

MEDWAY COUNCIL
PROVISION OF PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE ZONES OUTSIDE SCHOOLS
NOTICE OF PROPOSALS

The Medway Council (School Streets) (Pedestrian and Cycle Zones) (No. *) Traffic Order 2025

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Medway Council propose to make the above-mentioned Order under sections 1, 2 and 4 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended.
2. The general effect of the Order would be to introduce a new 'pedestrian and cycle zone' in the vicinity of each of the schools listed in the Schedule to this Notice, operating at the times and comprising the streets or parts of streets listed in that Schedule.
3. All motor vehicles except permit holders would be prohibited from entering the pedestrian and cycle zones during their hours of operation. Virtual permits allowing vehicles to enter a pedestrian and cycle zone would be available to residents and those caring for residents, of premises located within or only accessible from the pedestrian and cycle zones, by application to the Council. Local buses would be exempt from the restriction (Orchard Street and View Road). Further exemptions would apply to vehicles of those dropping off or picking up students with special educational needs or who are disabled (the details of such vehicles being registered with the school) and to emergency service vehicles, school buses and certain other service vehicles and utility vehicles (in an emergency only) and also to school staff requiring access to parking facilities within school grounds. Any vehicle that is already within the pedestrian and cycle zone prior to its commencement of operation would be permitted to leave.
4. Copies of the proposed Order, plans and other documents giving more detailed particulars of the Order may be inspected at the front reception, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TR during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive, except for bank and public holidays. Electronic copies of the documents can be requested by sending an email to **TROconsult@medway.gov.uk** on the understanding that requests may take up to 5 working days to be completed.
5. Any objections or other representations to the proposed Order should be sent in writing by email to **TROconsult@medway.gov.uk** or by post to "Parking Design team" at the address specified in paragraph 4 above, by **Friday 28 March 2025** to be considered, stating name, address and grounds for objection or support.

Dated 6 March 2025

Adam Bryan, Director of Place

SCHEDULE

(1) pedestrian and cycle zones operating between 8.00am and 9.15am and between 3.00pm and 4.00pm on Monday to Friday inclusive: in relation to **Cliffe Woods Primary School**, comprising of the following road: VIEW ROAD, CLIFFE WOODS (between Merryboys Road and Milton Avenue).

(2) pedestrian and cycle zone operating between 8.15am and 9.15am and between 3.00pm and 4.00pm on Monday to Friday inclusive: in relation to **Fairview Primary School**, comprising of the following roads: DREWERY DRIVE, GILLINGHAM (between Maidstone Road and Edward Close); ST MARGARETS DRIVE, GILLINGHAM; CARVORAN WAY, GILLINGHAM; EDWARDS CLOSE, GILLINGHAM and LAKEWOOD DRIVE, GILLINGHAM.

(3) pedestrian and cycle zone operating between 8.00am and 9.00am and between 3.00pm and 4.00pm on Monday to Friday inclusive: in relation to **High Halstow Primary School**, comprising of the following road: HARRISON DRIVE, HIGH HALSTOW, ROCHESTER.

(4) pedestrian and cycle zone operating between 8.20am and 9.00am and between 2:30pm and 3.30pm on Monday to Friday inclusive: in relation to **Hilltop Primary School**, comprising of the following road: HILLTOP ROAD, WAINSCOTT, ROCHESTER (between Cooling Road and Marden Road).

(5) pedestrian and cycle zone operating between 8.00am and 9.00am and between 3.00pm and 4.00pm on Monday to Friday inclusive: in relation to **St. Margarets Church of England Infant and Junior School**, comprising of the following roads: ORCHARD STREET, RAINHAM, GILLINGHAM (between Broadview Avenue and Thames Avenue); TUDOR GROVE, RAINHAM, GILLINGHAM; HURST PLACE, RAINHAM, GILLINGHAM and GATEKEEPER CHASE, RAINHAM, GILLINGHAM.

(6) pedestrian and cycle zone operating between 8.00am and 9.00am and between 3.00pm and 4.00pm on Monday to Friday inclusive: in relation to **St William of Perth Catholic Primary School**, comprising of the following roads: CANON CLOSE, ROCHESTER and RECTORY GRANGE, ROCHESTER.

APPENDIX B – Statutory Consultation Objections / Feedback

| Name and scheme | Objection / Feedback | Officer's responses |
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| ██████████ - All | <p>Good morning ██████████</p> <p>Kent Police have no specific observations to make regarding the waiting restriction proposals, however in general terms we would expect the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The application meets the necessary criteria • The introduction or removal of Parking restrictions complies in all respect with the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016 • The introduction of such measures will not leave the Police with the task of carrying out constant enforcement issues • The safety of other road users is not compromised by the introduction of these measures <p>Civil Parking Enforcement will require Local Authority to ensure resources are available to enforce these proposals. Our reference for your proposals is 089/25 Kind regards, ██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>The implementation of all schemes will be in accordance with requirements outlined by the Kent Police.</p> |
| ██████████ - All | <p>Please forward a digital copy of the attached photo of the order.</p> <p>Regards ██████████</p> | <p>Request actioned.</p> |
| <p>██████████ - St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I would like to show my disappointment that canon close, Rochester is being put forward for a school street. I am against this decision due to how dangerous Maidstone Road is for all children to have to use and the start/finish school.</p> <p>i am a parent of a disabled child who has a blue badge due to chromosome abnormalities. With this he cannot walk long distance's, he has no concept of the dangers of roads. This would put him at risk and others that are in similar situations.</p> <p>i would like for the school street to be reconsidered, or at least have some provisions in place for students with disabilities.</p> <p>Thank you ██████████</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>Blue badge holders and registered carers are eligible to apply for an exemption to the scheme.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I am writing to object to the implementation of school streets on canon close.</p> <p>I am objecting as there has been no evidence shown of poor air quality down said close. Before an allegation is made evidence is needed.</p> <p>I am also objecting as this will make a massive impact on the safety of Maidstone rd and surrounding streets to which no elements to help this situation have been put in place. Moving traffic from a quiet rd onto a busy main rd that has had numerous safety issues already in my eyes is not resolving anything and very contradicting.</p> <p>I also object to the fact that canon close is an unsafe rd, having been regularly driving my children to school over the last 10 plus years and</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> |

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| | <p>never have I witnessed an accident in fact it's quite the opposite I think drivers are very considerate on the whole when driving down the close, more than I can say for some residents!</p> <p>With all these in mind I ask you reconsider this proposal and ask that you make a more thorough investigation.</p> <p>Kind regards ██████████</p> | <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>All schemes will be subject to a monitoring period, which includes conducting before and after surveys to assess the impact once a scheme has been implemented. Surveys will record traffic levels and monitor emissions around each school including St William of Perth Catholic Primary School.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Good evening</p> <p>We used to be residents in Canon Close and we have always been against the scheme from day 1 as we don't see the need for it - and we lived directly opposite the school so it did impact on us but not enough for a whole scheme to be put in place.</p> <p>I am quite honestly astounded that anyone with any authority thinks this should go ahead, clearly none of you have been along Maidstone Road at the busy times - it is SO dangerous with cars parked everywhere and people not being able to see clearly enough to cross the road, if this scheme goes ahead that road will be utter madness and even more dangerous because we are then encouraging more small children to walk along it and CROSS IT!!!! The fact that it has been stated that the road is "too dangerous for a lolly pop lady" makes me feel utterly disappointed and disgusted that it is clearly safe enough for little young children to cross.</p> <p>It obviously is different to other school roads because it comes out on a road with two major grammar schools, within walking distance so this makes it a lot busier than the other schools with the scheme running!</p> <p>I do understand that it is frustrating for the residents - having been one myself recently!!! But they are more than welcome to move to a road with no school in it if it causes that much distress!!</p> <p>I really do feel there must be better ways to resolve these issues than putting little children in danger??</p> <p>Please please please think about the risks and dangers of this before you agree to it.</p> <p>Many thanks</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margarets Infant School, Rainham</p> | <p>Hello TRO consult,</p> <p>Please can you send me a street map of the roads affected.</p> <p>Thank you ██████████</p> | <p>Request actioned.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I continue to strongly oppose Canon Close, Rochester becoming a School Street.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always</p> |

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| | <p>I believe this move will serve only to endanger small children, many of whom do not have the road safety awareness to move safely alongside or to safely cross the busy and dangerous Maidstone Road.</p> <p>Had the surveys asked, I believe most parents would have confirmed that they drive their children to school through necessity - not to irritate local residents who knowingly purchased properties on the same road as a school.</p> <p>Those parents will still drive their children to school as the need will not have disappeared. They will still live too far to walk, bike or scoot, particularly given that this faith-based school has a wide catchment. They will still need to make onwards journeys to drop off other children or to get to work. For this reason, the council's unsubstantiated claims of environmental benefits do not hold any real weight.</p> <p>Alternative parking in a carpark off Priestfields is again dangerous, given that children are forced to walk in an area which is without pavements. Your failure to listen to well-reasoned arguments against this scheme is staggering and has shaken my faith that Medway Council is run in an even vaguely democratic way.</p> <p>Find another revenue stream that doesn't put small children in harm's way.</p> <p>Yours faithfully ██████████</p> | <p>involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> <p>The overriding objective is to get high level of compliance in order to improve the safety for children, however with all types of regulatory measures there is often indiscriminate driving which creates the need for enforcement.</p> <p>The implementation, processes and maintenance of an enforcement system has a cost associated which is required to be met through any generated PCN fines</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Hello.</p> <p>I'm pleased that you are considering this scheme for our street. The parking and disruption at school pick up and drop off times is incredibly dangerous and it's putting local lives and those of the school kids at risk. I'm grateful to you for taking action.</p> <p>To ensure the measures are effective my view is that the hours of operation need to be between 2.30 and 3.30/4 as most parents arrive early and park in the close from 2.30 waiting for their children to finish. In doing so they block access for vehicles and for elderly and disabled residents it's a nightmare. They also park on peoples drives, up on the kerb and even on grass verges.</p> <p>It's disappointing that the school has refused to play a role in resolving this and is actively campaigning to parents to resist the scheme. They clearly have no concern for the children or the local residents.</p> <p>Many thanks ██████████</p> | <p>Supported noted.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Good Morning.</p> <p>I'm writing in response to the proposed school street on Canon Close and Rectory Grange of which I am a resident of. I am not sure why I am bothering to send this since my prior responses on the matter were left ignored and not responded to. It seems almost like the various consultations are merely tick-boxes in a process which seems to have already been decided. This has left me highly cynical that this is truly</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> |

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| | <p>anything but a tidy little money maker for local government. Nevertheless I will repeat my concerns once more.</p> <p>First and foremost is that we rely on family, mainly two sets of grandparents to pick up our children from school. Without this my wife simply would not be able to work. We had previously requested assurance that they would be able to receive exemptions but were specifically not given any reassurance which was very concerning. Alex Paterson has said verbally that they would be given exemptions which was good to hear but without explicit clarity it is difficult not to be nervous about this given the extremely negative impact for us. Either my wife will be forced to quit her job, causing massive financial concerns for us, or we will be forced to take whatever legal action necessary for as long as it takes to ensure that our children have access to their own home.</p> <p>Secondly, if the scheme does go ahead, the proposed times in the afternoon don't make any sense. At 3-4 many parents will just arrive slightly earlier, just before 3 (some do already) and they are all gone by 3:30. 2:45 - 3:30 makes far more sense, better targeting the desired outcomes without setting unnecessary restrictions which are not providing any of the stated benefits.</p> <p>Thirdly, the stated justification for this scheme is one of safety, but for this school I find it incredibly difficult to come clearly to a conclusion that this would achieve that. In fact I would say a logical person would see there will be the same volume of cars but they will be forced into other busier, already very congested roads, exacerbating congestion in the area, even if the one section of road directly outside the school is not busy, with the number of children then having to traverse those busier roads increasing. A quiet cul-de-sac has surely got to be generally safer than a busy through road and there are already two schools on Maidstone road competing for limited parking space, this would effectively add a third school into the mix. I have suggested in my prior consultation responses that an independent traffic management analysis on the consequences to wider traffic issues and safety should be commissioned. I would have thought that if safety truly is the primary reason for this scheme, then this should surely be a top priority. If there is any chance that this scheme, purportedly designed to improve safety, could actually worsen it instead, then more work is required to remove that doubt.</p> <p>I hope to hear from you.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>██████████</p> | <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> <p>Registered carers, emergency services and those eligible for an exemption will all be able to apply to enter the scheme during operational hours. If there are particular instances of concerns for a visitor during the limited hours of operation Medway Council will consider options to reduce any impacts.</p> <p>Visitors can also exit a school street zone without receiving a PCN once it is operational.</p> |
| <p>██████████</p> <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Subject: Concern Regarding School Street Camera and Safety Risks Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>I am writing to express my concerns regarding the school street camera, which restricts entering at Cannon Close during school hours or parking on school road. While I understand the intention behind this measure is to improve safety, I strongly believe it is counterproductive and poses additional risks to students and parents.</p> <p>Due to the lack of alternative parking options, many parents, including myself, are now forced to park on the main road, which is significantly busier and less safe for children. The increased traffic congestion, coupled</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like</p> |

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| | <p>with limited safe drop-off points, creates a hazardous situation, particularly during peak school hours. For families like mine who must travel by car, this restriction leaves us with no viable alternatives. The absence of designated safe parking spaces near the school further exacerbates the issue, increasing the likelihood of accidents and putting children at unnecessary risk. I urge you to reconsider the implementation of this policy and explore alternative solutions that prioritize both safety and practicality. Possible considerations could include designated drop-off zones, staggered arrival times, or exemptions for parents with no other means of transportation. I appreciate your time in reviewing this matter and look forward to your response. I hope we can find a solution that ensures the safety and convenience of all students and parents. Sincerely, [Redacted]</p> | <p>pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children. Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements. Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>[Redacted] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Medway School Streets – Canon Close</p> <p>I am writing to express my views that I am strongly against the Medway School Streets proposal for Canon Close. I am against this proposal from the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I believe it will actually make things less safe for our children and not more. Closing Canon Close to traffic during school drop-off and pick-up times will force parents and carers to use other nearby roads, which I believe are significantly more dangerous. Maidstone Road, in particular, has a history of accidents and speeding, with Medway Council's own data identifying it as one of the most dangerous roads in the area. The Council's aim is to move traffic out of Canon Close. However, this displacement of traffic will increase the danger to children by pushing them onto roads with a higher risk of accidents. A previous request for a crossing patrol on Maidstone Road was rejected. Closing Canon Close will inevitably lead to more families having to navigate the more hazardous Maidstone Road. There is no evidential basis for the Council's proposal to make Canon Close a School Street in terms of safety. In the 50 years since the school opened, there have been zero reported pupil casualties in Canon Close. This clearly demonstrates that Canon Close is already one of the safest streets in Medway The implementation of School Streets will impact visitors to the school; outside agencies such as play therapists, speech and language therapists, Educational Psychologists, social workers. All of these professionals will not be able to visit until after a certain time in the morning and this may not fit schedules or allow them enough time to work with children before break time. <p>I do believe that the implementation of School Streets will not help keep children safe and will actively cause them more danger, whilst also impacting day-to-day running of the school. I am strongly requesting that the council rethink this proposal of School Streets for Canon Close.</p> <p>Yours Sincerely, [Redacted]</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements. Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>[Redacted] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Good afternoon I believe a restriction in hours be amended to 1430 - 1530 may be most effective for this scheme. Thank you [Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> |

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| | [REDACTED] | |
| <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Can I please suggest that the afternoon vehicle restrictions are amended to 2.30 - 3.30pm. The close is already jammed with parked cars by 3pm.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> |
| <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>[REDACTED] of 5 canon i would like to make a point that afternoon times should be 2-30 to 3-30 i hope you change your afternoon times which would suit all the tenants in our close.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> |
| <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am writing to formally express my concerns regarding the proposed School Streets statutory scheme for Canon Close in Rochester. While I appreciate the intention behind the initiative to improve road safety and air quality, I have several reservations about its impact on local residents and road users.</p> <p>Firstly, the restrictions will cause significant inconvenience for residents who rely on access to and from their homes during the restricted hours. The limited entry and exit times may not accommodate essential trips, deliveries, or visitors, creating unnecessary disruption.</p> <p>Secondly, I am concerned about the potential displacement of traffic to surrounding roads, which could lead to increased congestion and safety risks in nearby areas. Redirecting vehicles away from Canon Close may not reduce overall traffic but instead shift the problem elsewhere, affecting other residents and road users.</p> <p>Additionally, I believe that alternative solutions, such as improved pedestrian crossings, better enforcement of existing traffic laws, or staggered school start and finish times, should be explored before implementing a full road closure or restriction.</p> <p>I urge the council to reconsider the proposed restrictions and take into account the concerns of residents who will be directly affected. A more balanced approach that prioritizes both safety and accessibility should be considered.</p> <p>I would appreciate confirmation that my objection has been received and request to be kept informed of any further developments regarding this matter.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Dear Sir / Madam</p> | <p>Noted.</p> |

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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I am writing to strongly object to the proposal to include Cannon Close in the school street plan.</p> <p>In today's society, the traditional model of single-income households, where one parent has time to walk children to and from school, is no longer the norm. In most families, both parents work and are already struggling to balance their schedules to accommodate school runs.</p> <p>Personally, I do not have the time to complete the school run on foot. I use my lunch break to do both drop-off and pick-up, and restricting access to Cannon Close would make this significantly more difficult.</p> <p>This proposal will force parents to park on Maidstone Road, which is already very busy. Even if they manage to park further away, walking with young children—some as young as four—can be both stressful and dangerous. At that age, children do not always follow instructions well, and their excitement after school makes them even harder to manage. The pavements are extremely crowded at these times, especially with students from the nearby high school, making it easy for small children to get lost in the crowd.</p> <p>Additionally, many parents rely on grandparents for school pick-ups, and this change would create further challenges. Elderly grandparents may struggle with the additional distance from their parked cars to the school, making pick-ups unnecessarily difficult for them.</p> <p>While I sympathise with the residents of Cannon Close, they chose to buy homes near a school, knowing the associated traffic and activity. Their concerns, while understandable, should not take precedence over the safety and practicality of parents and children.</p> <p>I urge you to reconsider this proposal and seek alternative solutions that do not place undue strain on working families and the safety of young children.</p> <p>Kind regards, ██████████</p> | <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Good evening ,</p> <p>Please treat this email as an official objection to School Street scheme you are trying to implement .</p> <p>I am not entirely sure where are you proposing , parents will park in order to bring and collect the children safely to school ? I understand you will be taking FULL responsibility for the safety of the children and additional parking elsewhere ?</p> <p>The school was built before the neighbourhood houses on Cannon Close , if 20 minutes in the day , bothers the residents that much then perhaps they shouldn't have purchased the properties there or perhaps they should move instead of making parents life more difficult .</p> <p>I also hope, Council does recognise the impact this will have on safety on our children. Please note , should any incidents arise due to this , Council will be held fully responsible for it and we as parents will do everything in</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> |

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| | <p>our power to get justice as at the moment , it feels you have yet come up with another plan to penalise other residents . Considering you already charge extortionate amount of money in tax this is totally unacceptable. I also understand , you are familiar with road tax and what it is. I can freely park wherever I want , so will you be reimbursing the proportion of the road tax to parents that are now being told to put their children's safety at risk because few elderly residents don't like the cars on their road 20 minutes during the school pick up and drop off ?</p> <p>I look forward to your constructive response and reasons for your proposal. Real reason.</p> | <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>Not provided</p> | <p>Safety of our children should be priority to this council!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! This is an official objection for what you are trying to implement , completely disregarding democracy in this country</p> | <p>Noted.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it concerns,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order under section 1(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as published by Medway council for Cannon Close.</p> <p>After reviewing the proposal in full I am objecting on the grounds that this TRO does not improve the safety of the children, does not improve Air Quality in the area and in fact has the opposite effect in terms of safety.</p> <p>This proposal will force parents, carers and children to navigate more dangerous routes to get to school by pushing the road users from Cannon Close onto an extremely more dangerous Maidstone Road. This road as confirmed by Medway council statistics is one of the most dangerous roads in the borough of Medway and I think it is despicable that you would consider redirecting pedestrians especially school children under the age of 11 onto this road to get to school. I would urge Medway council to reconsider. I would appreciate acknowledgement of this objection.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognise that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear team,</p> <p>I would like to register my view on the proposed school street for Canon Close Rochester. I wish to object to the proposal as I believe the safety of the children at the St William of Perth School would be at risk.</p> <p>My 6 year old daughter who attends the school is on the SEND register and needs support at school. She would struggle to get to school if I am unable to drive to the school and take her to school gate. She is easily distracted on busy roads and I am concerned about her safety if she has to walk from Maidstone Road to the school.</p> <p>I believe this applies to a lot of the children as well. Maidstone Road is extremely busy during the times proposed, an adult would struggle to an extent to navigate their way through the buses, cars and crowd going into or coming out of the secondary schools.</p> <p>I would appreciate if Canon Close is excluded from the the school street proposal.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognise that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| | Concerned mum. | |
| <p>██████████</p> <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I am putting in my view to disagree with the school street proposal for Cannon Street as this will endanger my kids and all other school children I disagree with it and feel it is of no benefit as there are three big schools in the vicinity</p> <p>Warmest Regards</p> <p>██████████</p> | |
| <p>██████████</p> <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close,</p> | <p>To whom it concerns,</p> <p>I am writing to formerly object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order under section 1(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as published by Medway council for Cannon Close.</p> <p>After reviewing the proposal in full I am objecting on the grounds that this TRO does not improve the safety of the children, does not improve Air Quality in the area and in fact has the opposite effect in terms of safety.</p> <p>This proposal will force parents, carers and children to navigate more dangerous routes to get to school by pushing the road users from Cannon Close onto an extremely more dangerous Maidstone Road. This road as confirmed by Medway council statistics is one of the most dangerous roads in the borough of Medway and I think it is despicable that you would consider redirecting pedestrians especially school children under the age of 11 onto this road to get to school. I would urge Medway council to reconsider. I would appreciate acknowledgement of this objection.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████</p> <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I am writing to confirm I am against the planning of the street closure.</p> <p>This is going to just push the traffic out onto a busy Maidstone road. It is dangerous enough as it is!!</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████</p> <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear</p> <p>Whom it may concern,</p> <p>I'm writing this email as a very concerned parent, my child attends st William of Perth catholic primary school on canon close, he's my third child to attend this school so I feel well versed to be able to give my honest thoughts and advice on the parking situation on the close. I feel so strongly that a "no parking" zone be issued to this school area as their is</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always</p> |

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| | <p>no alternative parking, I know the council have suggested parent park at preistfileds and then walk the children round, this is a long walk for small children and lots of those children have younger siblings. Preistfileds Road is a very busy road and sometimes cars are parked on the road making getting prams and buggy's through difficult which then may force parents to go around cars onto the road making this highly dangerous. Also small children do like to run ahead making it another dangerous situation. Lots of parents also have other children who attend other schools which they will have no other option but to drive to and then onto st William of Perth so driving is a essential, this again making it Evan more stressful at an already stressful time of the day. Having had two other children attend the school (they are nearly 19 and nearly 16 and my son is 10) iv been doing the "school run" to this school for a long time and never have I WHITNESSED a child hit by a car or an accident between cars? What I do know is that a huge amount of parents drop their children off to school and head straight to work so again adding on a walk from preistfileds and then back to their car harder and may result in parents having to adjust the times they start and finish work? We are all aware of the cost of living crisis and the pressures it is having on everybody so this could have a huge impact on a lot of working parents. As yourl be aware that their are also two grammar schools very close by and the parents to those children who drive then park all the way along the Maidstone Road on both sides and sometimes Evan parked across the "crossing section" (not the traffic light crossing) which is hugely dangerous and frustrating. Iv spoken to a lot of parents and I don't know any person who is in favor of this proposal.</p> <p>We all have the same objective and that ultimately is keeping young children safe and the alternatives proposed by the council will not be the safest option.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>E</p> | <p>involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it concerns,</p> <p>I am writing to formerly object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order under section 1(1) of the Road Traffic Regulstion Act 1984, as published by Medway council for Cannon Close.</p> <p>After reviewing the proposal in full I am objecting on the grounds that this TRO does not improve the safety of the children, does not improve Air Quality in the area and in fact has the opposite effect in terms of safety.</p> <p>This proposal will force parents, carers and children to navigate more dangerous routes to get to school by pushing the road users from Cannon Close onto an extremely more dangerous Maidstone Road. This road as confirmed by Medway council statistics is one of the most dangerous roads in the borough of Medway and I think it is despicable that you would consider redirecting pedestrians especially school children under the age of 11 onto this road to get to school. I would urge Medway council to reconsider. I would appreciate acknowledgement of this objection and I would like to receive any updates on developments in the future.</p> <p>Regards</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Hello Team</p> <p>I would like to add my opinion on the School street proposal in canon close, Rochester I have lived in the close for nearly 15yrs and have witnessed many many situations that could have caused danger to the children being dropped off at the school. Speeding and inconsiderate parking has become worrying. I feel for everyone concerned it would be safer to put into place the timings of 14.30-15.30pm. Unfortunately I don't think it will be long between have another accident in the close.</p> <p>Kind regards [Redacted]</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Hi,</p> <p>Note this as official objection. I dont appreciate the fact , that 76% of residents have objected to this money scamming scheme you are trying to implement but you still trying to go ahead with it. Do we live in democratic country or not ?!</p> <p>Also I want to see proposal of where are you expecting parents to park and how are you planning to keep children safe as obviously you clearly dont care about children and their safety and god forbidden something does happen to my child or myself whilst pikcing my daughter up I will make sure you all loose your jobs and someone is brought to justice.</p> <p>I recommend someone competent actually think this through as we are in process of reporting council to the parliment</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>good evening as originally stated by myself in the first proposal. I strongly object to canon close being made a school street. I feel it actually puts the children of st william of Perth in danger. Maidstone road and surrounding roads are already very dangerous at school run times due to the large secondary schools</p> <p>Kind regards [Redacted]</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> |

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| | | <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margarets Infant School, Rainham</p> | <p>I have a disabled badge as cant walk far and park outside the school to collect my son who has adhd and autism which roads become dangerous for him will we be able to park if have a disabled badge or is there a such permit to apply for this road</p> <p>Thanks</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>Blue badge holders and registered carers are eligible to apply for an exemption to the scheme.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Hi,</p> <p>Trust this email finds you well.</p> <p>In my view, here are a few reasons why making Canon Close a school street is not Ideal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inconvenience for Families: Many parents and guardians rely on their vehicles to drop off or pick up their children, especially those traveling from farther areas or with tight schedules. A vehicle ban could disrupt their routines and cause additional stress. 2. Adverse Impact on Accessibility: Some families may have children with mobility challenges or other special access essential for their daily commute to school. A ban might unintentionally exclude or inconvenience these families. 3. Safety Concerns: While reducing traffic can enhance safety for pedestrians, banning vehicles entirely could lead to increased traffic and congestion on surrounding streets. This could create new safety hazards, particularly for children navigating busier roads to reach the school. 4. Weather and Practicality: In bad weather conditions such as heavy rain, snow, or extreme cold, walking or cycling may not be feasible for everyone. Vehicles provide a reliable and safe means of transportation in such scenarios. 5. Pressure on Public Transport: A complete ban might result in overcrowded public transport systems, leading to delays, increased frustration, and potentially longer commute times for students and parents who rely on them. 6. Increased Friction with Local Residents: Banning vehicles on a school street could lead to frustration among nearby residents who may face restricted access to their homes or increased parking issues. <p>With the point listed, I hereby say NO to making Canon Close a school street.</p> <p>Thanks in anticipation of a favourable consideration.</p> <p>Regards,</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Yours faithfully Good afternoon</p> <p>I would like to register my objection to the proposed implementation of the School Streets Scheme in Canon Close Rochester. I lived in Canon Close for 16 years – this being before and after having children, only moving 2 years ago. I have witnessed inconsiderate parking from people dropping their children to the school or picking them up, however this is in the minority. Most parents and carers are careful and considerate when driving in and out of the close and parking. To consider closing Canon Close during school drop off and collection times is extremely dangerous. Maidstone Road has already been a topic for discussion due to its lack of safety and I have witnessed a child being hit by a car during school collection time. There is no physical way that Maidstone Road can accommodate people taking and collecting their children from St William of Perth, especially at the end of the school day when there are often 8 double decker buses taking up further spaces and causing havoc. I appreciate that walking is encouraged but that is just not an option for a lot of people.</p> <p>A point to also note, today when entering the close, the first parking bay was taken up by 4 cars – all of which belonged to people in the close whose drives were empty. That coupled with residents deliberately moving their cars onto the road and using potential parking spaces 'to prove a point' to parents and carers is only adding to the issue of congestion. I know this to be a fact as I was privy to many of these conversations between residents who, out of protest, do this intentionally to make things more difficult and to create the illusion of more traffic. Sadly, the residents doing this is not an isolated incident and is becoming more and more regular. Also to note is several of the people taking this action have lived in the close for less than 2 years – surely when you view a property you are aware there is a primary school in that location and that the roads will be busy for a short period of time in the morning and the evening. Buying a house here and then 6 months later complaining about the traffic is ridiculous and short sighted.</p> <p>If Maidstone Road or the surrounding roads were able to accommodate parents parking then I can assure you the majority would use these instead of parking in Canon Close. However, this is simply not the case and both Maidstone Road and the surrounding roads are simply not a safe option.</p> <p>It seems to me that the Council is considering the opinions of under 30 houses and their residents over the safety of over 200 children. 76% of feedback you have is against this being implemented yet you are considering 24% (half of who are retired and do not leave the close during these times) of opinions. The priorities should first and foremost be of the safety of the children and I feel this point is being totally ignored.</p> <p>Kind regards To whom it may concern,</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I am writing to object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order for Canon Close, Rochester - St William of Perth RC Primary School.</p> <p>I have a number of objections, as follows.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> |

