



Streetscene
Hackney Council
Hackney Service Centre
1 Hillman Street
London
E8 1DY

020 8356 3000
movegreener@hackney.gov.uk

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School Street SS50 at Clapton Girls' Academy, launching on Monday 22 January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Council is committed through its Transport Strategy (2015-2025) to making Hackney's roads safer for everyone living, working, and visiting Hackney. We aim to create an environment that will encourage more walking and cycling, and improve air quality and road safety in the borough.

Since 2013, there has been a significant rise in the number of car journeys in London, which has also been replicated in Hackney, most of which occurred on neighbourhood roads. We also know that around 40% of the traffic on the borough's roads passes through Hackney without stopping.

We want to protect all of our communities from these rises in traffic, support people to make healthier local journeys, prioritise public transport for those who need it, and create cleaner, greener streets for everyone to enjoy.

This is also in line with guidance from the Department for Transport, through the Gear Change plan, to introduce more School Streets in order to provide safe spaces for walking and cycling, and enable active travel to school.

In line with this guidance, we are launching an experimental School Street zone at Clapton Girls' Academy (zone SS50).



School Street at Clapton Girls' Academy (SS50)

School Streets are schemes where the road(s) outside of a school are closed to most vehicles during school opening and closing times, helping children and parents walk and cycle to school safely, and improving air quality at the school gates.

From Monday 22 January 2024, School Street zone SS50 will be introduced at Clapton Girls' Academy and will include the following streets:

- Laura Place
- Mayola Road, from the junction with Rushmore Road to the junction with Almack Road
- Almack Road

See the drawing at the end of this letter for a visual representation of the restrictions.

Vehicles will not be able to enter the School Street zone between 8:00-9:00am and 2:30-3:30pm, Monday to Friday, unless they have been granted an exemption from this School Street zone. The School Street zone will not operate on weekends or during school holidays.

Vehicles registered to residential and business addresses inside the School Street SS50 zone will be eligible for an exemption from the SS50 restrictions and will therefore be able to access their properties at all times.

Timed Pedestrian and Cycle Zone signs will be erected at the entrance point to the zone, informing drivers of the restrictions. Public notices advising about the new restrictions will be displayed in the street prior to implementation.

Is my vehicle eligible for an exemption from the School Street SS50 zone?

Only residents or businesses with a vehicle(s) registered to an address within the School Street SS50 zone will be permitted to enter that zone with their vehicle(s) when it is closed to other traffic.

Vehicles driven by residents living outside of the School Streets SS50 zone, friends, tradespeople or delivery drivers, and school staff, will not be permitted to enter the School Street SS50 zone street during the time period the scheme is in operation, unless they have been granted a special exemption.

Can I apply for a School Street exemption on special grounds?

We can consider granting special exemptions to School Street zone SS50 to drivers of other vehicles on a case-by-case basis. This can include Blue Badge holders, carers, and some delivery vehicles that need access to a business property inside the zone, during the School Street operating times.

If you think this applies to you, you need to complete an application form, clearly explaining the reasons for needing a special exemption. You can apply online for an exemption at: <https://hackney.gov.uk/school-streets>, or you can request a paper copy of the exemption application form by emailing us at: movegreener@hackney.gov.uk.

If granted a special exemption, your vehicle(s) would only be exempt from SS50. It will not be exempt from any of the other School Street zones in the borough. The Council keeps a record of the exemptions that have been granted and which vehicles they are assigned to.

How will the School Street zone be enforced?

The School Street SS50 zone will be indicated by timed Pedestrian and Cycle Zone signs at each entry point (see drawing below). It is a traffic offence for non-exempt vehicles to enter the School Street zone during the operational times, and infractions can carry a penalty charge issued by an CCTV camera.

What about businesses within the School Street zone?

Vehicles registered to a business address within the School Street SS50 zone will be required to apply for an exemption. You can apply online for an exemption at: <https://hackney.gov.uk/school-streets> or you can request a paper copy of the exemption application form by emailing us at: movegreener@hackney.gov.uk.

What if my vehicle is already inside the School Street zone when it comes into operation?

All vehicles already inside a School Street zone during the times of operation are permitted to leave the zone at any time without incurring a penalty charge.

How will this affect privately run school transport services?

Exemptions from a School Street zone are available for school transport vehicles that need to access an address within a School Street zone to pick up or drop off children. If you rely on private school transport provision, please ask your transport provider to contact us at movegreener@hackney.gov.uk, or write to us at 'Freepost Streetscene' with their name and contact details. If you know your transport provider's name and details, you can provide this information to us yourself. Please note that exemptions for school transport vehicles from School Street restrictions will be arranged between Hackney Council and the transport provider.

What happens next?

We will introduce the School Street at Clapton Girls' Academy from Monday 22 January 2024. Like any changes to the road network, we expect this measure to take time to settle in before the full benefits to walking, cycling and traffic reduction are seen. There may be some traffic disruption as drivers get used to the changes.

Have your say

The School Street (SS50) is being introduced using an experimental traffic order for a maximum period of 18 months, which means you can see how the scheme works and let us know how you think it is working. The views of residents and businesses, including any suggested changes to how the scheme operates, will be taken into account before any decision on whether or not to make the measure permanent.

Once the scheme is in place, you can have your say up until six months after the scheme has been implemented, until Monday 22 July 2024. To comment on the

scheme, after the Monday 22 January 2024 launch date, please visit the Council's scheme consultation page at: consultation.hackney.gov.uk/streetscene/ss50.

Yours sincerely

Tyler Linton
 Assistant Director, Streetscene
 Climate, Homes and Economy Directorate

Map of School Street at Clapton Girls' Academy (SS50)

