and South Gloucestershire Council to manage the Safer School Streets Scheme which has been in operation at Brook Road since 2020. As you know, the programme is designed to:

- Promote healthy active lifestyles to encourage more children and families to use active travel methods (e.g. walking/cycling /scooting /park and stride) to move to/from school.
- Improve road safety on Brook Road at the start and end of the day.
 - Historically, the amount of moving traffic on the road directly outside the school gates resulted in near miss road traffic collisions between students and cars.
- Reduce air pollution directly outside the school from idling car engines.

Initially, when the School Streets Scheme was introduced, the project had planned to install a set of gates at the start of Brook Road which would be closed during the period at the start and end of the day, where the school road is closed. Unfortunately, this element of the project was delayed for several years and as a result, the academy supported the scheme by deploying a member of staff to enforce the road closure with cones used to close the road.

As many families have read in the recent Kingswood Voice press release, we understand that the Council are intending to fit the original gates very soon. To the best of our knowledge, we understand that this work is expected to take place during the February half term period. With this in mind, from the start of Term 4 we have been instructed to update some of our practices and routines so that the School Streets Scheme can continue to be implemented effectively and in accordance with the Traffic Regulation Order [TRO], which was granted at the start of the programme. Please see below for a summary of the updates and reminders that we have been asked to share with you:

Parking Expectations

We have noticed, and received complaints from fellow parents/neighbours, about a rise in the number of cars parking dangerously/illegally both on Brook Road and in the surrounding streets. We understand it is likely there will be a rise in Traffic Warden patrols in the area to help enforce safe and legal car parking, therefore please ensure that:

- You do not park on any white zig-zag lines or double yellow lines (especially on Brook Road where it is currently becoming more hazardous for our Lower School children to cross the road to enter the Upper School site safely)
- You do not park across or in a manner that obstructs road junctions.
- You do not park on neighbours' driveways or in front of driveways both on Brook Road and in the local area at any time – sadly we are receiving this complaint quite regularly, and understandably this type of behaviour is causing tension in the local community.
- You do not park in Brook Road before the TRO activates then move your car into the highway and attempt to be allowed out whilst the TRO is in operation. This action blocks the road for valid permit

holders, creates traffic congestion which prevents children from crossing safely, and results in additional pressure and challenge for King's Oak staff who subsequently need to manage frustrated drivers!

Permits

1. School Street Permits will be issued in the final week of Term 3. From 19 February, KOA/South Glos. staff will only allow permit holders to enter the school street zone during the operational times. It will NOT exempt permit holders from breaching any parking restrictions. If a permit holder parks in contravention of any parking restrictions, they will be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice.
2. King's Oak may only issue School Street Permits to a pupil who is registered blue badge holder, a parent who is a blue badge holder and is also the parent/carer of a primary aged (YrR-6) child only who attends King's Oak Academy, or a resident within Brook Road and are registered against specific individual vehicle registration plates.
3. Permits are free of charge and the scheme will be reviewed on an annual basis.
4. Permits where school streets are operational can be obtained by emailing catherine.gillman@clf.uk and sustravel4schools@southglos.gov.uk or sending a postal request to South Gloucestershire Council, ECS, PO Box 1954, Road Safety ETP, Bristol, BS37 0DD. Following the application, checks will then be completed to ensure that the permit request meets the qualifying requirements outlined above. Please note that:
 - a. Permit holder details can only be changed and/or permits transferred between vehicles on request.
 - b. Applications from residents must include a valid Council Tax reference number for their property when applying for a permit.
 - c. Permits must be surrendered if the eligible pupil ceases to be a pupil at King's Oak Academy. Permits will be invalidated if the permit holder no longer is a pupil at King's Oak Academy.
 - d. Permits must be surrendered if the resident permit holder ceases to be a resident at the household address. Permits will be invalidated if the permit holder no longer resides at the address.
5. It remains the permit holder's responsibility to ensure their vehicle registration number is correctly provided and any vehicle changes updated. An incorrect vehicle registration number may lead to the issue of a fixed penalty notice from the Police when entering the school street zone during its operational times.
6. The permit will be issued in a sticker form and will need to be clearly displayed in the registered vehicle's windscreen when entering the school street zone during its operational times.
7. Residents' vehicles, for which a permit is issued, do not need to be registered at the permit holders' address, but in making the application, the permit holder undertakes that the vehicle is for the primary use of a resident at the property and is normally kept at that property.
8. All permits remain the property of South Gloucestershire Council, who retain the right to withdraw it when not used in accordance with these terms and conditions. South Gloucestershire Council reserves the right to change the terms and conditions. The terms and conditions advertised on the website will be the current valid terms and conditions for use of school streets permits.

Thank you in advance for your support as we work together with you and South Gloucestershire Council to ensure that the School Streets Scheme is enforced appropriately and safely.

Kind regards,



Cate Gillman
Senior Operations Manager