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| | <p>1. You are inventing a solution to a problem that does not exist and putting young children in harms way in doing so. You are only pursuing School Streets because the Government gave you some money - you would not pay for School Streets from our council taxes. Give the money back, the Government needs it more than you do.</p> <p>2. The requirements of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 have not been met. The criterion in Section 1.1.(a-g) is NOT satisfied. If the requirements of the Act are not satisfied, the TRO is by definition unlawful.</p> <p>3. The children of St William of Perth are not at risk in Canon Close. In more than 50 years there have been no road traffic accidents involving children in Canon Close. If you want children to be safe, let them continue to enter Canon Close.</p> <p>4. By forcing the displacement of traffic from Canon Close onto Maidstone Road and Priestfields you are making young children less safe.</p> <p>5. Unlike Canon Close, Maidstone Road and Priestfields have a proven track record of RTAs involving pedestrians, including a fatality. They are much more dangerous roads. There will be an accident and what will Cllr Patterson say then: he was only trying to keep children safe - by exposing them to greater risk?</p> <p>6. Maidstone Road is a much faster road. Speed matters. A child hit by a car travelling at 30 mph in Maidstone Road will likely die. A child hit by a car travelling at 20 mph or less in Canon Close will survive with minor injuries consistent with falling over.</p> <p>7. Why does the Council want children to be harmed, possibly killed? It is absolutely bizarre to me that a public authority is promoting a scheme that will put children at increased risk. I cannot fathom why you would do this; it is beyond comprehension.</p> <p>8. There is no evidence that the quality of air in Canon Close needs to be improved, just as there is no evidence that the first tranche of School Streets has made the air cleaner.</p> <p>9. Cllr Patterson has made it clear in everything he has ever said that his real motive is to assist residents 'blighted by the selfish and inconsiderate behaviour of a minority of parents'. That is not a valid reason for a TRO under the 1984 Act. Patterson has no interest in air quality or safety, or he would not be championing a scheme that puts children in harms way.</p> <p>10. Councillors are elected to represent their constituents. 76% of those asked rejected the closure of Canon Close. Do what your constituents have told you they want and scrap the TRO for Canon Close/St William of Perth RC Primary school.</p> <p>The 1984 Act requires that you respond in writing to objections. I look forward to hearing in due course that the TRO has been dropped. Please respond to me at this email address.</p> <p>Regards,</p> | <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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| <p>Hilltop Primary School, Frindsbury</p> | <p>Dear Mr Bryan,</p> <p>I am very concerned about the proposal to have Hilltop road changed to a School Street. I live in Hilltop Road on the corner of Marden Road. What concerns me is where will the parents of the children will park when they are taking the children to school. The traffic becomes gridlocked in Hilltop Road, Marden Road and Bill Street (B2000), even now without the school street restrictions. The B2000 is very narrow road and is a bus route and they have trouble getting through now, so what do you think it will be like with the School street. All the roads in this area are very narrow so parking is very restricted.</p> <p>The Parents I have talked to, most of them live outside the catchment area or they are dropping there children of on the way to work so the use their vehicles. This is a good idea but not for Hilltop Road, It will just bring the whole area to a stand still. A member of your team should come and see how bad it is now before the school street as even been introduced.</p> <p>Hilltop School has a large playing field at the rear of the school and a very small part of that could be a drop off zone.</p> <p>Kind Regards</p> <p>[Redacted Signature]</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> <p>The scheme also aims to encourage use of more sustainable forms of travel, like walking and cycling, to school to reduce levels of traffic in and around the school gate.</p> |
| <p>All</p> | <p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>The concept of school streets, which restricts motorised traffic outside schools during drop-off and pick-up times, aims to improve safety and reduce congestion and pollution. However, there are significant concerns about its practical implications.</p> <p>Firstly, exemptions are typically granted to residents but not to parents, forcing parents to park further away. This shifts the problem rather than solving it. Children who previously crossed one road without a crossing or crossing guard will now need to cross multiple roads without such safety measures. This raises questions about how these changes enhance safety for schoolchildren.</p> <p>While some may argue that walking is a viable alternative, this overlooks key challenges. Schools are now larger and more dispersed, making walking impractical for many families. Additionally, parents with multiple children attending different schools, be it due to ages or special needs provisions have to drop off and pick up within a considerably short time frame face massive logistical difficulties. The possible alternative drop of times offered by breakfast clubs, often costing around £5 per day, imposes an additional financial burden and have no bearing on the pick up times.</p> <p>Furthermore, the enforcement of school streets can be seen as a money grab from fines to motorists and also could lead to fines for parents unable to comply due to circumstances beyond their control. For instance risking a fine for driving during the operated hours or missing drop of and</p> | <p>Noted.</p> |

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| | <p>registration, which after five instances in a term (10-12 weeks) can result in a fine of £80 rising to £160 after 21 days, adding to the financial strain on families.</p> <p>The implementation of school streets bears similarities to the issues faced with smart motorways. While smart motorways were introduced to improve traffic flow and safety, they have been criticised for increasing risks, particularly due to the removal of the safety features of a hard shoulder. This has led to a rollback of plans for new smart motorways, highlighting the importance of thoroughly evaluating the safety and practicality of such schemes before implementation.</p> <p>I strongly urge you to reconsider the current approach to school streets and address these concerns to ensure the safety and well-being of children and families.</p> <p>The use of crossings and crossing guards is a much safer approach, couple that with making suitable roads out side of schools 1 way would lead to increased safety around the schools, addressing the drop of and pick up times to alleviate the how much traffic is present at any given time, staggering start and finish times not only at one school but different times for primary and secondary all these are far better ideas.</p> <p>I wish to make a freedom of information request in relation to the risk assessment made that lead to this decision and all associated data sources.</p> | |
| <p>██████████ No school provided</p> | <p>Hello</p> <p>I'm enquiring to see what school drop off and pick up services will be put into action to help working parents taking and collecting their children from school.</p> <p>I live 1 mile away from my daughters school and also have a son who attends nursery in the opposite direction (this is the closest nursery to my home). Therefore with the proposed street schemes it will be even more difficult to take my daughter to school and collect her. Will there be school buses to help with travel for those who live a little further out?</p> <p>Thanks ██████████</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>The aim of the school street is to create a safer, more pleasant environment outside the school gate, improving pupils ability to safety walk to school.</p> <p>A key part of implementing this scheme is working with schools to support the roll out, and the council will continue to work with the school for additional road safety improvements, and initiatives to support safe passage to school. Although a bus route would be a separate initiative to the school street being implemented.</p> |
| <p>██████████ Fairview Primary School, Rainham</p> | <p>We live in Lakewood Drive and we object to the permit zone as we childmind our grandchildren, our daughter and daughter-in-law both drop off the grandchildren @ 8.15 am before they both go to work, are they entitled to a permit ? And if they aren't what happens then tell me !!! All the overspill of cars will park on Maidstone Road, Fairview Ave and Bredhurst Road which is an accident waiting to happen, will you wait until someone has a nasty accident to realise this is foolish. You say it's for air quality but what about electric cars will they be fined for using Drewery Drive ?</p> <p>Yours Sincerely ██████████</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>Registered carers, emergency services and those eligible for an exemption will all be able to apply to enter the scheme during operational hours. If there are particular instances of concerns for a visitor during the limited hours of operation Medway Council will consider options to reduce any impacts. .</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth</p> | <p>To whom it may concern,</p> | <p>Noted.</p> |

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| | <p>I am in support of the proposed school streets outside of st William of Perth school. As a parent and resident of the street my children's safety is the most important to me. Living on rectory Grange where there are no pavements, I am forced to walk on the road to the school with my child. And with the blind corner from canon close often we are not visible to traffic, so we have to weave around the illegally parked cars on the double yellows. I am forced to always walk with her slightly behind me in case a car speeds rood the corner. I daily have to remind my child of the dangers of cars as there are no pavements. After witnessing the crash to the church wall, I believe that the street needs something to keep children safe as its the main route to the school.</p> <p>I believe in the morning there should be restrictions between 8-9am. School start time is 8.40-8.55. Therefore, this covers the majority of traffic to school and will keep the roads clear and safe for kids to walk to school. And for my child to walk to school safely to the side of the road without parked cars blocking the visibility or turning into the road without warning.</p> <p>In the afternoon to truly make it a safe area for pedestrians I believe it should operate between 2.30-3.30. Therefore, there will be minimal cars in the close so children will be able to walk safely. Operating between 3-4pm will still have the majority of the parents parking in the street and causing the same pollution, safety issues and traffic coming out of the close. School pick up is 3.10 for reception class and 3.20 for the remaining of the school. starting at 3pm wouldn't make any difference as most arrive 40 minutes early to wait. The traffic and pedestrians are usually clear by 3.30 as this time I can leave my house to pick up my daughter at nursery without any traffic in the close.</p> <p>Thanks [REDACTED]</p> | <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd between Canon Close and Priestfields, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>[REDACTED] Hilltop Primary School, Frindsbury</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam, I wrote to address supplied with first communication of 'school street' and have had no response. I will state same again. I will require and exemption. But my main point again is this. This proposal has not been thought out. Parent already block 'Cooling Road; between 8.30-9am and start parking on pavement at 2.30pm for pick up.</p> <p>They won't walk so Cooling Road will become impossible 8.30am – 9am, 2.30pm. Your sincerely</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> <p>The scheme also aims to encourage use of more sustainable forms of travel, like walking and cycling, to</p> |

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| | | school to reduce levels of traffic in and around the school gate. |
| <p>St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margarets Infant School, Rainham</p> | <p>Dear School Streets Project Team, We would just like to put our opinion on the above mentioned project. We have lived in Tudor Grove now for nearly 15 years, and the parking in the road is now as bad as we remember. Bare in mind there's double yellow, sign on the corner of Tudor Grove and single yellow lines all the way down Tudor Grove with signs clearly stating no parking between 8am to 6pm Mon to Saturday well the school parents take no notice of these signs what so ever. At school times we are lucky to get into our house drives or to get out, with the drivers just leaving there cards there, the arguments. Myself and my wife, we have had are never enough. The only times its good is when theres a traffic warden, which is at best half a day a week, as regards school times, the rest of the days its truly a nightmare.</p> <p>Now with your future school Street proposals, which is a very good idea, as regards the children health etc, etc, and our houses in Tudor Grove. I've read what is intended on the lamp posts, well I must say, it would carry on the same because what your saying is they can't park between those times morning and afternoon but when they leave from across peoples drives and on yellow lines they wont have pictures taken of them ie there cars. Well may I say more and more cars are pakring before the restrited times, morning and afternoons, because they know that when they leave there cars will not be flashed. So my point is the restricted times, all cards should be flashed when leaing as well. Because the selfish drivers will just park early morning s and afternoons, knowing when they leave they will not be flashed by the cameras. So please can the don't give a dam drivers be flashed when they leave because if you don't nothing will change.</p> <p>Please can the proposals be made sooner then later. Orchard street and roads adjacent to the school. In my opinion the restrictions should be 8.45 – 9.30 and 2.45-3.45 this would be better to work all the aggravation.</p> <p>Thank you</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> <p>The scheme also aims to encourage use of more sustainable forms of travel, like walking and cycling, to school to reduce levels of traffic in and around the school gate.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear sir / madam I am writing on behalf of a constituent, Sarah Wilson, 5 Steerforth Close, Rochester, ME1 2JD who recently contacted me regarding school streets around Canon Close. I understand residents can still make representation but I would like you, if possible to address the following email that I received (especially their ideas at the end): You may be aware that Cannon Close, where St William of Perth RC is, has now been pre-approved for a School Street in the next round of council approvals.</p> <p>This means there is an expectation that children will be walked to school, whereas the reality is that most working parents will still drive their cars to drop off their children to get them to school on time, and to continue their own journeys to get to work on time. It has long been the case in society now that both parents work.</p> <p>If Cannon Close is made a School Street, it will simply force drivers into nearby roads, including the main Maidstone Road – which is already log-jammed each morning and is utterly dangerous for crossing pedestrians including young children.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>Medway Council will implement complimentary safety measures along Maidstone Road to help improve pedestrian experience and safety.</p> |

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| | <p>Therefore, surely you agree that if the council are to give their full approval they should be expected to put in place other safety measures such as a pedestrian crossing and/ or crossing assistant – there are at least 2 middle islands that could easily be utilised for this purpose and therefore slow down traffic between zonal areas.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> | |
| <p>██████████ Fairview Primary School, Rainham</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>As a long term resident of Carvoran Way and a former Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator I commented on the initial proposal to turn our estate into a school street zone and would like to reiterate my comments here as I feel that the updated timings proposal is still not feasible in relation to the above school..... Firstly the morning session between 8 .00 am and 9. 15 am is somewhat feasible and will have a positive effect although I am unsure as to why it has been extended to 9.15 as school starts at 9.00 so I would say that only very late drop offs would be affected by this - most cars have dropped off and departed by 8.55 am!</p> <p>The afternoon timings however are another matter and to only have them between 3pm and 3.30 pm WILL NOT WORK!!! The vast majority of parents/carers are parked up by 2.45 pm and a fair number well in advance of 2.30pm!! Most with their engines running for anything up to or over an hour in winter to power heating and summer to power air conditioning. Both causing untold pollution for the residents and also air that their own children will have to walk through back to the offending vehicles....! I can provide photographic evidence of the number of cars already parked up prior to 2.50pm if you so wish. For this scheme to work then the exemption would have to apply at least between 2.30 & 3.30 pm or it will be a total waste of time and hassle on the residents part.... Which brings me to my final point- please make it a straightforward process to exempt a vehicle - production of the vehicles log book should be enough as this document provides the keepers address - very few people have utility bills in all occupants names in this day and age....!! Many thanks and I hope you will carefully consider these very valid points.</p> <p>██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>Timings have been developed during discussions with the school. Addressing peak periods, these are appropriate times.</p> <p>Proposed timings are also shorter than the current School Keep Clear restrictions that are currently in place from 8-9.30am and 2.30-4pm.</p> <p>All schemes will be subject to a monitoring period, which includes conducting before and after surveys to assess the impact once a scheme has been implemented. Should adjustments need to be made, the Council will consider these.</p> <p>The council have an established process in place. Prior to any scheme going live, a 4-week application period will be opened to ensure all those who are eligible can apply for the appropriate exemption.</p> |
| <p>██████████ Leigh Academy High Halstow Primary School, High Halstow</p> | <p>dear sirs.</p> <p>Now the statutory consultation period for the school streets project is open until 28th March , please see below a email chain with Medway Council regarding Leigh Academy High Halstows position regarding the scheme/</p> <p>Please take these points into consideration as part of this statutory process</p> <p>regards,</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>Dear ██████████</p> <p>The conference yesterday was great, thank you.</p> <p>Regarding confirming timings, before I comment on this, it is probably worth reminding you that Leigh Academy High Halstow are not supportive</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>The council have an established process in place. Prior to any scheme going live, a 4-week application period will be opened to ensure all those who are eligible can apply for the appropriate exemption.</p> <p>This is a council led initiative and a key part of implementing this scheme is working with schools to support the roll out.</p> <p>Medway will continue to support the school and respond to any concerns raised by members of the school community or public.</p> |

of this scheme as I've previously confirmed via the public consultation portal on 21st June 2024, and additionally via email with your colleagues Elinor Walker on 26th June 2024 and Thomas Cogley on 16th September 2024.

I've copied and attached the content of the email of 26th June below for ease of reference

Dear [REDACTED]

By way of an introduction, I'm Deputy Estates Director for Leigh Academies Trust and colleague of Gemma at High Halstow. Estates support the academies within the trust in matters such as this, therefore I've been asked to support Gemma on this occasion.

I've been brought up to speed with by Gemma regarding High Halstow's view that they do not believe the benefits of the scheme outweigh the likely drawbacks as explained in her email to you of 7th June. That position remains unchanged.

The academy welcomes Medways concern around addressing traffic matters generally but they feel it's not necessary at High Halstow and the work which has been done by them with parents means the academy is not adversely affected by cars approaching the academy long Harrison Drive at this time.

Any potential future ANPR ticketing will - regardless of the system operators (Medway Council) - be considered an "Academy issue" regardless of the reality and we would look to avoid damaging good relationships.

An additional concern I would add which has not been identified already is as a large Multiacademy trust, in addition to Central based staff with multi academy responsibility we have a number of external partner service provider regulatory driving between academies for planned and unplanned activities. The proposed periods of restriction effectively restricts unplanned visits, I note reference to the ability to add vehicle details to a "green list" but given variables of various vehicles which might need access, this an administrative burden we would look to avoid

Whilst we have given our view on High Halstow Academy, as Leigh Academy Trust includes a number of academies around the Medway area, I'd note Peninsula East Primary Academy in Allhallows would benefit from such a scheme as they do suffer vehicle issues around drop off and collection times. Can I ask if you have considered this location?

We feel High Halstow has been swept up as part of the whole 9 schemes whereas if you look at the consultation feedback figures for High Halstow, there's actually minimal support for it. that's not to say we disagree with the concept of the Safer Street Scheme overall, its application in certain areas will clearly be of benefit, but just not at High Halstow in our opinion

Regarding your request for us to comment on a daily fixed time period for Safer Street to operate, I feel that should we do, we would be endorsing and agreeing to a scheme we dont want for the reasons we confirmed last

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| | <p>June so would not wish to do so at this time.</p> <p>Looking at this the new item on Kent Online here in December 2024, Medway Council Conservatives called in the decision by (labour) Medway Council on the Safer Street proposal. Please can i ask if your current request for us to agree timing for Safer Streets to apply is part of required further scrutiny works or has that been resolved and you are proceeding with the next phase of launching the scheme?</p> <p>regards,</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | |
| <p>[REDACTED] Fairview Primary School, Rainham</p> | <p>Thank you for sending information regarding the proposed School Streets plan for Fairview Primary School.</p> <p>There are a couple of discrepancies between this document, post-dated 13th March (i.e. in 2 days time!) and the 3 posters attached to lamp-posts on Drewery Drive dated 6th March.</p> <p>The later document states the restricted hours are to be 8.15 to 9.15am and 3 to 4pm, while the lamp-post copies state 8.15 to 9.15am but 3 to 3.30pm. Which is correct ?</p> <p>The lamp -post document gives the closing date for comments as March 25th 2025, while the e-mail sent states it is April 14th 2025. Again which is correct ?</p> <p>In addition I should like clarification of the wording 'If already parked before operating time, you can exit the street without being issued with a PCN'. Does this mean that necessary tradesmen (plumber, electricians, roofers etc.), who normally start work at 8am, can access customers before 8.15am and still drive to their next customer without penalty ?</p> <p>I should like answers to these queries before submitting my comments on the scheme.</p> <p>Thanking you,</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>Times proposed for the Fairview Primary School, Rainham School Street scheme are 8.15am to 9.15am and 3pm to 4pm.</p> <p>Visitors and those not eligible for an exemption can exit a school street zone without receiving a PCN once it is operational.</p> |
| <p>[REDACTED] Fairview Primary school, Rainham</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>I understand the need for the above but I am a resident of Fairview Avenue that lives in one of the houses in the section directly opposite the rear entrance of the school which is already chaotic morning and afternoon with no regard to residents needing to leave or enter their homes and also parking up to the junction and around the junction on the main road leaving it virtually impossible to see traffic or pedestrians when trying to exit or enter our section of road.</p> <p>I am hoping that parking restrictions will be regularly advised/enforced which is not the case at this time when if a parking attendant does visit it on a Saturday or in school holidays.</p> <p>My address is 220 Fairview Avenue Wigmore ME8 0PX</p> <p>Kind regards</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>The scheme will not rely on the need for parking attendings, it will be enforced by ANRP cameras at all times, during operational hours. Restrictions will be enforced only during the school term times.</p> |

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| St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margarets Infant School, Rainham | <p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>Can you please send me an electronic copy of the plan for the above school streets scheme to this email address.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> | Request was actioned. |
| Fairview Primary School, Rainham | <p>Hi,</p> <p>Could you please send me details of the proposed parking & traffic restrictions in relation to Fairview School, Gillingham.</p> | Request was actioned. |
| Fairview Primary School, Rainham | <p>Please e-mail me a copy of this proposal as it affects the area around Fairview Primary School, Deanwood Drive, Wigmore.</p> <p>My e-mail address is collinsgeorgina@yahoo.com</p> <p>Regards,</p> | Request was actioned. |
| St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margarets Infant School, Rainham | <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed School Street, Pedestrian, and Cycle Zone Order 2025 for the area outside St Margarets Infants and Junior School. While I understand the intention is to improve safety for the children and their parents, I am concerned that this measure will simply push the issue of dangerous parking and congestion into surrounding roads, exacerbating existing problems elsewhere.</p> <p>Currently, cars frequently park on double yellow lines at the junction of Orchard Street and Broadview, creating a bottleneck and blocking the view for pedestrians crossing. This order will not prevent that behavior on the crossroads bar one side, nor will it address the ongoing issue of vehicles blocking residential driveways and restricting access to properties for residents, particularly on Broadview Avenue during school collection times. If this scheme is implemented alongside the Maidstone Road alterations—of reducing speed limit and creating a new cycle path previously consulted on— Broadview may become the only viable two-way route for traffic, further increasing congestion and misery.</p> <p>Additionally, I have been unable to find any updates regarding the Maidstone Road project, which raises concerns about how both initiatives may impact residents in the future, should they both be implemented. Will</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> <p>The scheme along Maidstone Road proposed as part of the active travel consultation is not currently being progressed.</p> |

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| | <p>the enforcement cameras for the School Street zone also be used to fine vehicles parking illegally on double yellow lines? If not, how will this issue be addressed to ensure safety of those crossing there?</p> <p>To alleviate parking displacement, I urge the council to consider allowing free use of local car parks during school drop-off and pick-up times. Many parents I have spoke to have expressed that the current £1.40 charge per visit is unaffordable, and this is only for a 30-minute parking duration and would not be insufficient if they need to speak with teachers or the school office after dropping off or at collection times.</p> <p>I appreciate your time in considering these concerns. I would be very interested to know if this has been considered in relation to the other scheme if you are able to response to this concern. I did try to speak to the representative who was outside the school a few months ago, but she was unaware of this other scheme so could not comment.</p> <p>Yours faithfully, [Redacted]</p> | |
| <p>[Redacted] Fairview Primary School, Rainham</p> | <p>Pleas can you send me the electronic documentation for this consultation.</p> <p>I have some reservations as to why I need to prove I live at the address when I pay the council tax and am on the electoral role for my address? I also ask why I have to register my vehicles, as they are all registered at the address and are logged with the DVLA and if you use ANPR cameras they will be linked to the DVLA?</p> <p>My son lives at my address still, he won't have any proof of utility bills (as I pay all the bills) but his vehicles are registered to the address. He is on the electoral role.</p> <p>I would like my questions answered as I logged my objections using the online forum but didn't get any response!!</p> <p>I fear the issue of parking will be pushed to the surrounding roads, which are all bus routes. Parents will not change their habits of driving as most are either on their way to or travelling back from work.</p> <p>Regards [Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted</p> <p>Residents are eligible to apply for exemptions for any vehicles registered to their address.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> |
| <p>[Redacted] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sirs</p> <p>Medway School Streets – Statutory consultation, St William of Perth RC Primary School - Objection</p> <p>This is my formal objection to the inclusion of St William of Perth in the Medway School Streets programme.</p> <p>It is my understanding that to prohibit traffic from entering Canon Close, the Council, under the terms of this scheme, will need to make a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) under section 1(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. This is therefore also my formal objection to that TRO.</p> <p>I wish to make it clear that I do not object to the Medway School Streets programme on principle. I do, however, strongly object to the application of</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> |

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| | <p>the programme to Canon Close in the specific and unique circumstances of St William of Perth RC Primary School for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Closing Canon Close will send parents and young children onto Maidstone Road and Priestfield Road in the middle of the school and work rush hour. There has never been an accident in Canon Close in over 50 years of the school's existence, yet Maidstone Road is the 16th busiest road in Medway. A recipe for disaster. 2. It is true that some residents are inconvenienced for 30-45 minutes, twice a school day, with parking over driveways. I disagree, however, that this warrants sending in excess of 200 pupils out onto Maidstone Road and the surrounding area, already flooded with cars and older children from the two grammar schools on Maidstone Road. 3. There have been no figures around air quality, and I refer you to my above point that Maidstone Road is the 16th busiest road in Medway, and you are proposing that our children walk along this road. <p>I can see the potential benefits of the programme in other situations, but certainly not ours. It is my view that the proposal will not improve the safety of pupils attending St William of Perth. It will instead increase their risk of harm.</p> <p>I cannot agree to any changes that, in my view, would jeopardise the safety of our children so I formally object.</p> <p>Yours faithfully ██████████</p> | <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sirs,</p> <p>Medway School Streets – Statutory consultation, St William of Perth RC Primary School School Streets - Objection</p> <p>This is my formal objection to the inclusion of St William of Perth in the Medway School Streets programme.</p> <p>It is my understanding that to prohibit traffic from entering Canon Close, the Council, under the terms of this scheme, will need to make a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) under section 1(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. This is therefore also my formal objection to that TRO.</p> <p>I wish to make it clear that I do not object to the Medway School Streets programme on principle. I do, however, strongly object to the application of the programme to Canon Close in the specific and unique circumstances of St William of Perth RC Primary School for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Closing Canon Close will send parents and young children onto Maidstone Road and Priestfield Road in the middle of the school and work rush hour. There has never been an accident in Canon Close in over 50 years of the school's existence, yet Maidstone Road is the 16th busiest road in Medway. A recipe for disaster. 2. It is true that some residents are inconvenienced for 30-45 minutes, twice a school day, with parking over driveways. I disagree, however, that this warrants sending in excess of 200 pupils out onto Maidstone Road | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period</p> <p>All schemes will be subject to a monitoring period, which includes conducting before and after surveys to assess the impact once a scheme has been implemented. Surveys will record traffic levels and monitor emissions around each school including St William of Perth Catholic Primary School.</p> |

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| | <p>and the surrounding area, already flooded with cars and older children from the two grammar schools on Maidstone Road.</p> <p>3. There have been no figures around air quality, and I refer you to my above point that Maidstone Road is the 16th busiest road in Medway, and you are proposing that our children walk along this road.</p> <p>I can see the potential benefits of the programme in other situations, but certainly not ours. It is my view that the proposal will not improve the safety of pupils attending St William of Perth. It will instead increase their risk of harm.</p> <p>I cannot agree to any changes that, in my view, would jeopardise the safety of our children so I formally object.</p> <p>Yours faithfully ██████████</p> | |
| <p>██████████ St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margarets Infant School, Rainham</p> | <p>Morning</p> <p>We live in one of the affected roads near St Margaret School in Rainham (Hurst Place).</p> <p>Firstly as a resident it's not something we want or need in the area.</p> <p>It will restrict deliveries as well as tradesmen needed to do repair work needed on our properties as and when needed.</p> <p>You need your traffic wardens to give tickets, they generally move the cars on from outside the school rather than giving a ticket.</p> <p>Hurst Place is not generally not effected by the school especially at the middle and end part of the road.</p> <p>We have single yellow lines on the road to restrict parking on Hurst Place. This just need better patrolling from traffic wardens.</p> <p>Also the school scheme, if we have read it correctly if going to be run from 3pm to 4pm . I believe there is no entrance to the zone in these times but you can exit freely.</p> <p>The schools times as per both schools websites finish at 3-10 or 3-15 so parents will continue to do as they have for many years on the school roads and arrive at 2-30 or around that time. So I'm not sure how this will have any effect, apart from annoying the residents.</p> <p>Surely the aim is to stop parents driving into the controlled zone, the timing will not have any effect.</p> <p>Previously you held a consultation at the Black Lion Leisure Centre about a cycle route on the Maidstone Road. If this is the case the entrance to Thames Avenue on the Maidstone Road will be closed. Therefore the only option to get to the Thames Avenue Doctors surgery will be via the Cricketers Car Park if you are doing a right turn from the High Street. This entrance has been closed on numerous occasions in recent years due to issues with the wall on the side of the church, also any overheight vehicles will not be able to drive through the carpark.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>The scheme along Maidstone Road proposed as part of the active travel consultation is not currently being progressed.</p> <p>Timings have been developed during discussions with the school.</p> |

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| | <p>The carpark being used as through route with also mean traffic's through Rainham High Street will increase.</p> <p>Also if you want to ever implement ANPR camera there will be no route to get to the area around our property.</p> <p>The other issue that I have previously raised by myself in a previous email. i had no response to that email to confirm they acknowledged my points raised.</p> <p>This is disabled access to the medical facilities at the Millennium Centre. Patients will need to go via the church path that has signs clearly marked this is not a disabled access. Someone locally commented on a Facebook page even as a wheelchair rugby player they would have excellent wheelchair skills even said it's impossible for her to use the slope. The signs are also clear the church take no liability for use. Therefore I think you need to view this access that would be for disabled people aswell as those with temporary disabilities. Many people going to the millennium centre will either have temporary disabilities or have a disabled pass, however will then need to register it. This then takes around 10 working days or they receive a fine and then appeal.</p> <p>This will all add extra time for individuals and also extra admin time for council staff.</p> <p>The Millennium centre is also used as a polling station so will causes people that maybe elderly not necessarily registered disabled to try to use the church disabled ramp. This may well cause falls.</p> <p>The timescales for adding a new vehicle is unacceptable and also will mean residents getting a new vehicle won't be able to enter their own road during the restricted times.</p> <p>Also my son has arthritis of the spine and knees along with other parts of his body. It's not classed as serious enough for a disabled pass according to your website. He has medical evidence of this disability. His partner will drive him due to the pain and locking of his knee joints. This will not be possible and will therefore cause him to have to drive his vehicle that maybe a danger to other road users.</p> <p>Also if there a limit of passes per property?</p> <p>Please can you confirm receipt of the email and also answer the questions within the email. Please can this be completed at least a week prior to the consultation ending so you allow me the time to respond to your email</p> <p>I'm awaiting your reply</p> <p>██████████ ██████████</p> | |
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| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Medway Council,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed school street scheme on Canon Close, where St. William of Perth Junior School is located.</p> <p>Many parents, along with the school itself, feel that the council has not properly considered the views of the school community. This is particularly concerning given that 76% of respondents to the initial consultation survey opposed the proposal for Canon Close in its current form.</p> <p>A major concern is the increased risk to children's safety on the surrounding roads. Redirecting traffic from Canon Close onto Maidstone Road and nearby streets will only worsen the already dangerous conditions. Roads like Maidstone Road, Breton Road, and Priestfields are much busier and more hazardous than Canon Close, and increasing traffic on these routes will only heighten the risks for children traveling to and from school.</p> <p>Priestfields is especially concerning. It is already a dangerous road where I have personally witnessed several near-misses involving vehicles and pedestrians. Cars frequently pull onto the pavements to park, creating dangerous situations for children walking along them. Increasing traffic on this road will only make these incidents more frequent and more serious.</p> <p>Maidstone Road also raises significant safety issues, as no additional measures have been put in place to manage the extra traffic this scheme will generate. Without any clear plans to address these risks, it seems irresponsible to proceed with a proposal that will directly affect the safety of children and other pedestrians.</p> <p>It is deeply worrying to think that it may take a serious accident or even a fatality before the council acknowledges how unsafe this plan is. This is particularly troubling given the lack of clear evidence provided to justify the scheme in the first place.</p> <p>I urge the council to reconsider this proposal and to listen to the concerns of those who rely on these roads every day. The safety of our children should be the priority, and this scheme, as it stands, poses a clear and unacceptable risk.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>As outlined in the report linked in item 6, 68.5% of local residents within the proposed School Street zone were supportive of initiative going ahead.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Medway Council, Road Safety</p> <p>As advised by the school St William of Perth,</p> <p>Closing Cannon Close during school drop of and pick up times is non-sensical, you will be moving children being dropped of and collected from a confined close onto a fast moving, exceptionally busy road, that also has located on it 2 secondary schools, with all the extra traffic that they entail. As someone who has seen how parents of these secondary schools behave, stopping wherever they feel like, parking in the bus stops and on the grass verge outside the girls school, also with the vans and lorries rushing down it also; I am appalled that you are even considering this proposal as anything other than a money making effort.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> |

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| | <p>I still continue to visit this road most days, fortunately not driving up as far as the schools anymore. I am still aware that the road remains very busy with traffic avoiding the other routes from the A229 to the A2, especially if they are not heading Chatham or the Medway Tunnel, with Maidstone Road, Chatham normally being busier and slower at peak times.</p> <p>I strongly object to this proposal to the school my Godson goes to for all the reasons advised in the letter from the school to yourselves.</p> <p>Regards ██████████</p> | <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Medway Council,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed school street scheme on Cannon Close, where St. William of Perth Junior School is located.</p> <p>Many parents, along with the school itself, feel that the council has not properly considered the views of the school community. This is particularly concerning given that 76% of respondents to the initial consultation survey opposed the proposal for Cannon Close in its current form.</p> <p>A major concern is the increased risk to children's safety on the surrounding roads. Redirecting traffic from Cannon Close onto Maidstone Road and nearby streets will only worsen the already dangerous conditions. Roads like Maidstone Road, Breton Road, and Priestfields are much busier and more hazardous than Cannon Close, and increasing traffic on these routes will only heighten the risks for children traveling to and from school.</p> <p>Priestfields is especially concerning. It is already a dangerous road where I have personally witnessed several near-misses involving vehicles and pedestrians. Cars frequently pull onto the pavements to park, creating dangerous situations for children walking along them. Increasing traffic on this road will only make these incidents more frequent and more serious.</p> <p>Maidstone Road also raises significant safety issues, as no additional measures have been put in place to manage the extra traffic this scheme will generate. Without any clear plans to address these risks, it seems irresponsible to proceed with a proposal that will directly affect the safety of children and other pedestrians.</p> <p>It is deeply worrying to think that it may take a serious accident or even a fatality before the council acknowledges how unsafe this plan is. This is particularly troubling given the lack of clear evidence provided to justify the scheme in the first place.</p> <p>I urge the council to reconsider this proposal and to listen to the concerns of those who rely on these roads every day. The safety of our children should be the priority, and this scheme, as it stands, poses a clear and unacceptable risk.</p> <p>Yours faithfully, ██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognise that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | |
| <p>[REDACTED] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I'm writing this email as a response to the potential implication of canon close becoming part of the school street scheme. I am 100% against this going ahead. I'm a parent as well as staff member of st William of perth catholic school. I'm sure you are aware that there are also two other large secondary schools on the Maidstone Road? Which cause congestion and parking issues. It is already an issue for the children of SWOP with cars parking on the path, parking on double yellow lines. By closing cannon close you are just adding to the current issue and danger of the Maidstone road.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>[REDACTED] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>I write again to the council to formally lodge my objections for the proposed school street scheme to go ahead on Cannon Close where St William Of Perth junior school is situated.</p> <p>Like a lot of the parents and the school itself, we feel that the council has not taken the views of the school community on board, despite 76% of respondents to the initial consultation survey being against the proposal as it currently stands for Canon Close.</p> <p>By displacing the traffic from Canon Close onto Maidstone Road, this will only add to the dangers to many of the children by creating even more traffic on Maidstone Road and the already busy and dangerous surrounding roads like Breton Road and Priestfields. Priestfields is already a highly dangerous road and already more parents are parking on the pavements of this road to which I have witnessed several near misses with cars and pedestrians due to cars pulling into and off of the pavement whilst children are trying to walk on them.</p> <p>These streets are already far less safe and far more congested than Canon Close each day and I feel that our children's safety will be even more at risk if families cannot safely enter Canon Close and instead add to the traffic congestion in the already busy and unsafe surrounding roads where pedestrians need to cross over to get to and from SWOP each day.</p> <p>Currently on Maidstone road there are no safety controls or measures being put in place to accommodate this proposal. How can you take something away when no thought has been put into how you are going to deal with the repercussions of your actions.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| | <p>I hope it does not take a serious accident or death of a child for the council to realise this is an unsafe and unworkable idea, especially when the council have not been able to provide sufficient data to back up the reasons for doing this in the first place.</p> <p>Please take the views of the general public into account who have to use these roads every day and understand the safety risks of such a scheme being implemented.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>██████████</p> | |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>I wish to submit my view in relation to the above consultation process.</p> <p>I have submitted feedback to all the consultation processes prior to this one and they have all been the same. I object to the introduction of school streets at St William of Perth school.</p> <p>I do not see how this would make my children's journey to school any safer. The displacement of traffic at peak times into the Rochester Maidstone Road will make walking to school much more dangerous. The Maidstone road is already an extremely busy, dangerous and fast road. It services two large secondary schools and is a main route for a large volume of vehicles in the area travelling to work.</p> <p>Crossing the Priestfields junction is already difficult enough with the amount of traffic and poor driving, this will only be increased as parents, unable to use Cannon Close, will be forced to use it more to try and find parking.</p> <p>I have never seen any issues on Canon Close, cars cannot get up to any speed on this road and therefore I can't see how this scheme makes it safer for any pupil at the school. It will just make life more difficult unnecessarily.</p> <p>I appreciate residents on the road may enjoy the ease of traffic but this is only a few households who will benefit whilst hundreds of children suffer higher risks with the journey to and from school. The parking issue, although may ease for the Canon Close residents, will also just be displaced onto other residential roads causing new challenges and objections.</p> <p>I see no benefit in this scheme, I believe it to be a money making scheme only, and not one that will make it safer for any child travelling to or from the school.</p> <p>Regards,</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am writing as a concerned parent of a pupil at St William of Perth Primary School, to formally object to the proposed closure of Canon Close during school pick-up times under the Medway School Streets programme. Whilst I understand the aims of the programme to improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion around schools, I firmly believe that closing Canon Close to traffic will, in fact, create significant safety risks for our children. I am deeply concerned that this proposal will increase the danger to children attending St William of Perth, rather than provide a safer environment.</p> <p>As outlined in the school's formal objection, Canon Close is a relatively safe, low-traffic area where children can safely be picked up and dropped off. Redirecting traffic to the surrounding roads, such as Maidstone Road, which are significantly busier and more hazardous, will place children at greater risk. Maidstone Road is known for its high traffic speeds and frequent road traffic accidents, making it a far less safe alternative for families to use during busy school hours. I have serious concerns that this shift in traffic will lead to a higher risk of accidents or injuries.</p> <p>Furthermore, as a parent, I know that many families rely on cars to travel to and from school due to the school's wide catchment area. The proposed changes will create significant logistical challenges for families, especially those who work or have children with additional needs. The ability to access the school with ease is critical for parents, particularly for those with younger children or special educational needs. The disruption this proposal would cause is substantial and could lead to late arrivals or even missed school, which can directly impact children's education.</p> <p>Additionally, many working parents depend on after-school clubs or external support services for their children. The proposed closure could severely disrupt these services and prevent vital support, such as SEND services, from reaching the school at the necessary times.</p> <p>The lack of consultation with parents and the community at large, as well as the evidence that Canon Close is not a hazardous area, makes this proposal even more troubling. The proposed plan does not seem to have been thoroughly thought through, and there has been no clear evidence provided that this measure will achieve the desired outcomes.</p> <p>In conclusion, I strongly urge Medway Council to reconsider the proposed closure of Canon Close to traffic. I believe that the safety, wellbeing, and convenience of the children attending St William of Perth RC Primary School would be compromised by these plans. I support the school's objection to this proposal and ask that alternative solutions to improve safety be considered that do not jeopardise the welfare of our children. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>[Redacted Signature]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To Whom it may concern</p> <p>As a parent of a child attending St William of Perth school I am writing to object to the council proposal to implement the School Streets initiative in Canon Close for the following reasons:</p> <p>In my view the only justification for a TRO under the 1984 Act is avoiding danger to persons using Canon Close. However, we believe the Council's proposal will actually increase the danger. The Council's stated objective (emphasised at the Cabinet meeting on 19 November) is traffic</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk</p> |

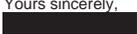
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| | <p>displacement. But under these proposals the Council appears to be actively seeking to move traffic out of Canon Close onto other more dangerous roads.</p> <p>I am of the strong opinion that the other roads near to St William of Perth the Council is seeking to force parents and carers like myself to use much more dangerous roads than Canon Close. There have not been any RTAs in Canon Close but there are frequent RTAs on Maidstone Road. According to Medway Council's own figures, Maidstone Road Rochester is one of the most dangerous roads in Medway. Only this August a wall was demolished by a car on the corner of Canon Close and Maidstone Road. And in the list of the top 20 Kent Roads for speeding, Maidstone Road is number 16. We are sure the Council must be aware of research by relevant road safety charities, which shows the impact speed of a car hitting a child significantly affects the severity of injuries, with higher speeds drastically increasing the risk of serious harm or death. A child hit by a car travelling at 30 miles per hour has a high risk of severe, potentially fatal injuries. The nature of Canon Close is such cars cannot travel faster than 20 miles per hour. A child hit by a car at 20 miles per hour or less may result in minor injuries, comparable to a fall from a low height. Therefore, in our opinion the evidence is Canon Close is demonstrably safer than Maidstone Road or Priestfields.</p> <p>In the summer of 2021 Cllr Teresa Murray assisted the school PTA in their request for a crossing patrol to help parents cross Maidstone Road safely. [REDACTED] Senior Road Safety Officer explained that after a PV2 assessment the request had been rejected. Although vehicle numbers in Maidstone Road were high, because they can drive into Canon Close a very low number of St William of Perth families crossed Maidstone Road to reach Canon Close. Further evidence that Maidstone Road is already dangerous to cross. Therefore, we believe it will be significantly worse if Canon Close is closed to traffic.</p> <p>Far from 'avoiding danger to persons... or... preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising' the Council will, I believe be substantially increasing the danger to the very children the Council says we must do all we can to protect.</p> <p>It is my understanding that based on the available data in the three years to December 2023, 248 under 16 years of age pedestrian casualties were reported in Medway, an average of 83 per annum.</p> <p>That is all children under 16. The TRO would apply to Canon Close and St William of Perth is a primary school. So we need to estimate the number of casualties aged 5-11. Younger children are accompanied by adults who will protect them, so are much less likely to be casualties.</p> <p>There are 86 primary schools in Medway so the statistical probability for any one school that one of their pupils will be injured outside the school gates is 15/86 per annum. A 17% chance that one pupil in each primary school in Medway will be injured in an RTA every year. 71 primary schools</p> | <p>of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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| | <p>will have no pupil accidents outside their gates. We agree that 17% is too high, everyone would prefer 0%, but does that really represent a danger in the terms of the 1984 Act? We have a much better spread of data for St William of Perth specifically. The school was opened in 1974 and in 50 years the number of pupil casualties in Canon Close was - 0. None; Canon Close is one of the safest streets in Medway. Is that enough danger to meet the requirements for a TRO under the 1984 Act? Clearly it is not.</p> <p>The evidence does not support the existence of a danger which needs to be addressed through a TRO. Is there any likelihood of a danger arising that a child pedestrian will be injured by a car outside the gates of St William of Perth? No, there is not. On the basis of 50 years of data, the statistical probability of a pupil of St William of Perth being hit by a car in Canon Close is 0%. The requirements of the 1984 Act have clearly not been met and I formally object to a TRO for Canon Close.</p> <p>Name: [REDACTED]</p> | |
| <p>[REDACTED] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am writing as a concerned parent of a pupil at St William of Perth Primary School, to formally object to the proposed closure of Canon Close during school pick-up times under the Medway School Streets programme. Whilst I understand the aims of the programme to improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion around schools, I firmly believe that closing Canon Close to traffic will, in fact, create significant safety risks for our children. I am deeply concerned that this proposal will increase the danger to children attending St William of Perth, rather than provide a safer environment.</p> <p>As outlined in the school's formal objection, Canon Close is a relatively safe, low-traffic area where children can safely be picked up and dropped off. Redirecting traffic to the surrounding roads, such as Maidstone Road, which are significantly busier and more hazardous, will place children at greater risk. Maidstone Road is known for its high traffic speeds and frequent road traffic accidents, making it a far less safe alternative for families to use during busy school hours. I have serious concerns that this shift in traffic will lead to a higher risk of accidents or injuries.</p> <p>Furthermore, as a parent, I know that many families rely on cars to travel to and from school due to the school's wide catchment area. The proposed changes will create significant logistical challenges for families, especially those who work or have children with additional needs. The ability to access the school with ease is critical for parents, particularly for those with younger children or special educational needs. The disruption this proposal would cause is substantial and could lead to late arrivals or even missed school, which can directly impact children's education.</p> <p>Additionally, many working parents depend on after-school clubs or external support services for their children. The proposed closure could severely disrupt these services and prevent vital support, such as SEND services, from reaching the school at the necessary times.</p> <p>The lack of consultation with parents and the community at large, as well as the evidence that Canon Close is not a hazardous area, makes this proposal even more troubling. The proposed plan does not seem to have been thoroughly thought through, and there has been no clear evidence provided that this measure will achieve the desired outcomes.</p> <p>In conclusion, I strongly urge Medway Council to reconsider the proposed</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> <p>Blue badge holders and registered carers are eligible to apply for an exemption to the scheme.</p> |

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| | <p>closure of Canon Close to traffic. I believe that the safety, wellbeing, and convenience of the children attending St William of Perth RC Primary School would be compromised by these plans. I support the school's objection to this proposal and ask that alternative solutions to improve safety be considered that do not jeopardise the welfare of our children. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, ██████████</p> | |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I strongly object to the proposed School Streets (SS) scheme at St. William of Perth (SWOP) in Rochester.</p> <p>SS will put small children with a relative lack of road safety awareness at significant risk – this is not an opinion, this is a fact supported by data (some of which has been provided by Medway Council).</p> <p>Pupil safety is my main concern, but I also object on the grounds that the Council's process is flawed, that there is no evidence to back up any claims of environmental benefits (in short, this scheme is nothing short of greenwashing), and it will negatively impact working families in a cost of living crisis.</p> <p>Taking each in turn:</p> <p>Pupil safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medway Council states SS will improve safety for pupils. In fact, it will have completely the opposite effect. • To support these claims, Medway Council cites generic, nationwide accident data. In other words, there is no data specific to SWOP to show how road safety will be improved. • I have asked individual Councillors and submitted FOI requests to support claims of "selfish" and "dangerous" driving in Canon Close, and for the data/evidence to back up statements made by Council representatives in the Rochester Community Magazine as to how SS will improve safety for small children. Unfortunately, no data or evidence has been provided to support these claims, with one of the responses to my FOI requests stating "It wouldn't be for a Council service to provide evidence to back up a statement made by an elected official." • Given safety is supposedly a core focus of SS, I assume that the data I asked for would (i) be readily available and (ii) willingly made available by Medway Council. • With no data from the Council to show how safety will be improved, it is therefore very difficult to understand what problem SS is solving at SWOP. • I accept some parents can park selfishly (e.g., over residents' driveways) but this is a completely separate problem from one of pupil safety. • While there are no data from the Council to show how safety will be | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> <p>As outlined in the report linked in item 6, 68.5% of local residents within the proposed School Street zone were supportive of initiative going ahead.</p> |

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| | <p>improved / what problem SS is solving, there are data to show how small children will be put at greater risk than they are today. Let's also remember some of these children are as young as 4, 5 and 6 years old and lack road safety awareness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A recent article on Kent Live shows that Maidstone Road ranks 16th in the entire county of Kent for speeding offences. In the last 12 months, a total of 849 fines were issued to drivers for exceeding the speed limit on this road. o There are also data – per a source provided by Medway Council – that shows in the last 5 years there have been multiple road traffic accidents on Maidstone Road and Priestfields i.e., two nearby roads that small children will be displaced to from Canon Close. o On Maidstone Road, there was one fatal accident, and seven slight accidents. o At the Priestfields junction, three slight and two serious accidents occurred. o Compare this to Canon Close where zero accidents occurred. • Medway Council proposes that parents use a public car park on Priestfields and finish the journey to school by foot. The problem is there is no pedestrianised entry/exit from this car park and children will have to walk alongside cars coming in / out of it. A relative went to check this car park out and saw a small girl almost get hit by a car – so it begs the question how is this any safer than Canon Close. • In summary, it defies all logic to move small children from a road where no accidents have occurred, to highly dangerous roads where drivers regularly speed (evidenced by the number of speeding fines issued) and where several accidents / deaths have occurred (evidenced by the Council's own data). • In what world does anyone think this is a smart idea? Medway Council has no data to show what the problem is in Canon Close, but its solution is to displace children onto roads where they are much more likely to get killed. As I said before, this is not my opinion, it is fact. <p>Flawed process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These final points are nowhere near important as the matter of pupil safety, but should be raised nonetheless. • There appears to be no framework / process in place that shows how SWOP was identified as a candidate for SS. I have asked Medway Council for this, and nothing has been provided. It feels like the Council has taken the 'spaghetti at the wall' approach to decide which schools will be included. SS might be a good idea for some schools, but the Council cannot take a one size fits all approach. There need to be a set of clear, objective criteria showing why SS was chosen for each individual school and likewise a clear set of criteria or 'things' that will be improved as a result of SS – again tailored to each individual school. | |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the initial consultation, over 70% of people who responded to the survey were against SS. This was consistent with the 2023 survey where again over 70% of people said 'no' to SS. This is an overwhelming number of School Staff, Parents and even some residents of Canon Close who clearly do not want SS. Councillor Maple said this is the Council that listens to its residents, but this is clearly not the case. <p>Environmental benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medway Council has made a whole host of claims that SS will improve air quality and improve the environment. • The fundamental issue once again is there are no data to back this up. • The Council again cites a couple of generic studies, one of which is from East London. Air quality in London and Medway is chalk and cheese. • If the Council is going to make such claims, they need to have some sort of measure of air quality to support them. Simply saying they will measure the before and after once the scheme goes live is not good enough – we all know that once the money has been spent on installing the cameras, there is no way they are coming down if the benefits are not as expected. • The Council also didn't have the foresight to ask in its flawed survey how parents will get to school if SS is implemented. I will still drive, and suspect many other parents will too. So, the number of journeys by car may not decrease as much as expected. • I also worry that these unsupported claims could give rise to a legal challenge. Public companies making claims often get sued for greenwashing. Medway Council has no money as it is due to years of poor financial management, and I am concerned even more of my tax money will be spent on defending a legal challenge in future if you go ahead with this. Let's face it, SS is a revenue generating scheme – has anyone conducted a cost benefit analysis of how much revenue you might make and whether this exceeds the costs of any expensive legal challenge? <p>Working families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many people do the school run and then go on to their place of work. For most, walking to school, walking back, getting their car, and then going to work is not a choice. And so many will still drive (see point above re limited environmental benefits). • The extra journey time will mean many parents might need to use more wrap around care like breakfast clubs to avoid being late for work. A comment at one of the Council's meetings on this "that parents should just wake up 5 minutes earlier" is not relevant. Putting more financial pressure on working families at this time, due to a scheme that is not solving for any problem, does not seem like a good idea. <p>██████████</p> | |
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| | <p>that implementing this scheme at Canon Close will cause more harm than good for the school community.</p> <p>First and foremost, I share the school's concerns regarding safety. The closure of Canon Close will displace traffic to surrounding roads, which are far more dangerous, particularly Maidstone Road, which is known for high traffic speeds and frequent accidents. The proposal to close a relatively quiet and safe road like Canon Close, where traffic is naturally slower, could inadvertently increase the risk to children. As a parent, I find it hard to support a measure that seems to shift the risk from one area to another, more hazardous one.</p> <p>Additionally, I am concerned about the impact this change will have on working parents like myself. The reality for many families is that we rely on driving our children to school due to the location and the necessity of getting to work afterwards. The closure of Canon Close will disrupt school drop-offs and pick-ups, potentially causing delays and, in some cases, making it difficult for parents to get to their jobs on time. This could affect the livelihood of working parents and result in added childcare costs, as parents may struggle to meet the new timing requirements.</p> <p>Furthermore, the logistics of the scheme would also interfere with the smooth operation of the school. Essential services, such as support for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), would be severely impacted, as external experts and contractors rely on easy access to the school. This would create unnecessary barriers to the services that are crucial for the welfare and education of our children.</p> <p>Finally, I would like to echo the concerns raised by the school regarding the lack of consultation and transparency. With 76% of the local community opposing the closure of Canon Close, I feel that this significant objection has not been fully addressed by the council. It seems that important feedback from parents, staff, and the wider community has been overlooked in favor of a one-size-fits-all solution that is not appropriate for every school.</p> <p>I respectfully urge the Council to reconsider the closure of Canon Close and to work with the school and local community to find alternative solutions that better balance safety with the practical needs of families and school operations. I am confident that a more tailored approach could be developed that serves the interests of all parties involved.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my objections, and I look forward to your response.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,  </p> | <p>intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> <p>In line with best practice and council policy, an open and accessible engagement process was conducted to build understanding and seek feedback on the proposal. Medway conducted a public consultation between 16 September 2024 and 27 October 2024. Information was sent to the school advising of proposal, onsite signage was in place and information was made available on the council website. All outcomes of the consultation process were published in the report listed under item 6, which was presented in full to cabinet and is publicly available.</p> <p>As outlined in the report linked in item 6, 68.5% of local residents within the proposed School Street zone were supportive of initiative going ahead.</p> |
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| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Good morning</p> <p>As a parent of a child who currently attends school at St William of Perth RC primary school in Rochester I would like to voice my concerns about the school streets proposal.</p> <p>My main concern and objection for this proposal remains the same that the dropping off and picking up of my young child in Maidstone Road and Priestfields is demonstrably more dangerous than dropping them off and picking up in Canon Close.</p> <p>I have witnessed myself parents and young child struggling to cross Maidstone road and the priest fields and one mother was nearly knocked down due to the sheer busyness of these roads. Not all parents can walk their children to school and the least that our children are owed is for them to be able to be dropped off and picked up safely. The school has stood strong for 50 years with parents freely dropping off and picking up, there is no need to change this now and it would be in fact dangerous and irresponsible for you to do so.</p> <p>Many thanks ██████████</p> | |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Please add my objections to the consultation regarding Canon Close - School Streets proposal - St William of Perth RC Primary School</p> <p>I strongly object to this proposal.</p> <p>I believe it puts the lives of the young school children at greater risk by forcing parents and carers out onto the already congested and dangerous Maidstone road that has 2 major secondary schools on it. This means that at school times this major road becomes even more congested. Already parents are parking on the road and verges all the way down the road outside the schools and these are older children who do not need supervision. The bus rank is chaotic and dangerous and creates blind spots for any crossing of the road. Forcing the St William of Perth cohort out onto this already congested, and in my view, overly busy and dangerous road is an accident waiting to happen. This is a reckless proposal pushed by residents in the close more concerned about things other than the lives of young children and I can see it would only be a matter of time before a major accident occurs if 3 schools are forced to fight for space on the Maidstone Road.</p> <p>██████████ ██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ - St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margarets Infant School, Rainham</p> | <p>Good afternoon</p> <p>We have received your communication that you are moving to the next stage of the school streets. Prior to agreeing to this being in place could you please provide the following information As a resident of Hurst Place for nearly 30 years and requesting parking restrictions be put in place which they were many years ago, the traffic</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>All residents are exempt. Timings have been developed during discussions with the school. Addressing peak periods, these are appropriate times.</p> <p>Registered carers, emergency services and those eligible for an exemption will all be able to apply to enter the</p> |

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| | <p>wardens need to issue tickets for illegally parked vehicles, which they never do at School times.</p> <p>Please explain why the residents of Hurst Place and Tudor Grove which are both Cul-de-sacs and only have 1 way in and 1 way out are meant to do regarding the following during your proposed time restrictions</p> <p>Visitors to our property who can easily park on our drives Trade persons who we need to attend to maintain our properties Carers Who need to visit us short term or long term when we are house bound Deliveries to our address</p> <p>The above need to be addressed prior to any conclusion to your proposed scheme. I look forward to hearing from you as how you will resolve the above issues.</p> <p>I generally feel you are penalising the residents and it seems a money making scheme for the Council with no actual benefits to us residents.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>scheme during operational hours. If there are particular instances of concerns for a visitor during the limited hours of operation Medway Council will consider options to reduce any impacts.</p> <p>Visitors can also exit a school street zone without receiving a PCN once it is operational.</p> |
| <p>[REDACTED] St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margarets Infant School, Rainham</p> | <p>I live in Tudor Grove and just want to point out to make the afternoon session viable if would have to start earlier as most parents start to arrive before 3pm as the school releases the children at 3.15 and they've all gone by 3.30</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>Timings have been developed during discussions with the school.</p> |
| <p>[REDACTED] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Hello,</p> <p>I want to write to you to back the school regarding the traffic Regulation Order, I object quite sincerely to the councils plans to close off cannon close during school hour drop offs, its unsafe for all parents to park on adjacent roads such as Maidstone road or Priestfield's, its extremely dangerous for all parents and carers and their children and highly impractically on a daily basis between Monday to Friday.</p> <p>Please can you listen on this occasion and hear the help that Teachers/Carers/Guardians and Parents are voicing on this matter, this will have a huge impact across all levels and will in turn cause more accidents if everyone had to park on a dangerous road like Maidstone road, you have heard the plea directly from the school and I back their decisions and concerns.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to listen.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | |
| <p>[REDACTED] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it my concern.</p> <p>I would like to object to the implementation of school streets in Canon Close the site of St William of Perth School. The council have said it's due to air quality but have given no evidence of this. Also the statistics for RTA's in the area. The school has been there for 50 years , I went to the school & so did my son. As far as I am aware there are no records of RTA's in the close so this is another reason why the council information is incorrect in this instance. The councillor in charge of this scheme seems to think it is safer for the children to walk with parents once parked in Priestfields or other roads opposite the close which will involve children & parents to have to cross the Maidstone road which is a lot more dangerous then being dropped off in the close. I appreciate that the residents are inconvenienced at school times but by implementing this scheme in the close the council are just causing problems in other areas near by.</p> <p>A lot of parents are able to walk their children to & from school, but those parents who have to drive on to work after dropping their children off should not be punished with fines. Listening to one of the council meetings the councillor suggested leaving earlier so they can walk. I'm sure parents could but again it's just moving the problem. Residents by Priestfields already have to put up with extra traffic on the weekends when rugby is being played, to have to tolerate it every morning and afternoon once traffic is moved will no don't cause more complaints.</p> <p>Local roads already have issues due to both Grammar school parents parking, moving traffic from canon close is not going to help this issue. Thank you for your consideration</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>[REDACTED] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear sir / madam</p> <p>I am writing to object to cannon close becoming a traffic regulation order section 1</p> <p>I believe as a parent who walks my child to this school this will make Rochester Maidstone road even more dangerous than it already is, as well as the roads around it Breton road copperfield road and warden road St william of Perth is a very small school that does promote walking to school the classes have a contest which is the walking boot to encourage families to walk</p> <p>The school has regular services at the St John fisher church also on cannon close which parents like to attend to see their children in assembly or services.</p> <p>There are often cars parked across the crossings and on the path regardless of the cctv cars that are parked up on Maidstone road Making</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> |

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| | <p>crossing from one side to the other very difficult and hard to teach children how to cross safely and be able see without putting them in danger, to allow older children the responsibility and independence of walking home with their friends or alone safely</p> <p>The crossing on Maidstone road that leads to preistfields road is also very dangerous in my opinion cars often go very fast and I have seen many near misses We now unfortunately living in a society where in most family's both parents have to work and often drop children on the way to them going to work and collect on their way home.</p> <p>I would like Medway council to reconsider the traffic regulation order section 1</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to read</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p> <p>██████████</p> | <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester,</p> | <p>Good morning,</p> <p>My children go to St William of Perth Catholic Primary School in Rochester which is in the area of proposed school streets scheme. We walk to school every single day, so my personal parking is of no concern. However I would like to register my strong objection to the scheme as it will NOT make the streets safer for any child. This plan will only push the cars on to the already busy Maidstone Road and Priefields making it even more dangerous for the children walking or cycling to school as there are already a lot of cars parked all over the pavements.</p> <p>Furthermore I would also like to object to the Kings Preparatory and St Andrews School (in Rochester) Streets Scheme as I live on the streets affected in that proposal. Once again personally it will have no effect on us as we have a residents parking permit and it will probably in fact make parking easier for us. But if child safety is the concern here this school streets proposal will NOT be improving safety in this area either. As with the above school these proposals will only push the traffic to the bigger busier roads making school run times much more dangerous for everyone.</p> <p>This scheme unfortunately does strongly come across as the council trying to start fining parents in desperate money grabbing attempts as it is clearly apparent to everyone that this WILL NOT IMPROVE traffic safety in the area for children.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Medway Council,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed school street scheme on Cannon Close, where St. William of Perth Junior School is located.</p> <p>Many parents, along with the school itself, feel that the council has disregarded the views of the school community. I believe this to be so given 76% of respondents to the initial consultation survey opposed the School Streets proposal for Cannon Close.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk</p> |

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| | <p>A major concern is the increased risk to children's safety on the surrounding roads. Redirecting traffic from Cannon Close onto Maidstone Road and nearby streets will worsen the already dangerous conditions. Roads like Maidstone Road, Breton Road, and Priestfields are just as busy and on some occasions more hazardous than Cannon Close. Increasing traffic on these routes will heighten the risks for children traveling to and from school.</p> <p>I live on the corner of Priestfields and Maidstone Road - this junction is especially concerning (my neighbours and I have raised this with the council and with the help of previous local councillors we finally got some bollards installed as cars had been parking on the corner pavement obscuring the view for/ of pedestrians crossing). I have personally witnessed many near-misses involving vehicles and children and young people. In the eight years I've lived here I've been at home when two people have been hit by cars at this intersection and required an ambulance to hospital. The School Street plan fails to tackle wider issues like this and will potentially heighten risks at these already dangerous points.</p> <p>All along Maidstone Road and Priestfields cars (often so big I worry they can't see small children) frequently pull onto the pavements to park, creating dangerous situations for children walking along them. I've asked parents parked across crossings to move their cars on several occasions (mind boggling how inconsiderate some drivers are) - I've rarely if ever seen parking wardens / people in authority managing bad / illegal driving/ parking. Increasing traffic on this road will only make these incidents more frequent and more serious.</p> <p>Whilst I do believe something needs to be done to more safely manage the traffic on Canon Close, I strongly believe that shutting one road and pushing cars on to Maidstone Road is not the holistic solution that this area of Rochester needs.</p> <p>No additional measures have been put in place to manage the extra traffic this scheme will generate for Maidstone Road - please correct me if I'm wrong. Without any clear plans to address these risks, it seems irresponsible to proceed with a proposal that will directly affect the safety of children and other pedestrians.</p> <p>I would welcome access to evidence from the Council that has been used to justify the scheme as it would be helpful to understand why you are continuing despite the objections.</p> <p>I urge the council to reconsider this proposal and to listen to the concerns of those who rely on these roads every day. The safety of our children should be the priority, and this scheme, as it stands, poses a clear and unacceptable risk.</p> <p>Given Council planners have ignored the results of the initial consultation I strongly urge you to give further thought to this plan and devise a more comprehensive and holistic solution that tackles the wider issues faced in Rochester (lack of safe parking, pavement parking, parking across crossing, dangerous crossings with no lollipop ladies (Priestfields/ Maidstone Road junction), infrequent and unreliable bus service pushing people to use cars/ taxis to name a few).</p> | <p>of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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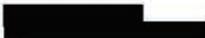
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| | <p>Thank you.</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | |
| <p>[Redacted] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am writing to formally oppose the proposed "Make School Streets Safer" initiative on Cannon Close. While I understand the aim of enhancing safety, I believe the plan exacerbates the challenges for families with working parents, like mine, who rely on the current traffic flow to manage their busy schedules.</p> <p>Both my partner and I are working parents with opposite shifts—one works during the day while the other works at night. This schedule enables us to share the responsibility of taking our children to school. However, the suggestion that we walk to two different institutions with two children, especially in the morning or afternoon rush hours, is not feasible. The added complexity of managing this with the proposed changes would create significant disruptions in our daily routines.</p> <p>Additionally, I would like to point out that there have been no accidents reported on Cannon Close to justify such a drastic change. The initiative appears to be driven more by the desire to appease a small number of residents who may be inconvenienced by the brief increase in traffic during school drop-off and pick-up times. The traffic congestion is only for a few minutes each morning and afternoon and does not seem to pose a significant safety risk, especially when compared to the benefits of maintaining the current flow.</p> <p>The real concern is that this change would simply push traffic onto Maidstone Road, which is already a dangerous area. There have been numerous accidents on that road involving children, and redirecting traffic there will only increase the risk.</p> <p>Moreover, these changes will likely affect the school schedule, further complicating our ability to get our children to school on time. It will also place a financial burden on families who may need to explore alternative transportation options, adding unnecessary costs and stress to our already busy lives.</p> <p>I believe you will really reconsider this plan and find a solution that balances the need for safety with the practicalities of daily life for families in the area. Thank you for your understanding and consideration.</p> <p>Best regards,</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Subject: Concerns Regarding Vehicle Ban During School Drop-Off and Pick-Up</p> <p>I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my concerns about the proposal to ban vehicles during the school drop-off and pick-up times on canon close. While I understand the intentions behind this suggestion — to improve safety and reduce congestion — I believe that implementing such a ban may not be the best course of action, and I'd like to share my perspective on the matter.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased Traffic Congestion: Banning vehicles entirely would likely lead to more congestion on surrounding streets. Parents and guardians will still need to find alternate parking or drop-off locations, which could increase traffic further away from the school, potentially creating more safety hazards for pedestrians and other drivers. 2. Limited Accessibility: For some families, especially those with younger children or those who may have mobility challenges, the ability to drop off children directly in front of the school is crucial. A ban could make it difficult for these families to ensure their children's safety and get them to school efficiently. 3. Impact on Local Businesses: Many local businesses rely on the traffic generated by parents picking up and dropping off children. A ban may inadvertently harm these businesses by reducing the number of customers during peak hours, further straining the local economy. 4. Lack of Alternative Solutions: Instead of a complete vehicle ban, exploring solutions such as better traffic management, improved pedestrian crossings, or staggered drop-off times may offer a more balanced approach. These measures can maintain safety while ensuring that families have the necessary access and convenience. 5. Potential for Non-Compliance: Implementing a vehicle ban without clear alternatives may encourage some individuals to ignore the rule or park in unauthorized areas, potentially worsening the situation by creating new hazards. <p>I believe that while safety during school drop-off and pick-up is of the utmost importance, a vehicle ban might create more challenges than it solves. I encourage further discussion of other, potentially more effective, solutions to address the concerns at hand.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my thoughts on this matter. I would be happy to discuss this further if needed.</p> <p>Best regards,</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Hear Sir</p> <p><image0.jpeg></p> <p><image1.jpeg></p> <p>As a resident within the proposed school restriction zone, please accept this letter as a vote in favour of the proposed scheme on the grounds of child safety.</p> <p>I attach some photographs showing the danger of cars rushing into Canon Close and Rectory Grange at speed. Rectory Grange itself does not have any pavements and children have to walk in the middle of the road to get to and from the school. This is very dangerous and I have seen many near accidents with cars turning at speed into the road (it is a blind turn).</p> <p>I believe the residents within the close should have the heaviest weighted</p> | <p>Support noted.</p> |

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| | <p>votes for the scheme. Residents outside the scheme roads e.g Maidstone Road, have previously voted against the scheme, not on the grounds of child safety but on the basis of being able to park their cars without restriction due to not having their own driveway or parking space by their property.</p> <p>I also understand that the headmaster of the school is against the scheme which is disappointing although not surprising. The local residents have found him very uncooperative in all aspects where various issues and concerns have been expressed. The residents, the priest and local councillors tried to meet with him specifically about the school streets scheme and he decided not to attend and has not subsequently attempted to discuss the matter with the attendees. He has in fact gone totally against our requests at times, and communicated with the parents of the school children asking them to object to the scheme.</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p>  | |
| <p> St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it concerns</p> <p>I would like to express my views on you recent proposal to make Canon Close, Rochester, part of your school street scheme and how I believe it will have a negative impact on our community.</p> <p>Banning vehicles during school drop-off and pick-up hours on a school street may seem like a good idea in theory, but in practice, it presents several serious problems for parents/carers and young students. While the goal may be to reduce congestion and improve safety, such a ban could actually make the situation worse in multiple ways.</p> <p>1. Child Safety Concerns</p> <p>One of the main arguments for banning vehicles is to improve safety, but ironically, it could do the opposite. Many parents drop their children off directly at the school entrance to ensure they arrive safely. For our young children at St William of Perth school, this is especially important, as they may not be aware of traffic dangers or how to navigate busy streets alone. If vehicles are banned on Canon Close, children will have to walk longer distances from designated drop-off zones, potentially crossing multiple roads, especially the main road, Maidstone Road, or walking through less supervised areas. This area is already extremely busy during school time as there are two huge secondary schools located close by, as well as St William of Perth school. This could expose our young children to more hazards, including unsafe crossings, strangers, and even poor weather conditions.</p> <p>2. Accessibility Issues for Disabled Parents/Carers and Students</p> <p>A blanket ban on vehicles during drop-off and pick-up on Canon Close would disproportionately affect parents/carers and students with disabilities. Some parents rely on cars due to mobility challenges, and requiring them to park farther away or use alternative drop-off locations may not be feasible. For students with mobility issues, having a vehicle</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> <p>Blue badge holders and registered carers are eligible to apply for an exemption to the scheme.</p> |

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| | <p>drop them off close to the entrance is essential for their comfort and safety. Public transportation or walking long distances is simply not an option for everyone, and implementing a ban without considering these needs would be discriminatory.</p> <p>3. Increased Traffic and Congestion Elsewhere While banning cars from Canon Close may reduce traffic in one area, the street itself only, it does not eliminate the problem. Instead, it pushes congestion to surrounding streets, where cars will still need to park, drop off, and pick up children. Which is already a fierce competition with the two larger secondary schools close-by. This could lead to even more dangerous situations, as cars stop in unsuitable locations, children are forced to walk through moving traffic, and drivers become frustrated, increasing the likelihood of reckless behaviour. Emergency vehicles could also struggle to navigate if congestion worsens in nearby streets.</p> <p>4. Weather and Practicality Issues Many parents/carers rely on vehicles because of practical concerns, such as bad weather. In cold, rainy, or extreme conditions, walking or cycling is not a realistic option for many children, especially those who live farther away. We live in a country where the majority of the weather forecast, especially during school time, is wet and unpredictable. Public transportation may not be available or convenient for all families, making cars the most practical and reliable option. For working parents with tight schedules, banning cars adds unnecessary delays and stress.</p> <p>5. Unfair Burden on Working Parents Many parents/carers have to drop off their children quickly before heading to work. A vehicle ban could add significant delays, making it harder for parents/carers to get to their jobs on time. Not all parents/carers have the flexibility to walk their children to school, and forcing them to find alternative arrangements may create undue hardship, especially for those with multiple children attending different schools.</p> <p>Conclusion While reducing traffic and improving safety near schools is a valid concern, banning vehicles on Canon Close outright during drop-off and pick-up is not the solution. It creates more risks for children, makes life harder for disabled parents/carers and students, shifts congestion rather than solving it, and places an unfair burden on families. A better approach would be to implement traffic management solutions, such as designated drop-off zones, better pedestrian crossings, and improved enforcement of existing traffic laws. Instead of an outright ban, a balanced approach that considers the needs of all families is essential.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> | |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>██████████ Further photos in support of the scheme</p> | <p>Comments noted.</p> |

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| <p>St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margarets Infant School, Rainham,</p> | <p>Good Afternoon,</p> <p>Please take this as my wholehearted support for what the scheme intends to achieve.</p> <p>Additionally however, please consider extending the start times for the pedestrian and cycle zone by 30 minutes, to 07:30 & 14:30 respectively.</p> <p>As I write this at 14:50, there are already parents parked outside waiting to pick up children from the school, and the road is filling up. The same is true prior to school opening in the morning.</p> <p>Because of the [understandably necessary] need to allow vehicles already in the zone at the start of the period to exit without penalty, many parents will just arrive before the restrictions commence and then leave once they've dropped off/picked up. The current proposed start times are not going to affect these drivers and, as has happened at Miers Court Primary just up the road, many more parents quickly get wise to the way the system operates and just arrive a few minutes before they would have done previously to avoid the restrictions.</p> <p>The difference a longer period would make can be quite clearly seen every time a traffic warden is in the area, as the streets are practically empty..</p> <p>Thank you in advance</p> <p>Michael Dean St Margaret's Court, Hurst Place ME8 9BF</p> | <p>Feedback Noted.</p> <p>Timings have been developed during discussions with the school.</p> <p>If there are particular instances that the limited hours of operation need to be amended, Medway Council will consider options to address impacts.</p> |
| <p>- St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To the members of Medway Council,</p> <p>I am writing to voice my formal objection to the inclusion of Canon Close in the proposals for the School Streets scheme.</p> <p>As a user of these local roads on a daily basis, we already encounter terrible traffic from the local grammar schools and we feel that adding the displaced traffic from St William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School on Canon Close will lead to even more dangerous and congested roads nearby. We ask that you consider that we are a school with children who have mobility and SEND needs and as a faith school, we have a larger catchment area and some parents do need to drive their children to and from school and have access to Canon Close to drop off safely each day. Canon Close is a far safer road to negotiate than Maidstone Road or neighbouring streets, so we ask you not to include St William of Perth and Canon Close in the proposed School Streets scheme. We want all children and families to be as safe as possible on their daily school runs, whether they drive or walk. For those who do need to drive their children to school, many already encounter delays and dangerous driving most days on Priestfields, Warden Road and Maidstone Road. We feel the need to voice our concerns that the council isn't considering staff members who come from further away and require access to the school car park during the school street hours, visitors to the school for educational support or for events, and those families who cannot just let their children walk to and from school and have no choice but to drive.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> |

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| | <p>We ask the council to please take note of the high number of respondents from the previous two survey consultations who have already voiced their opposition and objections to the proposed school street on Canon Close. We feel that our views as local residents and members of this school community are not being heard and it is us who use these roads daily. We also feel that the air quality will not be improved at all, as the council are only moving the traffic from one road to the neighbouring roads, which are already packed and congested every day. In fact, the council is just moving the dangers and pollution closer to neighbouring homes nearby.</p> <p>We disagree with the proposals and hope you will take on board our views, as we already encounter dangerous driving around Maidstone Road and Breton Road in particular and feel that this School Street will only exacerbate an already terrible and dangerous traffic situation, risking our children's safety further, due to people parking on side streets, double parking, parking on corners of junctions and double yellow lines, driving erratically and blocking driveways without care or courtesy for residents, pedestrians or other road users. These roads are already some of the most dangerous for road traffic accidents and speeding in all of Kent, so we cannot see how this is a safe or sensible plan for any school children to have to negotiate even busier crossings and more traffic, and likely frustrated drivers if they have been held up due to further congestion and parking issues on already dangerous and overcrowded roads nearby. We would prefer to see crossing guards and more traffic wardens present to deter drivers from committing traffic infringements and giving fines to those who actually break the road rules and risk the safety of our children, than to see all drivers restricted in this way, even those who are courteous and careful drivers, who are thoughtful towards the residents in Canon Close.</p> <p>We hope that you will see that this proposal is not appropriate for Canon Close and St William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School as traffic will simply be displaced to the surrounding roads, and these are already more dangerous than Canon Close, and our children and families will be more at risk, not less.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, </p> | |
| <p> - St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Hi</p> <p>I would like to make an objection to the School Street proposal for St William of Perth Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester.</p> <p>My reason for this objection is that I feel closing Canon Close at the times proposed will put the children in danger by forcing them onto the Maidstone Rochester Road. This road is already very busy during these times & one of the most dangerous roads in Medway. Canon Close is much quieter and safer for the children to be dropped off at school.</p> <p>In my view this is another way for Medway council to penalise its residents and gather money via fines. Medway council have no regard for the safety of the children.</p> <p>Regards</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> |

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| | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | |
| <p>[REDACTED] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To the members of Medway Council,</p> <p>I am writing to voice my formal objection to the inclusion of Canon Close in the proposals for the School Streets scheme.</p> <p>As a user of these local roads on a daily basis, we already encounter terrible traffic from the local grammar schools and we feel that adding the displaced traffic from St William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School on Canon Close will lead to even more dangerous and congested roads nearby. We ask that you consider that we are a school with children who have mobility and SEND needs and as a faith school, we have a larger catchment area and some parents do need to drive their children to and from school and have access to Canon Close to drop off safely each day. Canon Close is a far safer road to negotiate than Maidstone Road or neighbouring streets, so we ask you not to include St William of Perth and Canon Close in the proposed School Streets scheme. We want all children and families to be as safe as possible on their daily school runs, whether they drive or walk. For those who do need to drive their children to school, many already encounter delays and dangerous driving most days on Priestfields, Warden Road and Maidstone Road. We feel the need to voice our concerns that the council isn't considering staff members who come from further away and require access to the school car park during the school street hours, visitors to the school for educational support or for events, and those families who cannot just let their children walk to and from school and have no choice but to drive.</p> <p>We ask the council to please take note of the high number of respondents from the previous two survey consultations who have already voiced their opposition and objections to the proposed school street on Canon Close. We feel that our views as local residents and members of this school community are not being heard and it is us who use these roads daily. We also feel that the air quality will not be improved at all, as the council are only moving the traffic from one road to the neighbouring roads, which are already packed and congested every day. In fact, the council is just moving the dangers and pollution closer to neighbouring homes nearby.</p> <p>We disagree with the proposals and hope you will take on board our views, as we already encounter dangerous driving around Maidstone Road and Breton Road in particular and feel that this School Street will only exacerbate an already terrible and dangerous traffic situation, risking our children's safety further, due to people parking on side streets, double parking, parking on corners of junctions and double yellow lines, driving erratically and blocking driveways without care or courtesy for residents, pedestrians or other road users. These roads are already some of the most dangerous for road traffic accidents and speeding in all of Kent, so we cannot see how this is a safe or sensible plan for any school children to have to negotiate even busier crossings and more traffic, and likely frustrated drivers if they have been held up due to further congestion and</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> |

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| | <p>parking issues on already dangerous and overcrowded roads nearby. We would prefer to see crossing guards and more traffic wardens present to deter drivers from committing traffic infringements and giving fines to those who actually break the road rules and risk the safety of our children, than to see all drivers restricted in this way, even those who are courteous and careful drivers, who are thoughtful towards the residents in Canon Close.</p> <p>We hope that you will see that this proposal is not appropriate for Canon Close and St William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School as traffic will simply be displaced to the surrounding roads, and these are already more dangerous than Canon Close, and our children and families will be more at risk, not less.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>██████████</p> | |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To the members of Medway Council,</p> <p>I am writing to voice my formal objection to the inclusion of Canon Close and St. William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School in the proposals for the School Streets scheme.</p> <p>As a user of these local roads on a daily basis, my family already encounter terrible traffic from the local grammar schools and we feel that adding the displaced traffic from St. William of Perth and Canon Close will lead to even more dangerous and congested roads nearby. I am writing to ask that you consider that SWOP is a school with children who have mobility and SEND needs and as a faith school, they have a larger catchment area and some parents do need to drive their children to and from school and require access to Canon Close to drop off and pick up their children safely each day. Canon Close is a far safer road to negotiate than Maidstone Road or other busy neighbouring streets, so we ask you not to include St William of Perth and Canon Close in the proposed School Streets scheme. We know that the council wants all children and families to be as safe as possible on their daily school runs, whether they drive or walk, so we ask you to reconsider this proposal.</p> <p>For those families at SWOP who do need to drive their children to school, many already encounter delays and dangerous driving most days on Priestfields, Warden Road and Maidstone Road. We have had many close calls and dangerous encounters with bad drivers along Maidstone Road and Warden Road, including a hit and run collision with another car 2 weeks ago on Warden Road, where the other driver hit our vehicle and drove off, so I feel the need to voice my personal concerns towards the safety of all road users and I believe it will become more unsafe if this school street is implemented.</p> <p>I also believe that the council isn't considering staff members who come from further away and require access to the school car park during the school street hours, and the many other visitors to the school for educational support reasons or for events, and those families who cannot just let their children walk to and from school and have no choice but to drive, like my own family who need to drive from Chatham to Rochester every morning because of SEND needs and distant school allocations.</p> <p>I ask the council to please take note of the high number of respondents</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognise that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> |

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| | <p>from the previous two survey consultations, including my own family, who have already voiced their opposition and objections to the proposed school street on Canon Close. We feel that our views as local residents and members of this school community are not being heard and it is us who use these roads daily. We also feel that the air quality will not be improved at all, as the council are only moving the traffic from one road to the neighbouring roads, which are already packed and congested every day. In fact, the council is just moving the dangers and pollution closer to neighbouring homes nearby, where several of our closest friends live.</p> <p>I disagree with the proposals and hope you will take on board my views and those of my family, as we already encounter dangerous driving around Maidstone Road, Warden Road and Breton Road in particular and feel that this School Street will only exacerbate an already terrible and dangerous traffic situation, risking children's safety further, due to inconsiderate people parking on side streets, double parking, parking on corners of junctions and double yellow lines, driving erratically and blocking driveways without care or courtesy for residents, pedestrians or other road users. These roads are already some of the most dangerous for road traffic accidents and speeding in all of Kent, so I cannot see how this is a safe or sensible plan for any school children to have to negotiate even busier crossings and more traffic, and to have to watch out for frustrated, impatient drivers if they have been held up due to further congestion and parking issues on already dangerous and overcrowded roads nearby. We would prefer to see more crossing guards, traffic lights and more traffic wardens present to deter drivers from committing traffic infringements and giving fines to those who actually break the road rules and risk the safety of local school children, than to see all drivers restricted in this way, even those who are courteous and careful drivers, who are thoughtful towards the residents in Canon Close.</p> <p>I hope that you will see that this proposal is not appropriate for Canon Close and St William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School, as traffic will simply be displaced onto the surrounding roads, and these are already more dangerous than Canon Close, and the local children and families that you represent will be more at risk, not less.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, </p> | |
| <p> Fairview Primary School, Rainham</p> | <p>The personal attention of The Project Centre Manager</p> <p>Re: Fairview Primary School's Scheme Street Proposal vis-à-vis effects on Drewery Drive, Edwards Close Margaret's Close, Carvoran Way and Lakewood Drive.</p> <p>I am sorry to say that I think this Scheme has been hurriedly concocted with no consideration to the residents of the neighbouring roads. By curtailing morning and afternoon entry times you leave me and my neighbours completely stranded and abandoned as the action will RESTRICT ACCESS TO 5 ROADS around the school with NO access for visitors/carers/deliveries/taxis to the resident's property. There is no long way round for vehicular access to mine and other residents properties! ie accessing transport for medical, and other necessary/urgent/ important</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>Registered carers, emergency services and those eligible for an exemption will all be able to apply to enter the scheme during operational hours. If there are particular instances of concerns for a visitor during the limited hours of operation Medway Council will consider options to reduce any impacts.</p> <p>Visitors can also exit a school street zone without receiving a PCN once it is operational.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always</p> |

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| | <p>needs.</p> <p>I do realise that you are trying to give children a clean air environment but shutting access down for such a short time in such a small area will not achieve this, here or near any other schools. Children will still have to walk through car fumes emanating from traffic using surrounding arterial roads. This will also endanger the road safety of all pedestrians, as children, parents (of all generations), people's with prams/buggies, wheelchairs, carers (childminders, guardians etc), all try to cross roads whilst manoeuvring around other road users.</p> <p>Having spoken to a member of staff from Fairview School, I understand that some children come from out of the normal catchment area, surely the school, who invite school entrées, should make their own provision ie a school bus or a drop-off and collect system within their own school premises? (This works well with a Senior School on City Way Rochester.) The Fairview site is certainly big enough to accommodate this. And as a footnote, I also notice that several school employees already use the adjacent roads, leaving their cars all day during school times, meaning residents' visitors must park further away. The school Street Proposal will not stop these vehicles parking and thereby causing more emissions, parking problems and road safety dangers for all pedestrians trying to get to and from school.</p> <p>Those parents/carers/guardians, who do walk children to school, via Wigmore Park, will find it even more dangerous as they will have to manoeuvre excess parking on Bredhurst Road (bottom). Those who walk through alleyways from Durham Road and thereabouts to get to Fairview School already have to contend with traffic that races along Woodside and frequently does not stop for those using the Zebra Crossing - only last year 2 pedestrians on separate occasions, were mowed down by vehicles. This zebra crossing - in the opinion of many - is already extremely dangerous due to speeding cars on Woodside for pedestrians about to use the crossing. With more children potentially using this crossing after the School Street Proposal restrictions are put in place it is only a matter of time until another pedestrian/child is seriously injured or killed on this crossing. This crossing MUST be replaced with a Pelican Crossing for all pedestrians, especially those who need it most, namely those getting to and from Fairview School throughout school times.</p> <p>I, like many residents who were unaware of the earlier school scheme proposals (October 2024), now feel that this scheme has gone ahead without consultation, or knowledge and approval of all the residents involved. Restricting our movements and those who we rely on for help, comfort and succour is tantamount to total incurred curfews. Residents will have to live with this imposition for the rest of their lives with no say in who can visit them in their homes between the restricted times.</p> <p>This is a severe restriction of the freedom of movement and of the civil and moral rights of those living in, and those who support them by driving into the five roads during the non-sensical restricted times. You will be taking away mine and others freedom, controlling my life by force, in so much as decreeing who can visit me and when they visit me in my own home, including families, guardians, friends and most importantly carers. This restriction should NOT be metered out 'hairum-scareum' and should not be a permanent fixture to me nor the residents of the five roads.</p> | <p>involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> |
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Not only could it affect the value of our properties, which will, thereby be subject to a rateable reduction for services lost through lack of access.

There are times when my children, grandchildren and great grandchildren need to come to me, for a number of various reasons, eg caring for me or me caring for them, during the proposed restricted times. You mention on the leaflet that residents can register their car details, but this only applies to residents who live in the property. The information does state that a carer can register. My carers are numerous, varied and because they are family are unpaid, so I assume I will be able to register their access during restricted times. I know that other residents, certainly in the road I live in, have different carers in the mornings, afternoons, evenings and night-care, they also have different carers day to day, all with different cars. It is not always the same carer coming each day to the resident. The restrictions will have an impact on my family members and other family members who are also carers visiting elderly residents.

I, and all residents of the five roads should not be forced to change routines and essential movement to suit the Fairview School's drop off and pick up times.

It will have a detrimental impact on mine and others mental health and well-being. Yet the care home, which incidentally, cares for residents some of which are of similar age as me and others living in their own homes locally, and the church who also cater for the lost and lonely, both situated in Drewery Drive, will still be able to access their facilities. This cannot be the right way to treat people; because you will be removing liberty from those who just happen to be able to live in their own homes with others help, who are penalised by restricted times in terms of allowing access for families and friends and essential visitors with transportation to our own property. For example if I, or any non driving or incapacitated resident, has a doctor or hospital or other essential appointments; the times of which cannot be controlled, & am unable to walk out of the restricted area to catch a bus, meet a vehicular lift, or catch a taxi, then we would be totally isolated and bereft of help. Surely, if cameras were installed on the other side of Edward's Close, it would still restrict access directly outside the School but would allow residents and necessary visitors to access properties whilst still maintaining the safety of children.

In conclusion I feel sure that this scheme will make the roads around Fairview School in the wider vicinity more dangerous and less child friendly with faster moving traffic and dangerous zebra crossings to negotiate. I urge you to re-think this proposal for the benefit of the children, parents and the wider residents of Wigmore for the reasons stated above. I and I'm sure that residents want the roads around Fairview School "Safer, Healthier Streets" BUT with a total re-think and MUCH NEEDED new strategy to Fairview Primary School's School Street Proposal, for the number of reasons I have highlighted.

Please do not incur restrictions on residents, carers, family members and workers going about their normal day to day business. Life's hard enough as it is. I await your reponse.

Yours in earnest,

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| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To the members of Medway Council,</p> <p>I am writing to voice my formal objection to the inclusion of Canon Close in the proposals for the School Streets scheme.</p> <p>I am a resident of Roffen Road near Breton Road and we already encounter terrible traffic from the local grammar schools and we feel that adding the displaced traffic from St William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School on Canon Close will lead to even more dangerous and congested roads nearby, including our own. I have two school aged children who require support due to SEND needs and anxiety, so we need to be able to access our local roads safely for each daily school run as we drive our children to school and we already encounter delays most days. We feel the need to voice our concerns that the council isn't considering those families who cannot just let their children walk to and from school and have no choice but to drive. My oldest child was attacked on the way home from school a few years ago and has had PTSD and mental health struggles and anxiety due to this ever since, and no longer feels safe to leave our home without an adult for support and safety. We also have a younger child with ASD, sensory processing and profound speech disorder, so we also accompany her to school each day and drive both of our children due to their needs. Please take note of the high number of respondents from the previous two survey consultations who have already voiced their opposition and objections to the proposed school street on Canon Close. We feel that our views as local residents are not being heard and it is us who use these roads daily. We feel the air quality will not be improved at all, as the council are only moving the traffic from one road to the neighbouring roads, which are already packed and congested every day. In fact, the council is just moving the dangers and pollution closer to our homes. We disagree with the proposals and hope you will take on board our views, as we already encounter dangerous driving around Maidstone Road and Breton Road in particular and feel that this School Street will only exacerbate an already terrible and dangerous traffic situation, risking our children's safety further, due to people parking on side streets, double parking, parking on corners of junctions and double yellow lines, driving erratically and blocking driveways without care or courtesy for residents, pedestrians or other road users. These roads are already some of the most dangerous for road traffic accidents and speeding in all of Kent, so we cannot see how this is a safe or sensible plan for any school children to have to negotiate even busier crossings and more traffic, and likely frustrated drivers if they have been held up due to further congestion and parking issues on already dangerous and overcrowded roads nearby .</p> <p>We hope that you will see that this proposal is not appropriate for Canon Close and the surrounding roads, for the reasons we have outlined above.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester, St John Fisher School</p> | <p>This email is in regards to the proposed school street for Canon Close and my view on the significance such an implementation would have to the safety of the 210 children that attend St William of Perth school.</p> <p>Firstly, the idea that such a proposal has gone this far down the road requiring statutory consultation, with the council backing is the definition of insanity. The idea that the improvement of children's safety is at the forefront of this proposal is hidden with untruth. I know this first hand being an ex-resident of Canon Close who was anti the proposal when I was a resident of the Close and attended the original briefing in St John Fisher church hall. The agenda is solely to benefit residents of the road, NOT to benefit children's safety.</p> <p>Forcing 210 children of a young age to one of the busiest main roads in Medway to walk along or cross is not an improvement on safety. This is obvious. There is significant risk to accidents and collisions outside Canon Close as there is and there are recent examples of vehicles crashing and driving through the wall of St John Fisher. With 210 small children and hundreds more cars using this road as a consequence of this proposal being granted, there will be a matter of time before the inevitable happens and a child is hurt, or worst. This will be at the hands of those who approve this unnecessary proposal.</p> <p>There are no statistics or facts that the council have provided to demonstrate how this proposal will be beneficial at Canon Close. More to the point, never has there been an incident involving a child at St William of Perth since inception of the school as a result of a car driving in Canon Close. Again, a proposal based on untruth to steer an alternative agenda by those trying to enforce the change.</p> <p>If the council truly want to improve the safety of children then work with and improve the local highways of the area. Implement safety measures along Maidstone Road to slow cars down. Add robust safety crossings with traffic lights to enable children to safely cross a road. Stop hundreds of cars mounting and driving along pavements at school rush hour and provide alternative measures.</p> <p>The proposal does not improve the safety of children, the very agenda the council are promoting. The proposal raises the dangers to the children. As an ex-resident of Canon Close of 10 years, I know what lies beneath this proposal. As a parent of children of St William of Perth and a dedicated community member, I believe for this proposal to be granted would be a failure of Medway council, a negligence to the children of the school. I hope this email is taken with sincerity and the correct decision is sought, one that is solely based on the young children's lives at St William of Perth, not the residents of the Close. I suggest a view is taken on the circumstance of a child being involved in an accident on Maidstone Road as a result of this proposal.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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| | <p>shift in traffic will lead to a higher risk of accidents or injuries.</p> <p>Furthermore, as a grandparent, I know that many families rely on cars to travel to and from school due to the school's wide catchment area. The proposed changes will create significant logistical challenges for families, especially those who work or have children with additional needs. The ability to access the school with ease is critical for parents, particularly for those with younger children or special educational needs. The disruption this proposal would cause is substantial and could lead to late arrivals or even missed school, which can directly impact children's education.</p> <p>The lack of consultation with parents and the community at large, as well as the evidence that Canon Close is not a hazardous area, makes this proposal even more troubling. The proposed plan does not seem to have been thoroughly thought through, and there has been no clear evidence provided that this measure will achieve the desired outcomes.</p> <p>In conclusion, I strongly urge Medway Council to reconsider the proposed closure of Canon Close to traffic. I believe that the safety, wellbeing, and convenience of the children attending St William of Perth RC Primary School would be compromised by these plans. I support the school's objection to this proposal and ask that alternative solutions to improve safety be considered that do not jeopardise the welfare of our children.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, </p> | |
| <p> St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am a grandmother of children attending the above school. I regularly collect my grandchildren and I am writing to formally object to the proposed School Streets scheme outlined in the statutory consultation currently being conducted by Medway Council for Canon Close for St William of Perth School. While I understand and appreciate the Council's aim to improve safety and reduce traffic around schools, I firmly believe that the proposed scheme will have unintended consequences that could increase the danger to children rather than reduce it.</p> <p>My primary concern is that the changes proposed will restrict access to currently safe roads and pathways, pushing traffic onto surrounding areas that may not be designed to handle increased volumes of cars, particularly at peak times. This could result in an increased risk of accidents, as parents and carers seek alternative routes, potentially leading to more congested and dangerous streets.</p> <p>I ask the Council to consider the safety of children as the top priority in any proposed changes. Instead of limiting road access, I urge Medway Council to explore alternative measures that would improve pedestrian safety, such as enhanced crossings, improved signage, or traffic-calming solutions that don't have the negative side effects of pushing traffic to less suitable areas.</p> <p>In light of these concerns, I respectfully request that the Council re-</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognise that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| | <p>evaluate the proposed School Streets scheme in Canon Close and consider alternative approaches that will provide a safer environment for children without inadvertently increasing the risk of danger in the surrounding areas.</p> <p>I would be grateful if you could acknowledge the receipt of this letter and inform me of the next steps in the consultation process.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>██████████</p> | |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>I wish to express my view on the upcoming consultation about including Canon Close into the School Street scheme, which although I can commend the vision behind it and understand what is trying to be achieved, I feel that it has been misguided to a small street that isn't the real issue. If the objective is to cut down on pollution, have cleaner air and safer streets the concern is Maidstone Road, Rochester and the two huge grammar schools with the thousands of students trying to get home at the same time as a small primary school.</p> <p>It is already very dangerous on Maidstone Road with its very high congestion due to being a main road, multiple double decker buses, coaches, grammar school parents in their cars in surrounding streets blocking it up as well as outside the grammar schools. We already have all that to contend with as well as trying to get through masses of teenage students that aren't particularly courteous when it comes to sharing the path to attempt to navigate home with young children.</p> <p>If this is still to come into effect regardless of very real worries and concerns for the safety of our young children from parents that are experiencing this in real time and it's already a major issue on such a dangerous main road; let alone adding to it with more parents/cars of young children that would have been parked safer in Canon Close. I would implore that as a reasonable compromise that both the grammar schools are to finish earlier so most of the road traffic has been and gone by the time we get there to use the surrounding area to park and collect our children. This already happens at morning school run and there are usually no issues on Maidstone Road as it is generally empty or very quiet including side roads that can be used.</p> <p>A real example of how this has helped reduce congestion and made the streets safer for primary school, nurseries and secondary schools is Arethusa Road where Thomas Aveling now finishes at 2:55pm so when Warren Wood Primary comes out at 3:20pm the roads are clearer and safer.</p> <p>Please take into consideration that although we generally live close to the school and should be able to walk however in reality there are families including myself that have younger children in separate nurseries that need to travel quickly to pick up our children from two locations within a small window of time. There is also a lot of working families nowadays that have to come straight from work to collect their children from school as</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| | <p>cost of living is requiring most families to be a two income household to survive.</p> <p>I hope you really do take into consideration that this isn't a straightforward case as most primary schools that are considered under this scheme are usually in smaller residential roads and not a main road that is also a link between the town and straight through to the motorways so used heavily by road users. It is also contending with previously mentioned 2 of the biggest grammar schools in Medway which most other Primary Schools are alone and do not have them in such a close proximity like St William of Perth.</p> <p>Kind Regards ██████████</p> | |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear council,</p> <p>I am emailing you to express my concern about the new parking restrictions at st William of Perth with the new school streets.</p> <p>I formally reject the school street scheme for the following reasons,</p> <p>Maidstone road is a 30 mph road however , this is a main road from the M2 towards Rochester and cars are travelling too fast for a safe crossing. For those that need to drive their children to school there is limited to no parking spaces on the side of the road next to the school and so those parents would be forced to cross the road.</p> <p>It is not safe, there is no proper crossing point between canon close, and breton road and the nearest, traffic light crossing is some way up the hill and parents won't use this as it is too far away. Rush hour brings the worst out of drivers and without a proper crossing point children are at risk. This is not safer streets it's making money for the council, I really don't think the children have been put first. Tragedy does happen, this is not well thought out and an accident waiting to happen, please don't do this for the safety of our children, I see this everyday as a serious collision detective in the metropolitan police,</p> <p>Many thanks, ██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester, Thomas Aveling School</p> | <p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am opposed to the proposal to install the School Streets initiative on Cannon Close, Rochester.</p> <p>I am a parent of two children aged 10 and 7 who attend St William of Perth Catholic primary school. I am a resident of Rochester living on St Williams Way. My primary method of travel to the school is walking.</p> <p>I have long had concerns about the safety of the roads around the Rochester Maidstone Road and have campaigned on several occasions for increased safety around the areas of Maidstone Road, Priestfields and Cannon Close.</p> <p>I do not feel the School Streets initiative solves the immediate issue that we have, instead off loading the problem of increased traffic onto the Maidstone Road, which is already dangerously congested around school times.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like</p> |

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| | <p>The primary age children attending St William of Perth are, in the main, accompanied to and from school by an adult. The high school age children attending the two local grammar schools and, indeed, the Thomas Aveling school further onto the estate, are not accompanied and these are the children I feel this initiative places in the most danger.</p> <p>With the traffic situation, as it already stands, cars frequently mount the pavement, park over crossings, park on blind corners and junctions, placing our young people at risk and making crossing small, local roads more difficult.</p> <p>Whilst I admire the councils desire to tackle the issue of congestion and environmental impact, which I also care strongly about, I do not feel that moving a further 30-40 cars at least, onto the Maidstone Road to find parking, is the answer to the problem we have.</p> <p>I feel strongly that there is a desperate need for at least one crossing patrol in the area. I also have further ideas to help resolve the issue of congestion, in Cannon Close, by installing walking buses from a drop off/ pick up point (Priestfields) before and after school or introducing a drop off/ pick up point within Cannon close where cars do not stop and children are brought to a designated area and released to and from school from there. These ideas will require a small amount of investment, which the school cannot afford but I strongly believe it would be more beneficial for the council to invest in than funding and putting in place the School Streets initiative.</p> <p>I would be more than happy to speak with someone in person about the viability of these ideas.</p> <p>Please hear my objection and take this into account.</p> <p>Kind regards ██████████</p> | <p>pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>Fairview Primary School, Rainham,</p> | <p>For the attention of Adam Bryan - Director of Place Parking Design Team</p> <p>I am writing on behalf of the neighbours & residents of Lakewood Drive and Caravoran Way, as some do not have access to e-mail or internet in relation to responding to the above proposed School Scheme that has been launched by Medway Council for Fairview School.</p> <p>Many residents have expressed concern that they weren't aware of having to put in objections again. Many residents are elderly and they wouldn't have seen the poster that is attached to the post on Drewery Drive.</p> <p>The area and properties around Fairview School and the restricted roads in particular are made up predominately of elderly residents with one particular resident being 103 years of age. These elderly residents rely on visitors coming in the mornings or after work to take them for appointments whether that be at the hospital, doctors, dentist, cancer treatment or physiotherapy as well as having medication delivered. These elderly residents cannot walk up or push themselves in their wheelchairs up the road to meet their driver who is not allowed in the roads covered by the proposed School Street Scheme. This will make life unnecessarily difficult in terms of access for others attending residents. Some elderly residents are already isolated and lonely as it is and look forward to seeing and talking to people. This scheme will only have a detrimental impact on this which may affect their mental health and amounts to a lack of duty of care. A further issue that has been raised is in terms of residents that are child minders for their grandchildren. Parents of these children will not be able to access the roads around the school to drop of their children at the</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>All residents are exempt. Timings have been developed during discussions with the school. Addressing peak periods, these are appropriate times.</p> <p>Proposed timings are also shorter than the current School Keep Clear restrictions that are currently in place from 8-9.30am and 2.30-4pm.</p> <p>All schemes will be subject to a monitoring period, which includes conducting before and after surveys to assess the impact once a scheme has been implemented. Should adjustments need to be made, the Council will consider these.</p> <p>Registered carers, emergency services and those eligible for an exemption will all be able to apply to enter the scheme during operational hours. If there are particular instances of concerns for a visitor during the limited hours of operation Medway Council will consider options to reduce any impacts.</p> <p>Visitors can also exit a school street zone without receiving a PCN once it is operational</p> |

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| | <p>grandparent's houses who are acting as childminders whilst the parents are at work.</p> <p>We feel that you have made the availability of providing avenues for comment and objections very difficult for them to find online even if they had access to the internet, which most haven't and they feel they are all penalised for living in their own homes. Many residents have lived in these affected roads for over 20 years and the school was there when they moved into these roads and most don't have an issue with the parents parking as long as they park with consideration.</p> <p>I note the school day starts at 8.45am and the children should therefore be in their classrooms ready for lessons well before 8.45am. Why therefore is access denied to the affected roads up until 9.15am, a time when there should be no children arriving for school unless they are very late indeed. The restricted access times in the mornings between 8.15 am and 9.15am seems strange. I predict parents will arrive just before 8.15am drop their children off and leave the restricted zone at the busiest time when other children are arriving by foot or bicycle. Surely 8.15am to 8.45am would be perfectly reasonable timing if there has to be some sort of restriction.</p> <p>The restrictions at school leaving time in the afternoons between 3.00pm & 3.30pm seems more sensible but I still don't see how this will stop parents parking just before 3pm and then leave the restricted area during the busiest period of children movements.</p> <p>Residents feel they have not been listened to or heard. A petition containing 128 signatures of local residents appears to have fallen on deaf ears. This petition was presented at the council meeting but was not mentioned in your cabinet meeting back in November. Residents feel they have objected once why do they have to make the same representation again? What is the point of democracy if objections are pushed under the carpet and not aired in the public domain. It feels like the residents to not have a say or a voice in the Councils decisions.</p> <p>We notice that the residential care home and the church will still be able to access their facilities, which seems a bit unfair considering the local residents who are in the similar age bracket to those in the residential care home will be impacted in terms of accessing their own property for families and friends visiting.</p> <p>Only some residents again received a letter from Medway Council regarding to the Medway School Street Scheme. This seemed to be a haphazard letter drop to some but not all dwellings affected. Nothing is mentioned in the letter in terms of where they can put in an objection. The letter only says if you need further information e-mail consultant@projectcentre.co.uk.</p> <p>Also we object strongly to the camera being placed by Edward's Close restricting access not just to Drewery Drive but to the four offshoot roads also. If the area outside the school gates is the major cause of concern then why not just restrict access to Drewery Drive and Carvoran Way leaving residents to use Edward's Close and St Margaret's Drive for access.</p> <p>Parents and Guardians of the children attending the school are already</p> | |
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| | <p>parking further out from the school to avoid the congestion at peak times. Parents are now parking in roads such as Cambridge Road, Durham Road and walking through the alleyways across Asquith Road and Woodside and walking up past the Howard Hall and on to Edwards Close to the school. This route involves using the zebra crossing on Woodside where just last year a pedestrian was knocked over by a car. This zebra crossing in the opinion of many is extremely dangerous due to speeding cars on Woodside and the short distance between exiting the alleyway and arriving at the crossing giving cars little or no time to react to pedestrians about to use the crossing. With more children potentially using this crossing after the School Street Proposal restrictions are put in place it is only a matter of time until another pedestrian is seriously injured or killed on this crossing.</p> <p>The surrounding roads of Maidstone Road & Bredhurst Road are already extremely busy at school drop off and pick up times. I understand no residents have been informed of the proposals on these roads where the congestion will increase. Parking on Maidstone Road is currently on both sides of the road from parents dropping off or picking up children from the school. I have seen parents opening car doors roadside for children to exit the cars and then having to cross Maidstone Road between parked cars to access the opposite side of Maidstone Road. This is a dangerous practice that one day will result in a potentially serious accident. This is a very busy thoroughfare and a bus route with many cars travelling to and from the Howard School and Rainham Girls.</p> <p>Parents/Guardians will only be at the school for 6 years and move on elsewhere along with teachers and workers from the school. Residents will have to live with this imposition for the rest of their lives with no say in who can visit them in their homes between the restricted times. This is a restriction in terms of freedom of movement and alack of duty of care especially to the elderly residents.</p> <p>Residents feel you will be taking away their freedom and controlling their lives in terms of who can visit them in their homes, including families, guardians, friends and most importantly Commercial vehicles will also not be allowed access during the restricted times and the suggestion is that residents arrange deliveries outside of the restricted times. As you will be aware it is difficult to control when deliveries from Amazon and the like are made. All that will happen is that the object will not be delivered during the restricted times as delivery drivers will obviously not wait until the restriction ends.</p> <p>The catchment area does not consist of just local children as parents now have a choice of the school they wish their child to attend. Of the 672 pupils attending Fairview school potentially less than a quarter walk to school. The offer of places to those out of the area is increasing each year with some students travelling from as far as Sittingbourne, Darland and Lower Twydall. Any other means of transport other than travelling by car is not feasible for most of these students.</p> <p>In conclusion I would urge you to reconsider the introduction of the Fairview School Street Scheme out of respect to the residents of the affected roads and especially on behalf of the elderly residents who will be impacted the most at a time when they are most vulnerable and do not need an added complication in their lives whereby carers, family and friends will be restricted in terms of the times when they can visit</p> | |
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| | <p>especially with the imposed morning access restrictions.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | |
| <p>[REDACTED] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>I am against the proposed change to Cannon Close in relation to St William of Perth School.</p> <p>I feel that instead of making things safer, pushing this traffic to an already crowded Maidstone Road would be counter productive. This is already a dangerous road to cross in the mornings and afternoons especially at the crossing at priestfields. This is also effect my child who has send needs as the specialist who come into school to see him will not be able to attend the school until after the restrictions end.</p> <p>Also in the 50 years the school has been open there has never been a road traffic accident where a child had been hurt. There has been no evidence that the air quality at canon close is below what it should be.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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| <p>[REDACTED] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>I am against the proposed change to Cannon Close in relation to St William of Perth School.</p> <p>I feel that instead of making things safer for the children it's going to make matters even worse pushing this traffic to an already crowded Maidstone Road would be very dangerous! Maidstone road is very busy i have 3 children, 2 that attend st William of Perth and 1 that attends another school meaning two drop offs, I have no time to then park up somewhere then walk and your saying to park somewhere else then walk to school where are you suggesting this? I think it's ludicrous! a decision like this will be</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like</p> |

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| | <p>putting more congestion elsewhere and risk to young children, for the sake of 30 mins in the morning and 30 mins end of school time of people dropping and collecting there kids from school, is it very necessary, you say you want safer streets well I think your be making the total apposite!. Please rethink this proposal and think about the safety and future for our children by doing this your not !</p> <p>Kind regards ██████████</p> | <p>pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I strongly disagree with the school street scheme. Sent from my iPhone</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> |

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| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it concerns, I am writing to formally object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order as published by Medway council for Cannon Close.</p> <p>After reviewing the proposal I am objecting on the grounds that this TRO does not improve the safety of the children, and in fact has the opposite effect for their safety.</p> <p>This proposal will force parents, carers and children to navigate more dangerous routes to get to school by pushing the road users from Cannon Close onto an extremely more dangerous Maidstone Road.</p> <p>Parent of three young children at St William of Perth</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognise that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Medway School Streets – statutory consultation</p> <p>To Medway Council,</p> <p>I am writing as a member of staff, and as a parent and PTA representative, at St William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School, to register my formal objection to the inclusion of St William of Perth School and Canon Close, in the Medway School Streets programme. It is my understanding that to prohibit traffic from entering Canon Close, the Council under the terms of this scheme will need to make a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) under section 1(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. I therefore also formally object to that TRO.</p> <p>I firmly believe that the Council's current proposal will not improve the safety of pupils attending St. William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School. As someone who uses this road most days, I honestly believe that, if the School Streets programme is implemented on Canon Close, it will instead increase the risk of harm to the families and children accessing St. William of Perth School, due to the displaced traffic from Canon Close being pushed out onto the surrounding roads, which are far busier and</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognise that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| | <p>more dangerous than Canon Close.</p> <p>At the Cabinet meeting on 19 November 2024, Councillors said that we must "do all we can to protect our children". I absolutely agree with this, as a member of staff and as a parent of a child at SWOP. However, I do not believe the Council's proposal will protect the children accessing Canon Close or other nearby schools. I strongly believe that it will endanger more children and family members who will encounter even more dangerous traffic, at higher speeds on Maidstone Road and Priestfields, which are statistically far more dangerous roads already, with greater congestion and, in my own experience, much higher incidences of erratic driving, irresponsible parking and dangerous driving, due to the high numbers of parents from the surrounding grammar schools dropping their children off all over the double yellow lined section of road and in bus stop areas, double parking and driving off without indicating, parking in nearby roads like Breton Road and blocking both sides, making it difficult to manoeuvre through the streets safely, parking on corners and across driveways, and also idling their engines for long periods of time.</p> <p>Coupled with the safety concerns and already dangerous idea of displacing more traffic onto more dangerous surrounding roads around St. William of Perth School, I also need to voice my concerns about the lack of response or failure to take into account the views of respondents to the original proposal for St. William of Perth School to be included in the first round of School Streets, which was appealed and Canon Close/St. William of Perth was removed from this round, and the second survey we recently submitted, where 76% of respondents were opposed to the School Street going ahead on Canon Close. So far, the council has, in my view, failed to take into full account all of the comments and suggestions it has received from those of us who work at and whose children attend the school, and those of us who actually travel and use these roads daily. There is only ever a small amount of congestion on Canon Close for a few minutes each morning and afternoon, from a relatively small number of vehicles from our school community, who need to drive to school for either SEN purposes, or as working families needing to go straight to work from school drop off, or those of our school community who have come from further away as we are a faith school with a wider catchment area and may not live within walking distance. Or some of us have children in different schools located far apart due to council allocations where we weren't given our local secondary school and the allocated school isn't a safe walking distance and public transport options aren't sufficient or reliable. Canon Close is much safer and more manageable as a quiet cul-de-sac for the relatively few parents who drive their children to St. William of Perth, for a quick and efficient drop off and pick up each day, than the alternative dangers and congestion on the extremely busy main roads where the traffic and pedestrians from three schools would converge at the same time each morning and afternoon. I feel that this proposed change is a far greater risk.</p> <p>The council haven't seemed to take into account that some parents have a need to travel by car due to our particular circumstances. My family is one of these families who need to take one sibling halfway across Medway each morning due to being placed out of catchment for their school allocation, then having to drop another sibling off, with only a window of 15-20 minutes to achieve both drop offs. Driving is the only option we have to ensure we are not late to either school in Chatham or Rochester and we</p> | <p>All schemes will be subject to a monitoring period, which includes conducting before and after surveys to assess the impact once a scheme has been implemented. Surveys will record traffic levels and monitor emissions around each school including St William of Perth Catholic Primary School.</p> <p>Note – this representation was submitted twice.</p> |
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| | <p>then don't have the council contacting us for lateness or attendance issues, and we take attendance very seriously. However, It would take my older child over an hour each way to walk to and from school each day, in an area of Medway that has high crime rates and where there have been incidences of drug use and drug dealing, antisocial behaviour, gang activity and violence, including a stabbing, directly across from my older child's school, all within school hours. My child has an ASD diagnosis and anxiety which prevents her from being able to get herself to and from school safely and there aren't reliable and safe public transport options in place to be able to send her by bus each day. We are therefore under pressure from all sides to attend school and be on time, with an almost impossible task of getting everyone in to school and myself in to work safely and punctually each day. The only manageable way to do this is to drive, and my arrival at St. William of Perth is during the proposed school street hour of 8am-9am each morning. Parking nearby is always difficult as the side streets and Maidstone Road are always full of school traffic and many people park terribly, so parking on Canon Close is my safest choice to get my younger daughter in to school.</p> <p>If safety concerns had been taken seriously when our school community raised the issue of crossing Priestfields and Maidstone Road years ago, I might have more options for parking further away on days where u don't have a lot of equipment with me, and weay have had safer ways to cross the busy nearby roads, but our concerns have not been assuaged in the past, so Canon Close is our safest place to drop off by far. In the summer of 2021, Councillor Teresa Murray assisted our school PTA, of which I am a current trustee and have been a committee member and volunteer for seven years, in our request for a crossing patrol to help parents cross Maidstone Road safely. Leanne Adams, Senior Road Safety Officer explained that after a PV2 assessment, our request had been rejected. Although vehicle numbers in Maidstone Road were high, because they can drive into Canon Close, a very low number of St. William of Perth families crossed Maidstone Road to reach Canon Close. This is further evidence that Maidstone Road is already extremely dangerous to cross, even with the current levels of traffic. I believe it will therefore be significantly worse if Canon Close is closed to traffic. Far from 'avoiding danger to persons...or...preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising' the Council will, we believe be substantially increasing the danger to the very children the Council says we must do all we can to protect.</p> <p>I also feel strongly, as a member of staff, that the proposals would have a detrimental effect on the daily operation of St. William of Perth as our school car park would be inaccessible to staff members at the most crucial time of day for staff arrivals and would affect staff punctuality if they are no longer able to drive into Canon Close to access the car park. Many staff need access to the school car park and we can't all be guaranteed exemptions from fines if we need to drive to and from school each day. Many have heavy equipment and bags, as we take resources and marking home for planning and assessment purposes and this would be difficult to carry if needing to park further away from the school and walk. The inclusion of St William of Perth in the School Streets scheme would also prevent some staff and external support services such as SEND experts, Speech and Language therapists, play therapists, Local Authority advisors, CPD trainers, contractors, and food delivery suppliers from arriving to and from school without concerns about timings and risks of fines. St. William of Perth is an inclusive school with students who require</p> | |
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| | <p>SEND support, many also have mobility issues and would not be able to walk to school. The school Streets programme would create a barrier for our SEND students and prevent them from receiving the expert support that they need from the many educational psychologists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, social and emotional support staff, as they would need to arrive at the school during the proposed school streets times. It has been said that the council's proposals will have some flexibility to meet such circumstances, but frankly unless we can see all staff being exempt, I can't see how this current proposal can be viable. All staff would need to be provided with exemptions and permits, along with all volunteers who come in to assist us with the daily running of the school. Also, anyone helping with events during school streets hours, should be able to register their vehicle registrations upon arrival, plus essential visitors like those listed above should be given a blanket exemption and allowances should be put in place for the school to be able to digitally register all visitor's vehicle registrations on a daily basis to ensure fines are not issued. Without these reassurances, I cannot see how the promise of flexibility can be achieved on a day to day basis for the school to run as it should.</p> <p>In my view, and in support of the school's views as a whole, I can confirm that the current proposals would also disproportionately affect working mothers like me, who need to travel to work after dropping off children. The implementation of the scheme would penalise hard working mothers who have no option but to go to work. Speaking to other working parents, we all have concerns that the scheme will raise serious challenges for those of us needing to travel to work so close to school drop off time and this could affect our employment or at the very least incur significant extra childcare costs if we need to sort before and after school care outside of the school streets hours to avoid fines each day. It could also affect the school's ability to provide wraparound care as it means that after school club providers would not be able to access the site during the necessary times to provide these services also.</p> <p>I would also like to ask the council for their evidence in support of this proposal to make Canon Close a School Street, especially as it has already been overturned once. So far, from everything we have read and seen, I very much believe that all the evidence collected by the council from surveys and consultations, is in opposition to Canon Close being included in the School Streets programme. As far as I am aware the Council has not undertaken a survey of air quality in Canon Close and we have requested this in the previous consultation period but did receive a response. We strongly believe that the council has no evidence that their proposal is required because air quality needs to be improved. Further, there is apparently no evidence that we can find so far, that the air quality has been improved in the locations of the seven schools that are already in the School Streets programme. The Council's proposal is to ban some cars from Canon Close for two hours every weekday during term time – 390 hours out of 8,760 hours in every year. Some cars will be banned from Canon Close for 4.4% of the year but still allowed within 100 yards of the school. The impact on air quality surrounding St. William of Perth School will therefore in my view, and the view of the school, who we support in their objection to the proposed school street programme, be non-existent.</p> <p>I have also personally sought historical data from the Council during previous consultation periods to ask for any and all evidence of road traffic</p> | |
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| | <p>collisions and accidents on Canon Close. What we have found from our own research and experience of driving these roads each day, is there have not been any RTAs or accidents where children have been put at risk in Canon Close, but there are frequent RTAs on Maidstone Road, which is an extremely busy and dangerous road, according to Medway Council's own figures: Maidstone Road in Rochester is one of the most dangerous roads in Medway; in fact, in the list of the top 20 Kent Roads for speeding, Maidstone Road is number 16. Our own research has backed up our concerns about the impact speed of a car hitting a child and how speed significantly affects the severity of injuries, with higher speeds drastically increasing the risk of serious harm or death. A child hit by a car travelling at 30 miles per hour has a high risk of severe, potentially fatal injuries. The nature of Canon Close is such cars cannot travel faster than 20 miles per hour. A child hit by a car at 20 miles per hour or less may result in minor injuries, comparable to a fall from a low height. Therefore, we feel the evidence clearly shows that Canon Close is demonstrably safer than Maidstone Road or Priestfields for our children.</p> <p>My sincere hope as a teacher and Midday Meals Supervisor, as a PTA Trustee and as a parent who just wants to see all of the children at St. William of Perth as safe as possible, is that Medway Council will see that including St. William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School in the School Streets programme is not appropriate or necessary for the Council's proposed reasons to undertake the scheme. I hope that, with further reflection on safety concerns and issues with the current proposal as it stands, the Council will be persuaded to take Canon Close out of this scheme. There is a very real concern that traffic will be displaced to surrounding busier, more dangerous streets, making school journeys much more dangerous for our local pupils and families. I firmly believe that the School Streets programme is suitable for some locations within Medway but it is not going to be appropriate for every primary school, as each has a particular location and set of circumstances to consider. I hope that the Council can see that is not appropriate or necessary for St William of Perth to be included for the reasons I, and many other respondents, have already given. I feel our arguments are valid and that closing Canon Close to vehicles will increase the danger by displacing all of our school traffic onto already dangerous and busy roads where we already feel unsafe to cross or drive as it is.</p> <p>Please take the views of your constituents and school employees on board as we are the ones who use these roads and access these schools on a daily basis and we are asking you to reconsider the proposal for St. William of Perth and Canon Close to be included, as it is not the safest or best plan for our children and families. At the end of the day, safeguarding children is our role and responsibility, and I believe that we would be risking them and endangering them and their families if this proposed plan goes ahead. I cannot in good conscience support a plan that puts children at risk, and I believe there are better, safer options that need to be explored. For example, I believe that investment could go towards more traffic wardens, to be in attendance and provide a physical presence outside of our schools all over Medway more often. I also believe that traffic lights need to be installed of the intersection of Maidstone Road and Priestfields for safer crossing points. Traffic wardens in attendance more often would be a better way to deter and catch out any drivers who actually need to be caught and fined for traffic infringements and idling engines, rather than preventing all drivers from using our local roads when</p> | |
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| | <p>we do it safely and respectfully of neighbours and residents. I hope you will reconsider the proposed plan for Canon Close and St William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School to be included in the School Streets programme.</p> <p>Your sincerely,</p> <p>[Redacted Signature]</p> | |
| <p>[Redacted] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Medway School Streets – statutory consultation</p> <p>To Medway Council,</p> <p>I am writing to register my formal objection to the inclusion of St William of Perth School, Canon Close, in the Medway School Streets programme. It is my understanding that to prohibit traffic from entering Canon Close, the Council under the terms of this scheme will need to make a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) under section 1(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. I therefore also formally object to that TRO.</p> <p>I firmly believe that the proposal will not improve the safety of pupils attending St. William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School. As someone who uses this road most days, I honestly believe that, if the School Streets programme is implemented on Canon Close, it will instead increase the risk of harm to the families and children accessing St. William of Perth School, due to the displaced traffic from Canon Close being pushed out onto the surrounding roads, which are far busier and more dangerous than Canon Close.</p> <p>At the Cabinet meeting on 19 November 2024, Councillors said that we must "do all we can to protect our children". I absolutely agree with this, as a parent of a child at St. William of Perth School and as a member of staff. The problem is that I do not believe the Council's proposal will protect the children accessing Canon Close or other nearby schools. I strongly believe that it will achieve the very opposite effect and endanger more children and family members who will encounter even more dangerous traffic, at higher speeds on Maidstone Road and Priestfields, which are statistically far more dangerous roads already, with greater congestion and, in my own experience, much higher incidences of erratic driving, irresponsible parking and dangerous driving, due to the high numbers of parents from the surrounding grammar schools dropping their children off all over the double yellow lined section of road and in bus stop areas, double parking and driving off without indicating, parking in nearby roads like Breton Road and blocking both sides, making it difficult to manoeuvre through the streets safely, parking on corners and across driveways, and also idling their engines for long periods of time.</p> <p>Coupled with the safety concerns and already dangerous idea of displacing more traffic onto more dangerous surrounding roads around St. William of Perth School, I also need to voice my concerns about the lack of response or failure to take into account the views of respondents to the original proposal for St. William of Perth School to be included in the first round of School Streets, which was appealed and Canon Close/St. William of Perth was removed from this round, and the second survey we recently submitted, where 76% of respondents were opposed to the School Street</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>All schemes will be subject to a monitoring period, which includes conducting before and after surveys to assess the impact once a scheme has been implemented. Surveys will record traffic levels and monitor emissions around each school including St William of Perth Catholic Primary School.</p> |

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| | <p>going ahead on Canon Close. So far, the council has, in my view, failed to take into full account all of the comments and suggestions it has received from those of us who work at and whose children attend the school, and those of us who actually travel and use these roads daily. There is only ever a small amount of congestion on Canon Close for a few minutes each morning and afternoon, from a relatively small number of vehicles from our school community, who need to drive to school for either SEN purposes, or as working families needing to go straight to work from school drop off, or those of our school community who have come from further away as we are a faith school with a wider catchment area and may not live within walking distance. Or some of us have children in different schools located far apart due to council allocations where we weren't given our local secondary school and the allocated school isn't a safe walking distance and public transport options aren't sufficient or reliable. Canon Close is much safer and more manageable as a quiet cul-de-sac for the relatively few parents who drive their children to St. William of Perth, for a quick and efficient drop off and pick up each day, than the alternative dangers and congestion on the extremely busy main roads where the traffic and pedestrians from three schools would converge at the same time each morning and afternoon. This proposed change is a far greater risk.</p> <p>The council haven't seemed to take into account that some parents have a need to travel by car due to our particular circumstances. My family is one of these families who need to take one sibling halfway across Medway each morning due to being placed out of catchment for their school allocation, then having to drop another sibling off, with only a window of 15-20 minutes to achieve both drop offs. We need to drive to ensure we are not late to either school in Chatham or Rochester and we then don't have the council contacting us for lateness or attendance issues. It would take my older child over an hour each way to walk to and from school each day, in an area of Medway that has high crime rates and where there have been incidences of drug use and drug dealing, antisocial behaviour, gang activity and violence, including a stabbing, directly across from my older child's school, all within school hours. My child has an ASD diagnosis and anxiety which prevents her from being able to get herself to and from school safely and there aren't reliable and safe public transport options in place to be able to send her by bus each day. We are therefore under pressure from all sides to attend school and be on time, with an almost impossible task of getting everyone in to school and myself in to work safely and punctually each day. The only manageable way to do this is to drive, and my arrival at St. William of Perth is during the proposed school street hour of 8am-9am each morning. Parking nearby is always difficult as the side streets and Maidstone Road are always full of school traffic and people park terribly, so Canon Close is my safest choice to get my younger daughter in to school. If safety concerns had been taken seriously when our school community raised the issue of crossing Priestfields and Maidstone Road years ago, I might have more options, but our concerns have not been assuaged in the past, so Canon Close is our safest place to drop off by far. In the summer of 2021, Councillor Teresa Murray assisted our school PTA, of which I am a current trustee and have been a committee member and volunteer for seven years, in our request for a crossing patrol to help parents cross Maidstone Road safely. Leanne Adams, Senior Road Safety Officer explained that after a PV2 assessment, our request had been rejected. Although vehicle numbers in Maidstone Road were high, because they can drive into Canon Close, a very low number of St. William of Perth families crossed Maidstone Road</p> | |
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| | <p>to reach Canon Close. This is further evidence that Maidstone Road is already extremely dangerous to cross with current levels of traffic. I believe it will therefore be significantly worse if Canon Close is closed to traffic. Far from 'avoiding danger to persons...or...preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising' the Council will, we believe be substantially increasing the danger to the very children the Council says we must do all we can to protect.</p> <p>I also feel strongly, as a member of staff, that the proposals would have a detrimental effect on the daily operation of St. William of Perth as it would prevent some staff and external support services such as SEND experts, Speech and Language therapists, play therapists, Local Authority advisors, CPD trainers, contractors, and food delivery suppliers from arriving to and from school without concerns about timings and risks of fines. St. William of Perth is an inclusive school with students who require SEND support, many also have mobility issues and would not be able to walk to school. The school Streets programme would create a barrier for our SEND students and prevent them from receiving the expert support that they need from the many educational psychologists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, social and emotional support staff, as they would need to arrive at the school during the proposed school streets times. It has been said that proposals will have some flexibility to meet such circumstances, but frankly unless we can see all staff being exempt, all volunteers who come in to assist with the daily running of the school and helping with events during school streets hours being able to register their registrations upon arrival, plus essential visitors like those listed above being given a blanket exemption and allowances being put in place for the school to register all visitor's vehicle registrations on a daily basis to ensure fines are not issued, I cannot see how that promise of flexibility can be achieved on a day to day basis. I also believe that residents should have a way to register essential visitors like carers and agency workers so that they can access essential services without concerns for the timings of these visits also.</p> <p>In my view, and in support of the school's view also, I can confirm that the current proposals would also disproportionately affect working mothers like me, who need to travel to work after dropping off their children. The implementation of the scheme would penalise hard working mothers who have no option but to go to work. Speaking to other working parents, we all have concerns that the scheme will raise serious challenges for those of us needing to travel to work so close to school drop off time and this could affect our employment or at the very least incur significant extra childcare costs if we need to sort before and after school care outside of the school streets hours to avoid fines each day. It could also affect the school's ability to provide wraparound care as it means that after school club providers would not be able to access the site during the necessary times to provide these services also.</p> <p>I would also like to ask the council for their evidence in support of this proposal to make Canon Close a School Street, especially as it has already been overturned once. So far, from everything we have read and seen, I very much believe that all the evidence collected by the council from surveys and consultations, is in opposition to Canon Close being included in the School Streets programme. As far as I am aware the Council has not undertaken a survey of air quality in Canon Close and we have requested this in the previous consultation period but did receive a</p> | |
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| | <p>response. We strongly believe that the council has no evidence that their proposal is required because air quality needs to be improved. Further, there is apparently no evidence that we can find so far, that the air quality has been improved in the locations of the seven schools that are already in the School Streets programme. The Council's proposal is to ban some cars from Canon Close for two hours every weekday during term time – 390 hours out of 8,760 hours in every year. Some cars will be banned from Canon Close for 4.4% of the year but still allowed within 100 yards of the school. The impact on air quality surrounding St. William of Perth School will therefore in my view, and the view of the school, who we support in their objection to the proposed school street programme, be non-existent.</p> <p>I have also sought historical data from the Council during previous consultation periods to ask for any and all evidence of road traffic collisions and accidents on Canon Close. What we have found from our own research and experience of driving these roads each day, is there have not been any RTAs or accidents where children have been put at risk in Canon Close, but there are frequent RTAs on Maidstone Road, which is an extremely busy and dangerous road, according to Medway Council's own figures: Maidstone Road in Rochester is one of the most dangerous roads in Medway; in fact, in the list of the top 20 Kent Roads for speeding, Maidstone Road is number 16. Our own research has backed up our concerns about the impact speed of a car hitting a child and how speed significantly affects the severity of injuries, with higher speeds drastically increasing the risk of serious harm or death. A child hit by a car travelling at 30 miles per hour has a high risk of severe, potentially fatal injuries. The nature of Canon Close is such cars cannot travel faster than 20 miles per hour. A child hit by a car at 20 miles per hour or less may result in minor injuries, comparable to a fall from a low height. Therefore, we feel the evidence clearly shows that Canon Close is demonstrably safer than Maidstone Road or Priestfields for our children.</p> <p>My sincere hope is that Medway Council will see that including St. William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School in the School Streets programme is not appropriate or necessary for the Council's proposed reasons to undertake the scheme. I hope that, with further reflection on safety concerns and issues with the current proposal as it stands, the Council will be persuaded to take Canon Close out of this scheme. There is a very real concern that traffic will be displaced to surrounding busier, more dangerous streets, making school journeys much more dangerous for our local pupils and families. I firmly believe that the School Streets programme is suitable for some locations within Medway but it is not going to be appropriate for every primary school, as each has a particular location and set of circumstances to consider. I hope that the Council can see that is not appropriate or necessary for St William of Perth to be included for the reasons I, and many other respondents, have already given. I feel our arguments are valid and that closing Canon Close to vehicles will increase the danger by displacing all of our school traffic onto already dangerous and busy roads where we already feel unsafe to cross or drive as it is.</p> <p>Please take the views of your constituents on board as we are the ones who use these roads and schools on a daily basis and we are asking you to reconsider the proposal for St. William of Perth and Canon Close to be included, as it is not the safest or best plan. We believe the investment should go towards more wardens to be in attendance and provide a</p> | |
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| | <p>physical presence outside of schools all over Medway more often, to deter and catch out the drivers who actually need to be caught and fined for traffic infringements, rather than preventing all drivers from using our local roads when we do it safely and respectfully of neighbours and residents. I hope you will reconsider and would welcome you to contact me or other members of our school PTA to hear our concerns first hand.</p> <p>Your sincerely,</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | |
| <p>[Redacted] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear team,</p> <p>I am writing to express my concerns around the restrictions which are planned to take place for Cannon Close in Rochester.</p> <p>I believe these to be totally unpractical and also posing danger, considering that other roads around the school are already heavily congested during school hours. As you are aware there are 2 secondary schools in close proximity of St William of Perth and the roads around are already incredibly busy during drop-off and pick up times. With restrictions on Cannon Close being imposed, this would only worsen the morning/afternoon situation on these roads, and cause more stress for local residents, parents and children. Not to mention the greater risks of accidents.</p> <p>Whilst it may be a good idea to manage traffic around schools, I believe the Council should be more proactive in delivering such initiative than simply penalise families by imposing restrictions without any consideration of the reality we all share. I believe that for such restrictions to be successfully implemented, the Council should consider provision of a designated drop-off and pick up point for each school from where the children may get collected and safely escorted to the school by school or Council personnel.</p> <p>While this may be a costly solution, I believe the emphasis should be in any case put on the childrens' and families' safety and wellbeing. It is also incredibly important to not forget that parents who need to use a car to drop off, are in their vast majority working people, who are also having to commute long distances to and from work, and are most often living on a tight schedule. Providing for a family financially, while raising children is a task hard enough in our day and era, let alone planning pick ups and drop offs, childcare etc. A Council should be therein support of its residents, not for making their lives harder by imposing restrictions without consideration. Long gone are the days of when mums looked after the house and the children while dad was off to work!</p> <p>I sincerely hope that the decision is reviewed again, and more practical ways are sought with regards to how such ideas can be implemented successfully without causing further strains on already struggling parents and increasing risks and dangers for our community.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognise that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am in support of the proposed school streets outside of st William of Perth school. As a parent and resident of the street my children's safety is the most important to me. Living on rectory Grange where there are no pavements, I am forced to walk on the road to the school with my child. And with the blind corner from canon close often we are not visible to traffic, so we have to weave around the illegally parked cars on the double yellows. I am forced to always walk with her slightly behind me in case a car speeds rood the corner. I daily have to remind my child of the dangers of cars as there are no pavements. After witnessing the crash to the church wall, I believe that the street needs something to keep children safe as its the main route to the school.</p> <p>I believe in the morning there should be restrictions between 8-9am. School start time is 8.40-8.55. Therefore, this covers the majority of traffic to school and will keep the roads clear and safe for kids to walk to school. And for my child to walk to school safely to the side of the road without parked cars blocking the visibility or turning into the road without warning.</p> <p>In the afternoon to truly make it a safe area for pedestrians I believe it should operate between 2.30-3.30. Therefore, there will be minimal cars in the close so children will be able to walk safely. Operating between 3-4pm will still have the majority of the parents parking in the street and causing the same pollution, safety issues and traffic coming out of the close. School pick up is 3.10 for reception class and 3.20 for the remaining of the school. starting at 3pm wouldn't make any difference as most arrive 40 minutes early to wait. The traffic and pedestrians are usually clear by 3.30 as this time I can leave my house to pick up my daughter at nursery without any traffic in the close.</p> <p>Thanks ██████████ ██</p> | <p>Support noted.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am against the proposed change to Cannon Close in relation to St William of Perth Primary School.</p> <p>I feel that instead of making things safer, pushing traffic to an already crowded Maidstone Road would be counterproductive.</p> <p>Kind regards, ██████████ ██</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> |

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| | | Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period. |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am against the proposed change to Cannon Close in relation to St William of Perth Primary School.</p> <p>I feel that instead of making things safer, pushing traffic to an already crowded Maidstone Road would be counterproductive.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>████████████████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sir / Madam,</p> <p>Please find attached a document to accompany my support for the implementation of the School Streets Scheme at St. William of Perth Rochester.</p> <p>Based on the evidence supplied in this document I would suggest the operating hours of the School Street are at least 8:30am – 9am Mon-Fri and 2:30pm to 3:30pm Mon-Fri, as this would appear to cover the busiest periods of vehicular movement.</p> <p>If you require any further information please don't hesitate to let me know. If my name and address could please be redacted from public view that would be much appreciated as long as this doesn't invalidate my comment of support.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>████████████████████</p> <p>████████████████████</p> <p><i>Full representation at the end of this document</i></p> | <p>Support noted.</p> |

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| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Parking restriction to Cannon Close</p> <p>Cannon Close is a quiet Close ideal for drop off for my 5yr old daughter , she has little to no awareness of traffic, the move to restrict parking could force mothers and fathers to park on Maidstone Road, its the natural alternative, the cameras will have an opposite effect, and make it less safe to manage the kids out of the car ,fully loaded HGV,s ,Busses, skip lorries and the like drive alongside transport that feeds the industrial estate further up the Road, i would suggest a full traffic survey undertaken? . historical stats: of people killed and accidents on Maidstone road speaks for itself ?, if this is overlooked, and kids killed , named bureaucrats who make the decision should be held criminally accountable for the deaths of children ,</p> <p>Kind Regards ██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>I want to submit my objection to the school streets scheme at St William of Perth primary school.</p> <p>I do not see how this would make it after when I walk my grandchild to school as the surrounding roads are already go busy.</p> <p>I strongly object. ██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am writing to you to share my views regarding the School Street Scheme on Cannon Close.</p> <p>I disagree with this decision for the following reasons:</p> <p>Firstly, I fear for the number of children having to exit a vehicle on a very busy Rochester Maidstone Road safety. There are also children that do not live locally & do not have the option to walk/cycle to school. Outside agencies such as S&L therapists & play therapists who work with children at the school do not always have the opportunity to park in the small staff car park need to park on the close before 9am to ensure they are set up when children arrive. They often have their own resources & equipment to bring into the building & cannot do this if they have to park further away. Many children are dropped off by taxi/childminders/ before school child care and they may have other children to drop at other schools & do not have time to park up further away & escort children to the gate.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| | <p>Some children have SEN needs & are unable to walk a longer distance to school, parents need to directly drop them off outside.</p> <p>The school have done many things to reduce congestion along the close such as breakfast club where children can be dropped off between 7.30 & 8.15. Staggered drop off times in the morning so children arrive between 8.40 & 9am. Award children with the 'walking boot' if they have walked to school that week. A bike & scooter rack has been installed to encourage children to travel to school in other ways. If parents are seen parking over drive ways emails are sent to parents to remind them to be considerate when dropping off.</p> <p>The school are not responsible for drivers along the close but they are trying to encourage children & parents to ensure neighbours along the close are upset. I do not feel these efforts have been acknowledged.</p> <p>Kind regards [Redacted]</p> | |
| <p>[Redacted] Fairview Primary School, Rainham</p> | <p>I am writing with regard to previous correspondence to object to the proposals. The main reasons for this are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Restricting access to 5 roads without any alternative route. 2. The demographic in this area is mainly elderly who rely on family and friends to care for them as and when then can be fitted in. Many do not have access to the internet to be able to voice their opinions either. 3. Within 24 hours , 128 residents objected to this proposal. 4. Children will not be safer alighting vehicles on main, already very busy, roads. These roads will take the brunt of the traffic is the scheme is put in place. 5. And finally a question. The notices say that the timings will be until 9.15am in the morning. Why would this need to be the case when all children should be in school, ready to start at 8.46am. It seems totally unnecessary for the scheme to remain in place 30 mins after their start time. Could you given a reason for this please? <p>We will, as residents, continue to object and fight for our freedom of access against a scheme that we do not feel keep the children safe, in fact quite the opposite.</p> <p>Kind regards [Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>All residents are exempt. Timings have been developed during discussions with the school. Addressing peak periods, these are appropriate times.</p> <p>Proposed timings are also shorter than the current School Keep Clear restrictions that are currently in place from 8-9.30am and 2.30-4pm.</p> <p>All schemes will be subject to a monitoring period, which includes conducting before and after surveys to assess the impact once a scheme has been implemented. Should adjustments need to be made, the Council will consider these.</p> <p>Registered carers, emergency services and those eligible for an exemption will all be able to apply to enter the scheme during operational hours. If there are particular instances of concerns for a visitor during the limited hours of operation Medway Council will consider options to reduce any impacts.</p> <p>Visitors can also exit a school street zone without receiving a PCN once it is operational.</p> |

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| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>My daughter attends st William of perth and all roads leading to her school from where we live are extremely dangerous there are no crossings in place to help cross the roads there are also two secondary schools close by that alot of parents park illegally causing absolute chaos for even walking to the school, so to close the schools road would be ridiculous and dangerous to all children attending as would create more chaos on the other roads that are already full with parents collecting for their secondary school children.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Against St William of Perth School Streets</p> <p>I am strongly against the 'school streets' banning cars driving down Canon Close, as I know how busy the main road can be and fear for the children's safety. I feel the council's desire to 'raise' funds is overlooking the geography of the area and the street layout. For school drop off Canon close is far more suitable and not the main road.</p> <p>Please reconsider this idea. Maybe in other school this idea would work, but knowing this area it will not. We also have at the school lots of SEN, and school visitors who need access to the road and school during these times.</p> <p>██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it may concern.</p> <p>The scheme in our Close appears to have taken some time to go through.</p> <p>I feel 8.00am is a bit early and 08.15 - 08.30 would make more sence.</p> <p>The afternoon time appears fine, although there re some days when there us a second tranche of traffic between 4.20 - 4.40pm due to school clubs.</p> <p>It's a shame that despite the yellow lines and hatched no parking outside front of school these appear to be ignored and on the main unpoliced.</p> <p>My piece said,</p> <p>Thank you for reading,</p> <p>██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> |

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| | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | |
| <p>[REDACTED] St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margarets Infant School, Rainham,</p> | <p>Thank you for the documents.</p> <p>Although I'm supportive of the idea behind the School Streets scheme, I do object to the proposed implementation of the scheme for the St. Margaret's Infant & Junior schools as it stands. My reasons for this are that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the proposed solution will increase pollution as a whole when looking at the School Streets zone & the neighbourhood immediately outside that area; • more children, parents & residents will be exposed to that increased pollution; • the risk of accidents for children, parents & residents within the School Streets times will be increased; and • better solutions are available to improve the existing situation. <p>I've addressed each of these points under the respective headings below, but first a bit of background.</p> <p>The combined site of the St. Margaret's schools is, by pupil numbers, the largest School Streets scheme in Medway. It's also completely surrounded by a residential area. Issues arising from implementation will therefore have an effect on a larger number of pupils, parents & residents than any other scheme in Medway, so it's particularly important that all aspects of implementation are properly considered.</p> <p>My family & I live at 28 Broadview Avenue, approximately 70 metres from the junction of Broadview Avenue & Orchard Street. I walk to the town centre shops regularly, sometimes during school drop-off & pick-up times, so have a good idea of how busy it gets immediately outside the schools. It's noticeable when walking to or from the town at drop-off & pick-up times that the double-yellow lines on all four parts of the junction of Broadview Avenue & Orchard Street are rarely free of parked cars, causing issues for pedestrian & driver visibility and impeding the flow of traffic. I'm often at home during drop-off & pick-up times, so also know how busy it gets along Broadview Avenue too.</p> <p>There is limited vehicle space immediately outside the school, consequently Orchard Street above & below the St. Margaret's schools and the roads from Gatekeeper Chase to Herbert Road leading off Orchard Street are very popular parking spots at drop-off & pick-up times. When people park close to our driveway they're generally considerate, though we have had a couple of problems recently where cars have been parked across our drive - one making me late for work on a morning because it wasn't possible to get off our driveway, and the second causing a bit of a traffic jam in the road due to my son being unable to access our drive on his return from work in the afternoon. If we have had the occasional problem it's more than likely that other residents in the areas around the schools have had them too.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognise that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> |

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| | <p>It's worth noting that Broadview Avenue is a popular walking route during term times, not only for children attending the St. Margaret's schools but also for some of those attending The Howard School & Rainham School for Girls as well.</p> <p>I would expect responses to the consultation will largely fall within two camps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Residents within the scheme zone will be broadly supportive, because it will reduce traffic, noise, pollution & inconvenience outside their houses; and 2. Residents just outside the zone will be largely unsupportive because of the increased traffic, noise pollution & inconvenience outside their homes that will result from the scheme. In addition parents that drive their children to school will also probably largely object because of the increased inconvenience. <p>Although on the face of it I'm a good example of "camp 2" above, I hope that the points I raise show that this isn't simply a nimby-type objection & that greater consideration needs to be given to the implementation of the scheme for the St. Maragret's schools.</p> <p>Increased pollution as a whole when looking at the School Streets zone & neighbourhood immediately surrounding that area</p> <p>While reducing traffic & pollution is obviously a good idea, the proposed solution adopts a very simplistic approach - yes, traffic & pollution immediately outside the schools will be reduced at drop-off & pick-up times, but little thought seems to have been given to the general effect the increased traffic outside the proposed School Streets area will have, especially the effect on overall pollution levels & increased risk to children, parents & residents. It should be borne in mind that in order to get within the School Streets area, all children attending the school (also accompanying parents and those children walking through the area to other schools) will need to pass through the surrounding area first, so it stands to reason that the effect of the implementation on the surrounding area should be a big consideration.</p> <p>It is likely that any reduction in car journeys as a result of the scheme being introduced, if indeed there is one, will be small. Working on the basis that parents drive their children to school because of the distance to school and/or early morning time pressures, the existing traffic will simply be displaced to the roads on the fringes of the scheme area. As mentioned above, these are already busy, and with scant attention paid by drivers to existing parking restrictions. It's likely that there will be more problem parking, which will reduce the already slow flow of traffic.</p> <p>My reasoning here is that, taking the section of Broadview Avenue between Maidstone Road & Orchard Street as an example, cars parked on either side of the road result in there for the most part being only room for one lane of traffic along the road. Drivers can make use of the roads adjacent to dropped kerbs as passing spaces, so although there is the occasional hold-up the stop-start nature of the traffic isn't too bad (though could be a lot better if parking restrictions regarding double yellow lines & dropped kerbs were adhered to).</p> | |
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| | <p>The St. Margaret's proposal as it stands would inevitably lead to increased traffic travelling through the surrounding roads. If nothing else changed this by itself would slow the flow of traffic, but of course there will be increased parking/waiting in the area too. This will increase the "single lane" length and is also very likely to increase problem parking, especially around dropped kerbs (bearing in mind the double yellow lined areas are already full). More traffic = more pollution. More traffic + reduced passing spaces = slower moving traffic = even more pollution.</p> <p>More children, parents & residents will be exposed to increased pollution</p> <p>There will be some children who attend the St. Margaret's schools that live within the proposed School Streets area. However, by far the majority travel from outside the area. Each of these children - those that currently walk to school, those who are dropped-off outside the proposed zone and indeed those that are currently driven to school & dropped-off within the proposed zone - will be exposed to the higher levels of pollution that will result from the increased, slower moving traffic in the areas outside the zone.</p> <p>The risk of accidents for children, parents & residents within the School Streets times will be increased</p> <p>As mentioned above, the parking restrictions close to the school are routinely ignored; the phrase "accident waiting to happen" is very appropriate. Increased parking outside the proposed zone will inevitably lead to reduced visibility for drivers, and obviously for the increased number of pedestrians in the area when crossing roads. This is highly likely to increase the risk of accidents outside the School Streets area. Ironically the introduction of the proposed scheme could even lead to parents becoming more entrenched to driving their children to school because of this increased risk. Substituting a car journey for a bike ride on more dangerous roads with more overcrowded pavements is also not very likely.</p> <p>Better solutions are available to improve the existing situation</p> <p>The proposed solution might look good - the area outside the schools will be clear - but it will simply result in increased exposure to pollution & reduced safety for most of the children attending the schools. Given that the Council is willing to do something to improve the current situation, including investing in ANPR technology to monitor the proposed scheme, I believe it would be worthwhile considering the following options instead:</p> <p>1. Introduce further parking restrictions to the area of Orchard Street between Gatekeeper Chase and Broadview Avenue. Monitor those restrictions - and the existing restrictions in Orchard Street and Broadview Avenue - using ANPR. The existing practice of occasional visits from parking enforcement officers simply doesn't deter people from ignoring the current restrictions. Using proven technology to identify & fine those people endangering children, parents & other pedestrians will be a much better deterrent. Combining the enhanced monitoring with extending restrictions to that part of Orchard Street opposite the schools would have the effect of clearing the area outside the schools without dislodging too much traffic to surrounding areas, with the consequent issues listed above that would entail.</p> | |
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| | <p>2. Alternatively if the Council would truly like to reduce pollution & increase safety around the schools the opposite option would be to widen the proposed area so that it covers the length of Orchard Street and all the roads leading off it. Given the greater need for ANPR monitoring & administration of the scheme this would be more costly to implement but it would lead to a greater proportion of children being able to walk to school free of traffic & probably also lead to a greater reduction of cars journeys (due to the shorter time saving that a car journey to the outskirts of the area would give).</p> <p>3. In addition to either of the above perhaps the Council could provide an incentive for parents to use the existing town centre car parks rather than park on the streets around the schools. There are two sizeable car parks within ten minutes walk of the schools. Perhaps allowing free parking for the proposed School Streets time periods would be possible? Some non-parents would undoubtedly take advantage of this, and it would have an effect on income from those car parks, but it could go some way to increasing safety around the schools (and perhaps also provide a bit of a boost to shops in the town centre).</p> <p>4. A fair few parents leave their engines running while waiting in cars for their children. Perhaps some signage in the area around schools to turn engines off while waiting might help reduce pollution.</p> <p>If there are any aspects of the above that you would like to discuss, please let me know.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>██████████</p> | |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed School Streets scheme outlined in the statutory consultation currently being conducted by Medway Council for Canon Close for St William of Perth School. While I understand and appreciate the Council's aim to improve safety and reduce traffic around schools, I firmly believe that the proposed scheme will have unintended consequences that could increase the danger to children rather than reduce it.</p> <p>My primary concern is that the changes proposed will restrict access to currently safe roads and pathways, pushing traffic onto surrounding areas that may not be designed to handle increased volumes of cars, particularly at peak times. This could result in an increased risk of accidents, as parents and carers seek alternative routes, potentially leading to more congested and dangerous streets.</p> <p>I ask the Council to consider the safety of children as the top priority in any proposed changes. Instead of limiting road access, I urge Medway Council to explore alternative measures that would improve pedestrian safety, such as enhanced crossings, improved signage, or traffic-calming solutions that don't have the negative side effects of pushing traffic to less suitable areas.</p> <p>In light of these concerns, I respectfully request that the Council re-evaluate the proposed School Streets scheme in Canon Close and consider alternative approaches that will provide a safer environment for children without inadvertently increasing the risk of danger in the</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| | <p>surrounding areas.</p> <p>I would be grateful if you could acknowledge the receipt of this letter and inform me of the next steps in the consultation process.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | |
| <p>[Redacted] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Hello,</p> <p>As a parent of 3 children attending St William of Perth Catholic Primary School located in Canon Close, I would like to express my concerns regarding the consultation on making Cannon close a school street.</p> <p>I do not support the School street initiative for this school. As it may have a negative impact on the safety of my kids and other kids. Getting our kids close enough to school in Canon close - for the drop offs and pick ups is in their best interest and for their safety. Anything other than this will pose a danger to the kids considering the amount of car/traffic on other streets/roads.</p> <p>Again, I do not support the School street initiative for St William of Perth RC.</p> <p>Thanks</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>[Redacted] Cliffe Woods Primary School / Cliffe Woods Pre-School and the City of Rochester School, Cliffe Woods</p> | <p>Dear Parking Team</p> <p>I am writing to raise my concerns regarding the proposed School Street Scheme for Cliffe Woods Primary School.</p> <p>We are residents of Cliffe & there is no safe walking route from Cliffe to Cliffe Woods School.</p> <p>Will the council be considering how to support families who live in areas that cannot safely walk to the school? For example, could a school bus be used for children who live in Cliffe?</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>The aim of the school street is to create a safer, more pleasant environment outside the school gate, improving pupils ability to safety walk to school.</p> <p>A key part of implementing this scheme is working with schools to support the roll out, and the council will continue to work with the school for additional road safety improvements, although a bus route would be a separate initiative to the school street being implemented.</p> |
| <p>[Redacted] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester,</p> | <p>Dear sir</p> <p>In reference to the proposed closure at school opening and closing times by Medway Council of Canon Close to traffic I wish my views to be put on record, and for them to be made known to the committee ultimately making the decision.</p> <p>• I disagree with the proposal to close Canon Close to vehicle traffic during</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> |

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| | <p>the specified times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am a retired Police Officer having had a career spanning 30 years, encompassing response patrol, traffic officer, neighbourhood policing, operational contingency and exercise planning and supervision/management in these areas. Specifically, I have experience of managing and dealing with traffic issues around schools, and working with school leaders, parents, residents and local authorities to find and implement solutions to these issues. These solutions included education, pupil engagement, negotiation and compromise, traffic management strategies, and enforcement. Critically, each school/situation was unique with its own set of issues and it was crucial that I engaged with all stakeholders and carefully considered their views. On occasion it was beneficial to bring opposing sides together so that they could share and understand each other's position and my role in this was as a facilitator and referee. It is fair to say then, that I speak from a position of considerable experience, not just in the particular area of traffic issues around schools, but road and traffic safety in general. • I am an Governor of St. William of Perth school having volunteered for this role whilst my daughter was a pupil and have been on the board for 13 years. In this capacity I have been made aware of occasional complaints regarding traffic issues in Canon Close, some from residents and some from parents. We all share this road space and it is inevitable that there are occasional clashes between parents or between parents and residents. The school always deals with these matters seriously and take robust action to remind parents to be considerate. Regular messages are sent out to parents and pupils are actively encouraged to challenge their parents if they break any of the 'rules'. School staff are always on duty outside the school during drop off and pick up times and this serves to maintain pupil discipline, engage with parents and challenge any poor behaviour by drivers. I can confidently say that these occasions are rare, and that traffic generally flows freely past the school. I am also able to say that there has not been any Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) in Canon Close involving injury whilst I have been a governor. Please provide any statistics regarding accidents specifically IN Canon Close if I am wrong in this assertion. • As a parent who regularly dropped off and picked up my daughter I also have experience from the motorist's viewpoint. St. William of Perth, being a faith based school, has a larger catchment area than many secular state schools. Many parents, such as my wife and I, live several miles away and, in our case, at least a 20 minute walk from the nearest public transport. This, in itself, makes travel by car the only viable option for us. Where parents are dropping off children on the way to work it is inevitably not feasible to use public transport and the use of a car is essential. Secondary aged children can be safely dropped some distance from the school but this is not the case with primary aged pupils who need to be delivered to the gate. It is also a safeguarding policy that children are delivered to a parent or named guardian at the end of the school day. Canon Close offers a safe, convenient environment to do this where additionally, parents with pre-school children can achieve this, without the need to take them out or negotiate busier, more polluted and dangerous roads. • I experience on a regular basis the chaotic traffic situation around the Rochester Grammar School and Maths School and the increased risks to pedestrians and motorist posed by the number of busses parked outside these schools, seriously reducing visibility. Add to this, a large number of motorists competing for space and it is no surprise that accidents happen | <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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| | <p>at this location. This extends to other local roads such as Breton Road, Warden Road and Priestfields. Canon Close is used to park by some sixth form pupils with their own cars but, apart from this, is not affected by the secondary school traffic and therefore a haven from the chaos. To prevent primary pupil parents entry to Canon Close during the proposed times would only add to the often dangerous situation in surrounding roads and expose children from the school for which I have a Safeguarding responsibility to unnecessary risk. With diesel busses ticking over, heavy stop/start traffic and a much greater through-flow of traffic on Maidstone Road it is a ridiculous assertion to state that one of the purposes of the proposed closure is environmental, as this will expose my school's children to the far greater traffic pollution in Maidstone Road. I would be happy to change my view on this IF you can produce evidence that 1. Canon Close suffers from high levels of pollution, 2. That forcing children to walk from Maidstone Road and the surrounding areas will reduce their exposure to harmful emissions, 3. That any increased levels of pollution in Canon Close isn't as a result of drift from Maidstone Road. As a governor responsible for the Safeguarding of the children in St. William of Perth, on this point I strongly object to the proposal, and believe that Medway Council are planning to expose our children to higher risk of harm through traffic and emissions and invite you to provide conclusive proof that this is not the case. If safety was your prime concern, perhaps the school busses should be forced to park away from the secondary schools and these pupils be made to walk further to their transport?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have studied the statistics you have used to support your claim that road closures are necessary to reduce RTCs involving children. I would support any measure aimed at reducing this but, unfortunately, your use of these statistics are seriously flawed. Firstly, there is no distinction between secondary and primary aged children - please provide a statistical breakdown of the ages of children involved in RTCs in the Medway Towns, and also analysis of the actual locations. It is my experience, and what I expect would be clearly illustrated if you published these breakdowns, that the age group at greatest risk of accident/injury are NOT primary school aged children who are mostly accompanied by a parent/guardian, but tend to be those at the lower age bracket of secondary children when they first start to travel independently. If this is correct, you cannot use these statistics to inform a decision for a primary school location. • Your previous consultation provided a clear message of opposition to the scheme with over two thirds of respondents disagreeing with it. The only group showing favour for the scheme was from residents of Canon Close, but even that group did not overwhelmingly agree. And yet, you still persist with an ill-informed and poorly researched scheme which is not based on evidence and goes against overwhelming opposition, with a focus on the (minimal) inconvenience to residents and overlooking the safety of the demographic that the law allowing the scheme was created to protect. • The extensive and, sadly, personal experience I have had over 30 years of policing leads me to believe emphatically that this scheme is wrong for the St. William of Perth children and the local community. I would welcome cameras to assist the school in enforcing the 'zig-zag' lines outside the school as this would be a REAL and productive means to improve the already excellent safety record for children in Canon Close. I would welcome the more frequent use of mobile enforcement teams in the close as this would send the correct message to errant motorists. I would welcome, and participate in, delivery of education to the children, parents and local community in the correct use of the road, how the law is interpreted, programmes to improve motorist/resident relations. If the | |
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council really are serious in their desire to improve road safety and courteous behaviour, I would invite you, local neighbourhood policing and your enforcement officers, to work with me and the school to explore some of these ideas.

In conclusion, I would reiterate that, although I do, and have, supported similar schemes in areas where there is evidence that they work, I am so opposed to the proposed scheme in Canon Close that, should it be forced through against overwhelming opposition, I will assist in taking the council to whatever tribunal, enquiry, or review necessary in order to protect the safety of our children.

Regards

[Redacted signature]

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| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed School Streets scheme outlined in the statutory consultation currently being conducted by Medway Council for Canon Close for St William of Perth School. While I understand and appreciate the Council's aim to improve safety and reduce traffic around schools, I firmly believe that the proposed scheme will have unintended consequences that could increase the danger to children rather than reduce it.</p> <p>My primary concern is that the changes proposed will restrict access to currently safe roads and pathways, pushing traffic onto surrounding areas that may not be designed to handle increased volumes of cars, particularly at peak times. This could result in an increased risk of accidents, as parents and carers seek alternative routes, potentially leading to more congested and dangerous streets.</p> <p>I ask the Council to consider the safety of children as the top priority in any proposed changes. Instead of limiting road access, I urge Medway Council to explore alternative measures that would improve pedestrian safety, such as enhanced crossings, improved signage, or traffic-calming solutions that don't have the negative side effects of pushing traffic to less suitable areas.</p> <p>In light of these concerns, I respectfully request that the Council re-evaluate the proposed School Streets scheme in Canon Close and consider alternative approaches that will provide a safer environment for children without inadvertently increasing the risk of danger in the surrounding areas.</p> <p>I would be grateful if you could acknowledge the receipt of this letter and inform me of the next steps in the consultation process.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear team! Hope this email finds you well. I am a parent of children going to St Williams of Perth Primaar School at Canon Close. I acknowledged the interest of Council to make the street safe for school restricting the traffic on cannon close during school hours. I believe it is not the safe option for the safety of the children. As it might make more safe Canon close but it will have a huge impact on the main road traffic and parking space as quite alot of the parents are dropping their children to school and leave straight to work. We have two schools on the maidstone road at very short distance from Canon Close. Creating more traffic on the main road will make it unsafe not just for the primary school but for the other two schools as well. It will be very helpful, if you keep the streets open for the traffic and keep it safer for not Just one but 3 schools at the same time.</p> <p>Kind regards [Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Hi, I drop off a pupil to st Williams of Perth after also dropping kids at another school and nursery and have written to express my view that closing Canon Street will make it even worse for the safety of the children. The surrounding roads are already incredibly busy at that time of day with cars and children, stopping people from driving up that road will means they will be forced to park near the bigger busier roads to drop the children off. I appreciate it is incentive to walk but it doesn't work for those who have multiple drops or are unable to walk far. I hope this helps with your considerations.</p> <p>Kind regards, [Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>I am against the proposed change to Cannon Close in relation to St William of Perth School.</p> <p>I feel that instead of making things safer, pushing this traffic to an already crowded Maidstone Road would be counter productive.</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I am against the proposed change to Cannon Close in relation to St William of Perth School.</p> <p>I feel that instead of making things safer, pushing this traffic to an already crowded Maidstone Road would be counter productive.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>I am writing regarding the school streets consultation at Canon Close in Rochester.</p> <p>My daughter attends St William of Perth school. The major concern about this proposal, whilst I understand and empathise about the complaints from residents regarding the behaviour of some parents, is that pick ups will move onto the already chaotic Maidstone road.</p> <p>At drop off and pick up times, traffic from both of the grammar schools floods the road already. Having to safely transport children via what is a dangerous road is a terrible idea. Cars park on the path which already blocks the pathway, and will get significantly worse. Coupled with the hundreds of teenagers walking down which will make transporting the youngest children challenging.</p> <p>I hope you will bear the safety concerns in mind and decide not to proceed with this. Instead a strict fine system should be imposed and enforced on parents that park across driveways and what not. That will be a better deterrent, and will change the behaviour of those parents.</p> <p>But, ultimately, the people who bought houses within Canon Close did so knowing full well that a primary school is next door. Therefore the safety of children should not be compromised because they no longer want it on their doorstep.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Medway Council</p> <p>I am writing to express my concerns with the proposed School Streets Scheme at St William of Perth RC Primary School located at 3 Cannon Close, Rochester, ME1 3EN. While I understand why you are proposing school streets I believe that restricting access to Cannon Close at drop off and pick up will push more traffic onto the surrounding roads which are already busy because of other schools that are around creating risk to the children and a safety hazard. Furthermore, there are people who rely on</p> | <p>Feedback noted</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> |

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| | <p>vehicles due to disabilities and other conditions and this will make it challenging for them to access the school at drop off and pick up. I oppose the proposed school street scheme because i believe it will do more harm than good.</p> <p>Kind regards ██████████</p> | <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sir/ Madame,</p> <p>I am writing to about Canon close school street proposal. As I am a parent I believe this will cause so many problems to all parents, whose children attend St William of Perth primary school.</p> <p>I cannot understand the reasoning behind your proposal. I can understand the residents concern but they need to understand that the school existed there and also we are talking about one hour in the morning and forty minutes in the afternoon. I do not think that can cause so much disruption to the resident's home life.</p> <p>A major concern is that there is a grammar school and it is already difficult to find parking on Maidstone road. You may say maybe I should walk, but if I am returning from work I need to pick up my children by car. I don't have the time or energy to walk. Its impossible.</p> <p>I believe you should take into consideration the thought and concerns of all parents, too.</p> <p>Thank you and my family and I hope you make the right decision.</p> <p>Kind regards, ██████████</p> | <p>Feedback noted</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>██████████ St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I wanted to send in my thoughts on the school streets proposal for Canon Close. I have had children at St William of Perth for 9 years- and this will be my daughters last year at the school.</p> <p>I feel compelled to write in regarding the proposal- which I strongly object to on the grounds that it would make dropping children to school far more dangerous- if drop offs are forced onto busier and quicker roads.</p> <p>Whilst no doubt the school traffic is an annoyance to the residents of Canon Close, it is by far the safest option for dropping off children. Parents moderate their speed very carefully on the road. It is a safe road.</p> <p>Forcing cars to make drops elsewhere defies logic on the grounds of safety.</p> <p>The closure of the church car park to school drop off traffic has been a disappointing development that has added to traffic on Canon Close. My thoughts are that every effort should be made to engage with the church</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| | <p>regarding their car park being made available to the school once more.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | |
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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Hello,</p> <p>As a parent of two children attending St William of Perth Catholic Primary School located in Canon Close, I would like to express my views regarding the consultation.</p> <p>I do not support the School street initiative for this school. As it may have a negative impact on the safety of my kids and other kids. Getting our kids close enough to school in Canon close - for the drop offs and pick ups is in their best interest and for their safety. Anything other than this will pose a danger to the kids considering the amount of car/traffic on other streets/ roads.</p> <p>Again, I do not support the School street initiative for St William of Perth RC.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>Feedback noted</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Medway Council</p> <p>please dont enforce school street at cannon close</p> <p>if you do more cars will be forced to park with their children on a more dangerous road near by.</p> <p>This will increase the possible accidents on a more busy road where cars are going faster.</p> <p>So the risk of collision pupil-car will be higher and the severity of the injury will be higher too because the faster the car goes the more damage it does</p> <p>Best regards</p>  | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Medway Council</p> <p>Proposed School Street Scheme-St William of Perth School, Canon Close, Rochester, ME1 3EN (SWOP) Council Decision 140/2024</p> <p>My objection is to Medway Council's proposed Traffic Regulation Order for the School Street Scheme on St William of Perth School, Canon Close, Rochester, ME1 3EN. I am a Medway resident and have a grandchild who is a pupil at SWOP. I regularly experience the current circumstances at Canon Close.</p> <p>My principal concern is simple. This proposal will worsen the safety of people travelling to and from SWOP, the antithesis of a Safer Healthier Streets Programme.</p> <p>Canon Close is a cul-de-sac where pupils can arrive and depart in safety and vehicle speeds are low. Maidstone Road is a busy main road with a history of accidents in the vicinity of this School and evidence of numerous speeding offences. I set out my reasons in more detail below.</p> <p>Please exercise your option to cancel the proposed School Street Scheme at Canon Close, as this will have an important and long-lasting impact on the locality and the implications of an unfounded decision could be very serious.</p> <p>(1) Flawed process</p> <p>The opening statement of the Council's own School Street Scheme Survey states:</p> <p>'Significant traffic in roads where schools are situated can have a detrimental impact on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The safety of people travelling to and from the school. - The quality of air around the school. - Traffic congestion around the school.' <p>In brief, these are the Council's given objectives or benefits of School Streets. However, there appears to be no site-specific data on those criteria provided in reports to Cabinet or for Delegated Decision by Officers.</p> <p>Instead, the proposal is to gather information after implementation if at all. The fundamental point must be apparent: this is the wrong way to make an important decision.</p> <p>(2) Safety</p> <p>Probably the highest ranking of the potential benefits of School Streets is the safety of people travelling to and from the school. However, Local accident data obtained via the Council shows that in recent times, there have been at least eight road safety incidents on the nearby parts of Maidstone Road and particularly at its junction with Priestfields, Rochester – and none on Canon Close. (crashmap.co.uk)</p> <p>Furthermore, Maidstone Road, Borstal, is one of the top 20 roads in Kent, including Motorways, for speeding fines with 849 fines issued in the last 3 years. (Kentlive news/Fol). This has obvious implications for the risk to pedestrians crossing the road.</p> <p>The Council's proposal is to close the safe road for the purposes of parents' drop off. This closure will displace journeys to drop off and collect to the less safe roads, for infant and junior school pupils.</p> <p>Further, in the immediate vicinity of that part of Maidstone Road, Rochester are two very large schools:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>St William of Perth –</td> <td>210 pupils aged 4/11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rochester Grammar School –</td> <td>1100 pupils aged 11+ 39.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School –</td> <td>1500 pupils aged 11+</td> </tr> </table> | St William of Perth – | 210 pupils aged 4/11 | Rochester Grammar School – | 1100 pupils aged 11+ 39.1% | Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School – | 1500 pupils aged 11+ | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> <p>In line with best practice and council policy, an open and accessible engagement process was conducted to build understanding and seek feedback on the proposal. Medway conducted a public consultation between 16 September 2024 and 27 October 2024. Information was sent to the school advising of proposal, onsite signage was in place and information was made available on the council website. All outcomes of the consultation process were published in the report listed under item 6, which was presented in full to cabinet and is publicly available.</p> |
| St William of Perth – | 210 pupils aged 4/11 | | | | | | | |
| Rochester Grammar School – | 1100 pupils aged 11+ 39.1% | | | | | | | |
| Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School – | 1500 pupils aged 11+ | | | | | | | |

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| | <p>53.4%</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2810 pupils in total</p> <p>100.0%</p> <p>The two main roads serving the area, Maidstone Road and Priestfields, and their pavements, are very busy and crowded at the start and end of the school day. By comparison, Canon Close is a relative backwater with slow moving vehicles.</p> <p>The nearest available car park is at Priestfields, close to the Rugby Club. However, this is about a 10-minute walk, with children, away from SWOP, so a total 20-minute timescale. It is in my experience optimistic to consider that car park to be an attractive alternative to roadside drop off points.</p> <p>It is tempting to say that if the Council really wants to make a local impact on the key Safety objective for School Streets, then it has chosen the wrong school. The method might need to be different. For example, it may be more effective to enforce existing restrictions. At the nearby 'bus-only' lay-by adjacent to the Maidstone Road Pelican Crossing outside the senior schools, I have seen cars parked there and performing U-turns by the Pelican Crossing in the morning.</p> <p>To confirm the absence of a safety audit and assessment in the case of the St William of Perth School, we need look no further than the Council's Delegated Report of 27/09/2023. Section 4 dealt specifically with St William of Perth School. In terms of Safety Outcomes, the report states that monitoring of safety will be undertaken after the first few months of operation. This will comprise a road safety audit undertaken by an independent team. That audit must in my view be conducted beforehand. This could avoid creating reduced safety, as predicted by the School Governors and parents in the Council's own consultation exercise of 2023, and avoid wasting money in the Council's current difficult financial circumstances.</p> <p>To reiterate, the impact of the School Street at St William of Perth is to displace existing infant and junior pupil journeys to the busier and more dangerous locations. In short, in the circumstances of St William of Perth, a negative impact on the school journey safety is predictable.</p> <p>Whether you individually agree or disagree with this analysis, the simple fact is that no proper safety assessment of the individual circumstances of St William of Perth School has been completed by the Council – which is after all the Highway Authority.</p> <p>In my view, this is a fundamental flaw in the Council's process to date. A full safety assessment and audit must in the specific local circumstances be completed before this St William of Perth School Street Scheme is decided upon, not after it goes ahead.</p> <p>Further, a wider cost and benefit analysis of expenditure and the full range of options for safety improvements should be completed to guide your decisions. I am at a loss to understand why this has not happened, especially as in my view, safety should be the main objective and the main criterion.</p> <p>The Cabinet report of 19/11/2024 serves in practice to confirm the fundamental point that for many children who are dropped off, the proposed SWOP School Street Scheme places the children's journey to school into a more dangerous location than at present.</p> <p>At page 22 of that Cabinet report, we see that road safety mitigation measures on Maidstone Road are included in the recommendation. In effect these are necessary for the Council's proposed SWOP School Street Scheme.</p> | |
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| | <p>The report states: - '.... As part of the implementation and subject to statutory consultation the council will develop pedestrian safety measures along Maidstone Road Rochester. This can include the realignment of the central hatching to enable safe parking, north of Canon Close as well as additional bollards to prevent vehicles from mounting the curb and blocking pedestrian access. Any potential changes will be subject to a road safety audit to ensure compliance'.</p> <p>However, there is no programme, no costs and no design or approval for these.</p> <p>Irrespective of the road safety mitigation measures, you are being advised to move the destination to a location that is, as a matter of record, less safe. The school has been there for 50 years. Local accident data obtained via the Council shows no accidents in Canon Close. By comparison, Maidstone Road has accidents in the vicinity, including at the nearby Priestfields junction. More pupils will need to cross Maidstone Road and/or Priestfields as pedestrians because of the Council's proposals.</p> <p>It is plain to see for all who visit the location that the exceptional local combination of schools should be influential to your decision. With over 2500 pupils the two nearby secondary schools create a huge volume of school journeys concentrated in the same vicinity as SWOP. In the last month, I have witnessed the lines of over 10 double decker buses and coaches parked along both sides of Maidstone Road serving just part of the secondary schools' needs. The pavements on Maidstone Road are also very busy with teenagers making their way to and from school. In the specific circumstances of SWOP Primary School, the School Street Proposals, which are based on very general reasoning, will place the young children into a much less safe situation than at present. Please do not allow this.</p> <p>Instead, I urge you to intervene and to cancel the SWOP proposal.</p> <p>(3) Air quality and health No quantitative air quality and health information has been presented and assessed in the Council's decision-making process to date. There is no base level data and this should be the foundation of an objective assessment of the proposal. Further, there are no estimates of the likely quantitative impact of the St William of Perth School Street Scheme.</p> <p>(4) Traffic Congestion Similarly, no quantitative traffic congestion information has been presented and assessed in the Council's decision-making process to date. There is no base level data and this should also be the foundation of an objective assessment of the proposal. This could include the duration of any times of day when spaces are available on Canon Close, how many spaces are available and the extent of any peak period. In my own experience, St William of Perth is a small school with only one form of entry. The duration of the peak use of the road for school drop off and pick up is limited. As a faith-based school, I would expect it to have a wider than average catchment area. Unfortunately, other options to address traffic congestion have not been presented as part of the Council's decision-making process. These might prove to be far more cost effective to the public purse.</p> | |
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| | <p>(5) Public Consultation</p> <p>Reporting of survey results is in Section 6 of the of 19/11/2024 Cabinet report (p21). The report at 6.4 does not present the responses to the key question 'Do you agree with the proposal to Introduce a School Street' in a balanced manner. Of the SWOP respondents, 72% answered 'no'. Without resorting to a calculator, you would not know this. As the Background Papers omit the 2023 Survey, you would not know that this is also a very similar result to the last survey in 2023. In that context, to state that there are '... some concerns...' is in my view very misleading (6.4).</p> <p>In more detail, at page 29 of the Cabinet report presents the results of the survey carried out as part of the Council's consultation exercise. I assume that the ' heading is in error at this stage. The data on page 29 shows that of all respondents in total, 72% Strongly Disagree or Disagree with the Council's SWOP School Street Proposals. This is individually the highest proportion of respondents who Strongly Disagree or Disagree amongst the nine current 2024 proposals in Medway. It is also consistent with the 71% result in your separate 2023 proposals. Unfortunately, the form of presentation of the survey data means that this key data for conclusions must be separately calculated by the reader of the report.</p> <p>The message from the respondents to the Council could not be clearer. They can legitimately expect you to give their response to your consultation significant weight. It is a clear 'no' message, given twice to the Council- in 2023 and 2024.</p> <p>The new Council promised in 2023 that it will listen- now is the time to hear and act accordingly.</p> <p>(6) Diversity Impact Assessment</p> <p>A Diversity Impact Assessment is presented at paragraph 6.8 of the November 2024 Cabinet report. One of the 'Protected Characteristics' is religion. SWOP School is a Catholic Primary School. Also, the main access to the Catholic Church (St John Fisher) is within the School Street as proposed. The DIA shows 'No adverse impact' in section 3. Yet there are relatively few Catholic Schools, I identify approximately 8 out of 68 Primary schools shown on the Medway Council list of Primary Schools. The implication is a wider than average catchment for Catholic Schools and therefore a longer distance for pupils to travel their faith school, which is relevant to the Council's proposals. This is not considered in the DIA but in my view should have been. Neither is the impact of the School Street scheme on the Church or Parish Hall. Cabinet lacked the relevant assessment given the contents of the Council's proposals.</p> <p>At page 47 of the Cabinet report, this Diversity Impact Assessment (DIA) observes that it is statistically likely that: -</p> <p>'Sex – As per the above data, it is statistically likely that women will be making more trips to school than men. Therefore, women will be more affected by this proposal than men, as they may have to change the way they get to school which could have negative impacts on their daily routines'.</p> <p>This statement will be particularly relevant to mothers/parents of children</p> | |
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| | <p>at the school who make the trip to school as part of an onwards journey to work. Their workplace and its requirements such as location and start times may well mean that they need to travel to work by car.</p> <p>The mitigations identified for these impacts are in section 5 of the DIA. They offer no mitigation to those needing to travel onwards to work by car. In current economic circumstances, that is an important omission.</p> <p>(7) Options The options section of the report at p20 only deals with design options. The basic issue of whether the School Streets proposals should go ahead is omitted. There is no assessment of other options, such as additional conventional parking restrictions, or analysis of where parked vehicles originate from. The only option analysed is a permanent option with no 'exit strategy' in terms of assessment or cost.</p> <p>(8) Background Papers The Cabinet report of 19/11/2024 p26 in relation to Background Papers shows 'none'. Yet at section (4) Background, several external sources have been used. These should be fully identified. At 4.8, the 'feedback to date' is referred to without any source, yet leads to an important assumption about traffic displacement. There is a Council decision-making history of relevance to the present decision, but that history is also omitted. In short, Background Papers should have been identified and this omission seriously inhibits public and Council Scrutiny. Further, the Scrutiny Committee of 19/12/2024 (agenda item 4) was advised in section 5 of the report about School Streets that 'The proposals are not contrary to the Council's policy framework and is in accordance with the budget agreed by the Council'. However, following an FoI request, no background papers are available to provide the supporting evidence for that advice.</p> <p>(9) Conclusion To reiterate, my principal concern is simple. This proposal will worsen the safety of people travelling to and from SWOP despite the name of the Programme. Canon Close is a cul-de-sac where pupils can arrive and depart in safety and vehicle speeds are low. Maidstone Road is a busy main road with a history of accidents in the vicinity of this School and evidence of numerous speeding offences. I set out my reasons in more detail above. Please exercise your option to cancel this proposal at St William of Perth School/Canon Close, as this decision will have an important and long-lasting impact on the locality and the implications of an unfounded decision could be very serious. Yours sincerely [Redacted]</p> | |
| <p>[Redacted] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>I am very much in favour of this scheme. As a parent of a child that goes to St William of Perth, the car situation in the mornings and afternoons is dangerous. Not only for the people walking to and from the school, like myself, but also for the drivers on the Maidstone Road. Quite often the Canon Close gridlock spills out onto that busy road.</p> <p>Many people I know are complaining that if they cannot access Canon Close via car, they will have to navigate across the Maidstone Road to reach the school. Saying that this is more dangerous than the current situation.</p> <p>This is simply not true as there is an obvious solution if they knew the local area. There is a car park at the bottom of Priestfields that services the</p> | <p>Support noted.</p> |

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| | <p>recreation field and is a 6 minute walk from the school.</p> <p>This route means that Maidstone Road does not need to be crossed and the nearby Dickens Estate (Breton Road and Warden Road) will not be swamped by further cars.</p> <p>I hope this helps nudge the final decision in the right direction.</p> <p>Thanks [REDACTED]</p> | |
| <p>[REDACTED] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Good afternoon I'm writing this email regarding council initiative School Streets concerning Canon Close, Rochester, Kent. I do appreciate the government/council concern about safety on road nearby schools and taking in consideration safety of school communities and involved residents, but I strongly disagree with this initiative to be applied on Canon Close, Rochester for St William of Perth, Primary School. The reason why I do strongly disagree is that St William of Perth is close to other schools, is nearby a busy road, Maidstone Road and the school communities is formed by many that don't leave nearby, therefore working parents have to use cars in order to drop children in time for school and to be on time at work. By implementing this initiative in Canon Close for St William's of Perth, in my view as well as most of the members of school community is that the congestion and high risk of road incidents will not be reduced or eliminated, in contrary will effect traffic flow on Maidstone Road and nearby schools, creating more congestion and traffic jams, therefore it will increase the risk of accidents and incidents. So to conclude in other words the congestion issue nearby schools will be basically moved onto nearby roads and as result the risk of accidents and incidents will greatly increase affecting children and families. Thank you Regards</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognise that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |
| <p>[REDACTED] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>As a staff member of St William of Perth Catholic School with my own children attending this school, I would like to raise my sincere concerns about the negative implications the School street proposal would bring to the school community as well as the neighbouring streets of Cannon Close.</p> <p>I am against this proposal because closing out cars from Cannon Close during school runs would increase the traffic and roadside parking on Maidstone road, Breton Road, Priestfields, Warden road etc. These streets are already over-crowded by cars dropping off/picking up the pupils of SJW Maths School and RGS, as well as the masses of secondary school pupils and parents walking on the pavements and through the crossings.</p> <p>Even more children from St William of Perth would then be forced to walk out into these streets, hence being under more danger.</p> <p>I believe, this decision, instead of easing up the traffic, would on contrary put more pressure and danger onto the whole area.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my viewpoints and the many objections already raised by our school community.</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognise that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Additionally parking will be moved onto the carriageway on Maidstone Rd, to improve safe pedestrian movements.</p> <p>Further to this the area will be subject to a monitoring period.</p> |

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| | <p>Kind Regards</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | |
| <p>[Redacted] St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed school street scheme on Canon Close, where St. William of Perth RC Primary School is located.</p> <p>Many parents, along with the school itself, feel that the council has not properly considered the views of the school community and have ignored concerns about cars having to use streets near to the school.</p> <p>This is particularly concerning given that 76% of respondents to the initial consultation survey opposed the proposal for Cannon Close in its current form. A major concern is the increased risk to children's safety on the surrounding roads. Redirecting cars from being able to drop pupils safely at St William of Perth in Cannon Close and onto adjoining roads such as Maidstone Road and nearby streets will only increase the already extremely heavy traffic there and lead to more dangerous conditions. Roads like Maidstone Road, Breton Road, and Priestfields are far busier and more hazardous to take children across than Cannon Close is. Any increase in traffic on these routes will only heighten the risks for children traveling to and from school.</p> <p>No additional safety measures have been proposed, or indicated that they will be put in place, in the surrounding streets to Canon Close at the same time as a school street scheme is introduced in order to manage the extra traffic in those streets that this scheme will generate.</p> <p>As I walk my child to school it is usual to see car drivers mounting the pavements on both sides in Breton Road which makes it difficult to even use the pavement, similar in other roads nearby where cars park to drop children off, as well as turning/reversing in the streets near to the school, without due care and attention to pedestrians.</p> <p>Without any clear indication of how these increased risks might be mitigated, it is concerning that the proposal may proceed given that it could affect the safety of children and other pedestrians.</p> <p>I would ask that the council reconsider this proposal and listen to the concerns raised by those who use these roads every day.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>As detailed in the Cabinet Report (19 November 2024 – Cabinet Report: Safer, Healthier Streets Programme – School Streets) 68.5% of local residents within the proposed School Street zone were supportive of initiative going ahead.</p> |

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| <p>St William of Perth Catholic Primary School, Canon Close, Rochester</p> | <p>One last email regarding suggested times for the scheme to operate at William of Perth school.</p> <p>Mornings 8am to 9am Afternoon 2.30pm to 3.45pm</p> <p>Thanks</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> |
| <p>St Margaret's Church of England Junior School and St. Margarets Infant School, Rainham</p> | <p>Hi there</p> <p>Below is an email sent on the 12th March but I am still awaiting a response from either yourselves or the other I sent to the consultation@projectcentre.co.uk regarding the issues in the below email. Any questions were asked to be sent but no one I know have yet had any replies to these questions we were asked to send to these addresses.</p> <p>Also to add to this, I read that if parents park up before the 3pm start, they are allowed to drive out before the end of the time zone. Surely this is undermining the school street?</p> <p>Many thanks</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed School Street, Pedestrian, and Cycle Zone Order 2025 for the area outside St Margarets Infants and Junior School. While I understand the intention is to improve safety for the children and their parents, I am concerned that this measure will simply push the issue of dangerous parking and congestion into surrounding roads, exacerbating existing problems elsewhere.</p> <p>Currently, cars frequently park on double yellow lines at the junction of Orchard Street and Broadview, creating a bottleneck and blocking the view for pedestrians crossing. This order will not prevent that behavior on the crossroads bar one side, nor will it address the ongoing issue of vehicles blocking residential driveways and restricting access to properties for residents, particularly on Broadview Avenue during school collection times. If this scheme is implemented alongside the Maidstone Road alterations—of reducing speed limit and creating a new cycle path previously consulted on— Broadview may become the only viable two-way route for traffic, further increasing congestion and misery.</p> <p>Additionally, I have been unable to find any updates regarding the Maidstone Road project, which raises concerns about how both initiatives may impact residents in the future, should they both be implemented. Will the enforcement cameras for the School Street zone also be used to fine vehicles parking illegally on double yellow lines? If not, how will this issue be addressed to ensure safety of those crossing there?</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>With any changes to the highway, it is important to recognised that introduction of new schemes will always involve some element of traffic displacement, especially within the short term.</p> <p>However, while this potential for displacement is acknowledged, it is pertinent to emphasise that the intention of a school street is to reduce the immediate risk of vehicle collisions with more vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, outside of the school gate. By doing this, we can improve safety outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Further to this, the area will be subject to a monitoring period after implementation.</p> <p>The scheme along Maidstone Road proposed as part of the active travel consultation is not currently being progressed.</p> |

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| | <p>To alleviate parking displacement, I urge the council to consider allowing free use of local car parks during school drop-off and pick-up times. Many parents I have spoke to have expressed that the current £1.40 charge per visit is unaffordable, and this is only for a 30-minute parking duration and would not be insufficient if they need to speak with teachers or the school office after dropping off or at collection times.</p> <p>I appreciate your time in considering these concerns. I would be very interested to know if this has been considered in relation to the other scheme if you are able to response to this concern. I did try to speak to the representative who was outside the school a few months ago, but she was unaware of this other scheme so could not comment.</p> <p>Yours faithfully, [Redacted]</p> | |
| <p>[Redacted] - Fairview Primary School</p> | <p>Hello</p> <p>I would like to reaffirm my objection as Local Ward Councillor to Fairview Primary School being included within the School, Street Scheme. Here are the reasons for my objections: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council have failed to provide any evidence that there is a need for restrictions. 2. There will be significant disruption to residents living in adjacent roads . The disruption extends to their visitors and traders carrying out deliveries. It is worth noting that many residents are elderly and dependent on support from outside the home. 3. The scheme has nonsensical rules that allow cars to arrive just before the restrictions start and leave after the restrictions start. 4. Parents will be forced to park in Maidstone Road posing genuine danger involving parked cars, getting in and out of cars, additional danger to cyclists and creating hazards for buses 5. Parents will arrive earlier in the afternoon to get parked. In winter they will leave their engines running creating more emissions 6. There are parking restrictions Drewery Drive which the Council choses not to enforce. <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>All residents are exempt. Timings have been developed during discussions with the school. Addressing peak periods, these are appropriate times.</p> <p>Proposed timings are also shorter than the current School Keep Clear restrictions that are currently in place from 8-9.30am and 2.30-4pm.</p> <p>All schemes will be subject to a monitoring period, which includes conducting before and after surveys to assess the impact once a scheme has been implemented. Should adjustments need to be made, the Council will consider these.</p> <p>Registered carers, emergency services and those eligible for an exemption will all be able to apply to enter the scheme during operational hours. If there are particular instances of concerns for a visitor during the limited hours of operation Medway Council will consider options to reduce any impacts.</p> <p>Visitors can also exit a school street zone without receiving a PCN once it is operational.</p> |
| <p>[Redacted] St William of Perth Roman Catholic Primary School</p> | <p>To whom it may concern.</p> <p>Please find attached St William of Perth's representation to the Medway school streets statutory consultation and objection to the TRO proposal.</p> <p>I would be grateful of an acknowledgement of your receipt of this objection.</p> <p>Regards, [Redacted]</p> | <p>Feedback noted.</p> <p>The purpose of School Streets is to create safer, healthier, and more accessible environments around school entrances during peak travel periods. In our view, the proposed TRO for Canon Close remains entirely consistent with the statutory grounds under the 1984 Act, particularly section 1(1)(a), which permits orders "for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road... or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising."</p> <p>While you have stated that there is no evidence of historical injury incidents in Canon Close itself, our considerations</p> |

Points of support for school streets scheme at St. William of Perth, Rochester

I am a resident and parent of St. William of Perth and I support the implementation of the School Streets Scheme at St. William of Perth as I feel it will increase the safety of the children, parents/guardians/teachers and residents of Canon Close and Rectory Grange. The following document comprises the current main issues around the school which it is felt the School Streets Scheme will help alleviate as well as evidence of the main issues raised. It is hoped that this will aid in the council's decision making and ultimately lead to a safer environment for all in the area around the school.

Traffic movement

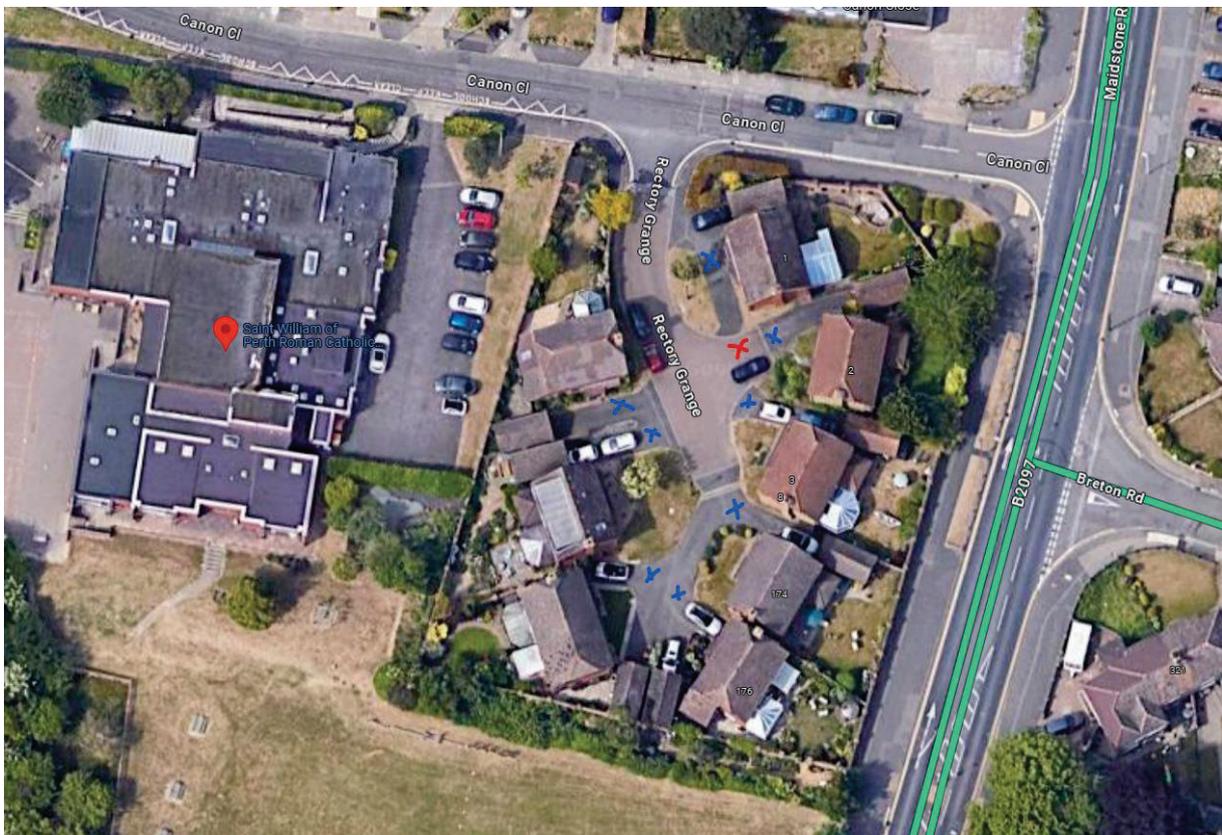


Figure 1 - Aerial view of Rectory Grange

As seen from the above figure there are 8 properties on Rectory Grange, each with a driveway (highlighted with blue crosses), 3 of which share an access. As it is a cul-de-sac there is a turning head at the centre of the road which allows cars that enter the road to turn around to go back out again and vitally allows the residents to back off their driveways and be able to manoeuvre to exit onto Canon Close facing forward in the right direction. Unfortunately, as seen from the following photos not only are driveways regularly blocked, therefore blocking the resident's egress from their properties; but the turning head vitally is blocked meaning that both residents (who's driveways aren't blocked) and other cars entering the road have to dangerously

back out into on coming traffic and pedestrians in Canon Close as they are unable to turn adequately.

This is further exacerbated by the fact Rectory Grange has no pavements (as seen in the following images) and therefore anyone using the road or dropping off their children have to walk in the road, which during normal hours is dangerous enough but during pick up and drop off in term time the risk to pedestrians is increased significantly. This is further worsened by the fact the entrance exit from Rectory Grange into Canon Close is essentially a 'blind' bend as you are forced to drive of the right hand side of the road due to parked cars.



Figure 2 - View of the entrance of Rectory Grange showing absence of pavements (taken outside of drop off and pick-up)

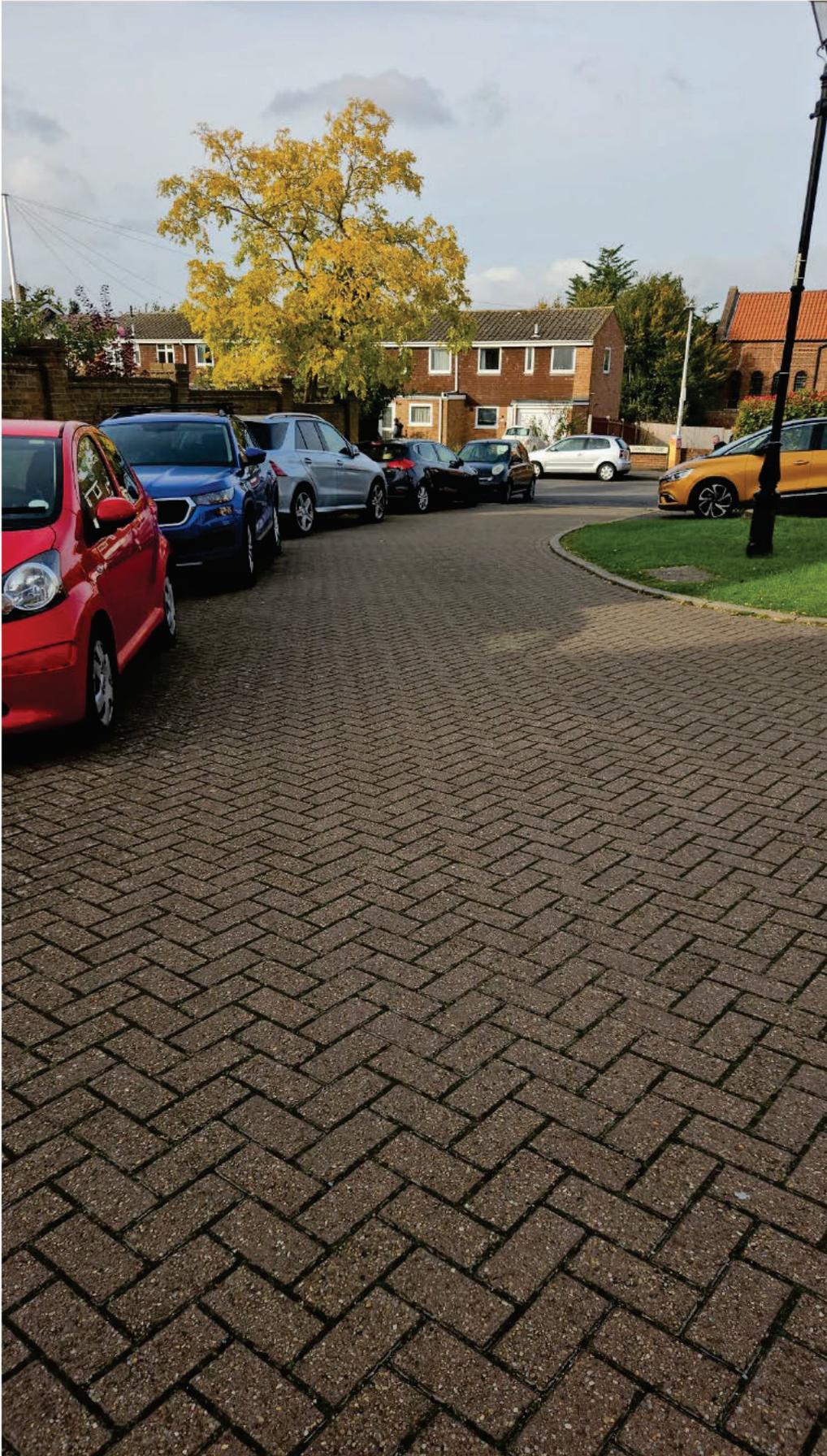


Figure 3 -- View of the entrance of Rectory Grange showing absence of pavements (taken at approx. 15:20pm during term time)

The following photos were taken during term time early in the morning to show 'normal' use at 7:25am and then over a period between 14:30 and 15:30pm which covers the entire school pick-up time in Rectory Grange to show the traffic movement



Figure 4 - View of Rectory Grange at approx. 7:45am



Figure 5 - View of Rectory Grange at 14:30pm

The red car highlighted (green arrow) appears to be a guardian arriving almost 45 minutes prior to pick up to collect a child as they can be seen having left after the initial earliest pick up time



Figure 6 - View of Rectory Grange at 14:44pm

The above photo shows the beginning of guardians turning up to collect their children almost half an hour prior to the earliest pick up of children is available. Additional cars also highlighted by green arrows.



Figure 7 - View of Rectory Grange at 14:58pm

Additional cars park up in Rectory Grange and Canon Close since previous image (highlighted in green). Note car blocking turning head in Rectory Grange and car blocking driveway in Canon Close (red arrow).



Figure 8 - View of Rectory Grange at 15:18pm

As car bee seen the red car highlighted earlier has now left suggesting they collected their child during the early pick up slot of younger children (15:10). New parked cars highlighted by green arrows.



Figure 9 - View of Rectory Grange at 15:23pm

Above image shows several issues regularly encountered during the pick up period:

People having to walk in road amongst moving cars – red arrows

Car blocked leaving Rectory Grange by car stopped in Canon Close – blue arrow

Cars still in road from 14:44pm – Orange arrows

Car stopped on resident's driveway without permission – yellow arrow

Also additional cars highlighted by green arrows.



Figure 10 - View of Rectory Grange at 15:29pm showing 'normal' parking volume.

As can be seen above by 15:29pm Rectory Grange is clear of the school traffic with Canon Close still busy with vehicles leaving both roads.



Figure 11 - Diagram of Canon Close & Rectory Grange

In addition to Rectory Grange, Canon Close is blocked by heavy volumes of traffic and parked cars, although Canon Close has better manoeuvring than Rectory Grange due to its 'looped' dead end, there is still a sizable distance where the road is reduced down to one lane effectively as shown in the diagram above with cars daily parked in the red highlighted zone there is of approx. 87 metres where there is no space for a car existing down the road to pull in (between blue lines), this is even worse if a car is entering down the road. This adds a dangerous mix of children trying to cross the road in the path of cars rushing to get down this section of road.

Anti-social / illegal parking

The following images showing the extent of anti-social, illegal and dangerous parking that occurs throughout Canon Close and Rectory Grange. This both endangers residents and children and their guardians.

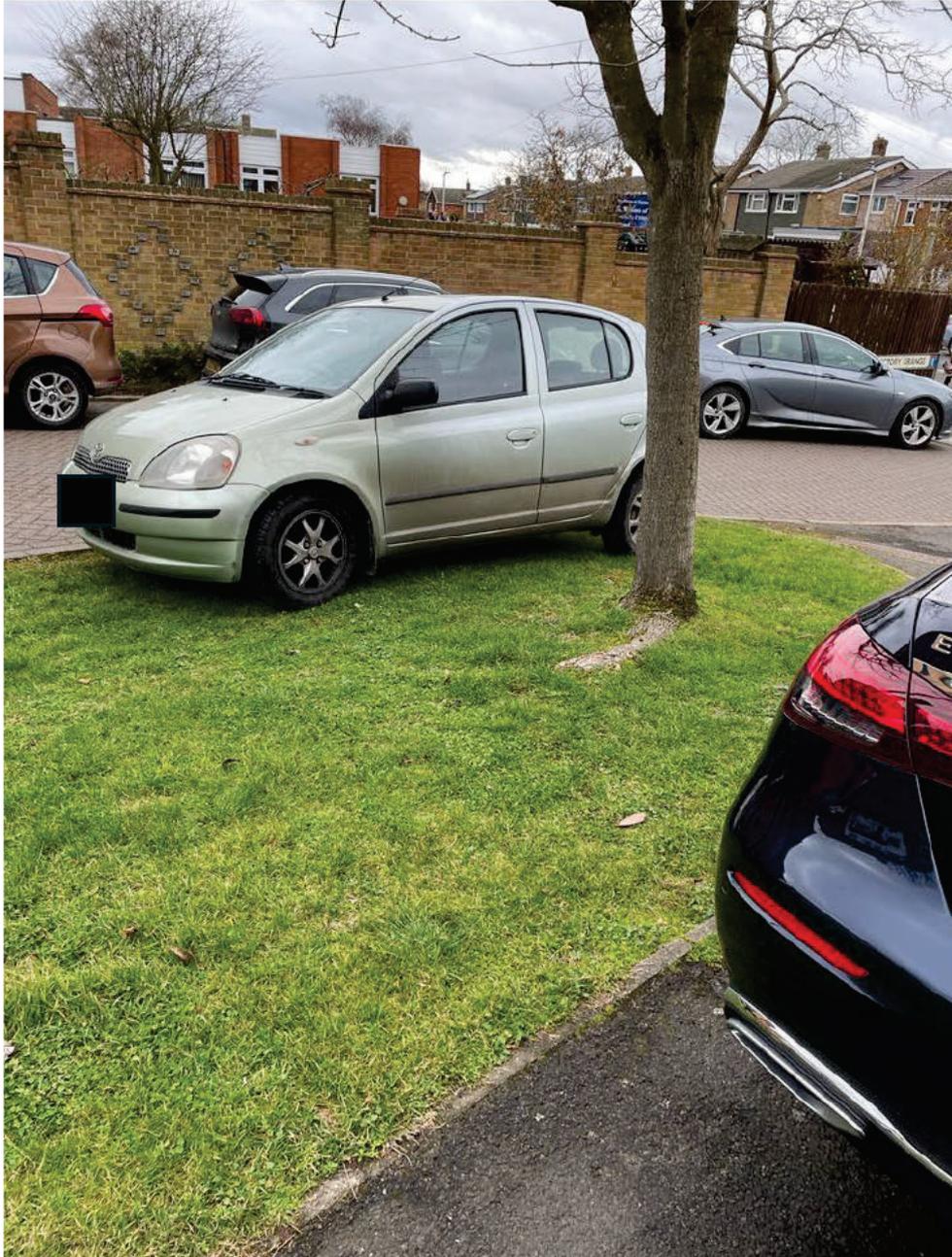


Figure 12 - Car parked in resident's front garden in Rectory Grange



Figure 13 - Car parked in resident's front garden in Rectory Grange



Figure 14 - Car parked on resident's driveway without permission in Rectory Grange



Figure 15 - Car parked on resident's driveway without permission in Rectory Grange (red arrow). Cars blocking driveways (green arrows)



Figure 16 - Car parked on resident's driveway without permission in Rectory Grange



Figure 17- Driveways and turning head blocked in Rectory Grange



Figure 18 - Car parked on double yellow lines and grass verge in Canon Close



Figure 19 - Car parked across two parking bays in Canon Close



Figure 20 - Dangerous parking in Canon Close



Figure 21 - Car parked on double yellow lines at dropped kerb at Canon Close/ Rectory Grange junction



Figure 22 - Driveways (green arrows) and turning head blocked (red arrow) in Rectory Grange

Unsafe traffic movement into and out of Canon Close during drop off and pick up



Figure 23 - Diagram showing space available at Canon Close junction with Maidstone Rd

Red lines = Maximum extent of parking to church car park entrance and dropped kerb at Maidstone Road/canon close junction

Blue line= the distance between these two points. The space available for a car to wait for another car to exit canon close. This is measured at 12.3m which is only enough space for one car to wait at the top of the road without blocking the dropped kerb. This means cars travelling down Maidstone Road must queue to get into the road block traffic on Maidstone Road



Figure 24 - 'Google Street View' image of Canon Close junction from Maidstone Rd



Figure 25 - Diagram showing filter lane from Maidstone Rd (heading South) into Canon Close

Green lines = Extent at which cars can site within filter lane

Purple line = Distance between two green points 23.6m. Which is 4 cars before cars would start to block traffic travelling up Maidstone Road

Note there is no filter lane for traffic travelling North on Maidstone Road as seen in the diagram above, meaning cars would need to queue on Maidstone Road to get into Canon Close, therefore obstructing traffic and causing dangerous crossing situations for parents and children.

Pollution

It goes without saying that pollution levels from car exhausts raises with increased cars within the roads surrounding the school from both cars moving through the road and idling when waiting. As children are more susceptible to the effects of pollution and due to their proximity to the ground are exposed to a higher concentration where the poisonous exhaust gases are more concentrated, it can only be better that the volume of cars is limited around the school immediate area.

Unsafe movement of children and parents within Canon Close and Rectory Grange

As a result of the increased volume of cars, parking illegally or across people's driveways (as shown throughout this document) there is very limited safe crossing places with anyone wishing to cross the road being left with no option but to try to cross between parked cars where visibility is severely reduced, especially for children.

This is further made worse by cars being parked across dropped kerbs (as shown earlier in this document) meaning their daily instances of children needing to step into the road top navigate around these illegally parked vehicles. In fact, there is a dropped kerb outside of the entrance to the school which has a dropped kerb opposite which is regularly blocked.

Alternative parking available

Priestfield car park



Figure 26 - 'Google' map aerial image of walking route from Priestfields Car Park to St William of Perth

Unlike most other schools St. William of Perth has a nearby public, free car park (Priestfields) which has adequate parking provision (including disabled parking bay). This is an obvious

alternative to parking on Canon Close & Rectory Grange, and it is only a 7 minute walk away (as shown above) and provides safe access to the school without having to cross any additional roads. The pavements from this car park are well maintained, well lit and of a good width to afford suitable access and are already used by parents who choose to walk their children to schools in the immediate area including St. William of Perth.

The car park itself has two lane entry/exit meaning it can handle cars exiting and entering at the same time and within the car park itself it has suitable manoeuvring facilities. As seen from the following images visibility from the car park and the main road is good.

As seen from the following photos the car park is currently largely un-used and there is therefore adequate capacity for it's use by parents of St William of Perth who drive. The following photos were taken during term time early in the morning to show 'normal' use at 7:25am and then at the school drop-off (8:40am) and pick-up (15:20pm) times.



Figure 27 - View of car park entrance at approx. 7:25am



Figure 28 - View from within car park at approx. 7:25am



Figure 29 - View from within car park at approx. 7:25am



Figure 30 - View from car park entrance/exit showing Priestfields road at approx. 7:25am



Figure 31 - View of car park entrance at approx. 8:40am



Figure 32 - View from within car park at approx. 8:40am



Figure 33 - View from within car park at approx. 8:40am



Figure 34 - View up Priestfields Road from car park entrance at approx. 8:40am



Figure 35 - View of car park entrance at approx. 15:10pm



Figure 36 - View from within car park at approx. 15:15pm



Figure 37 - View within car park at approx. 15:15pm



Figure 38 - View from within car park at approx. 15:20pm



Figure 39 - View from within car park at approx. 15:30pm



Figure 40 - View from within car park at approx. 15:30pm

As can be seen from the photos even before school time the car park is used by a few dog walkers but is even less busy during the morning school drop-off period. It is highest utilisation is during the school pick-up period but there is still clearly ample capacity.

Summary

St. William of Perth is situated on a dead end road (Canon Close) and adjacent to a cul-de-sac (Rectory Grange). As a result, vehicle movements during pick up and drop off times are challenging and lead to an increased danger to both residents and children and guardians. As exemplified in this document this is made worse by the inconsiderate parking and vehicle movements, both within Canon Close and Rectory Grange and upon entering and exiting Maidstone Road.

By utilising cameras this takes the responsibility from the school and puts it into the hands of the individual driving the vehicle and ultimately the council to issue fines to deter. This would appear to be the most effective way to deter further issues and prevents potential future altercations between residents and parents and the school and parents, which can only be welcomed. The other schools where this scheme has been implemented surely are testament to this.

It is felt that the School Streets scheme will provide a suitable deterrent to these problematic vehicle movements and therefore provide a safer and more pleasant environment for the children and their guardians and the residents. Based on the evidence supplied in this text I would suggest the operating hours of the School Street are at least 8:30am – 9am Mon-Fri and 2:30pm to 3:30pm Mon-Fri, as this would appear to cover the busiest periods of vehicular movement.

With a rare alternative option available to the school users in the form of Priestfields public car park it means that St. William of Perth is an ideal candidate for the School Streets Scheme and I fully support it's implementation.

Medway School Streets – statutory consultation

St William of Perth RC Primary School objection

This is our formal objection to the inclusion of St William of Perth in the Medway School Streets programme.

It is our understanding that to prohibit traffic from entering Canon Close the Council under the terms of this scheme will need to make a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) under section 1(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. This is therefore also our formal objection to that TRO.

Introduction

We want to make clear that we do not object to the Medway School Streets programme on principle. But we do strongly object to the application of the programme to Canon Close in the specific and unique circumstances of St William of Perth RC Primary School. We can see potential benefit of the programme in other situations, but certainly not ours.

It is our view that the proposal will not improve the safety of pupils attending St William of Perth. It will instead increase their risk of harm. As we all know, our statutory responsibility is for the safeguarding and welfare of the children in our care and therefore we cannot agree or acquiesce to any changes that in our view would jeopardise the safety of our children. And that is the very thing which we believe these proposals will do.

At the Cabinet meeting on 19 November Councillors said that we must “do all we can to protect our children”. We agree. The problem is that we do not believe the Council’s proposal will do that, we think that it will achieve the very opposite.

Therefore on this basis we believe that in the specific case of Canon Close the TRO which the Council is proposing fails to meet the requirements of the 1984 Act.

Consultation

It is our understanding that there is little public support for School Streets in general and even less for Canon Close in particular. So far, the council has in our view failed to take into full account all the comments it has have received.

As you know, the 1984 Act requires Medway Council as the traffic authority to ensure a TRO is used in a way that maintains the integrity of the road network and that it is used in a way consistent with the local environment and also in a way that meets the needs of the community. A significant 76% of the community has already told the Council that Canon Close should not be closed to traffic. Therefore we would argue that even now the TRO does not meet the needs of the community as a whole and therefore it is questionable as to whether in terms of Canon Close it meets the requirements of the 1984 Act.

We now wish to raise some concerns we have as to how this process has reached the stage it has. We cannot find, nor have we been provided with, any factual information as to how our school has been chosen for inclusion in this programme. The paper presented to Cabinet (November 2024) did not discuss the comments received from the latest informal public consultation (October 2024) or offer any analysis of them. The fact that one of the schools (St William of Perth) had formally objected in the strongest terms was not even mentioned in the

paper to Cabinet or discussed by Councillors. And yet as mentioned already 76 % of respondents to the informal consultation disagreed with making Canon Close a School Street. However, as we say these facts were not presented to the Cabinet for consideration, and we would like to know why that was, as how can anyone take an informed decision if they have not got all the facts. One other point we wish to raise is that the Deputy Director of Place assured the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in December 2024 that officials from the Council would discuss any problems that schools had with the scheme before going out to statutory consultation. This unfortunately never happened and our correspondence was not responded to with regards to these statements. This is very disappointing and unfortunately leaves us with little confidence as to the robustness of the consultation process.

Educational and equality impact

We are very concerned about the impact the scheme will have on education within our school. Being a popular and successful faith school we have a wider catchment area with pupils travelling from across Medway to attend. These families have no choice but to travel by car to the school.

The implementation of the scheme will in our view see an increase in the number of pupils potentially being late and missing valuable learning time. We believe therefore that by default this proposal would potentially present some challenging circumstances when meeting the principles outlined in the DFE's most recent guidance (Working together to improve school attendance).

We also feel that the proposals would have a detrimental effect on the daily operation of the school thus reducing the quality of education which it can offer as it would prevent external support services such as SEND experts, Local authority advisors, contractors, and food delivery suppliers being able to travel to supply and service the school at mutually agreed times during the course of the school day in order to fulfil and meet its statutory requirements.

We are an inclusive school with an excellent reputation for SEND support – we currently have 3% of students with an Education Health Care plan. Many of these children have mobility issues and would not be able to walk to school. It would also create a barrier for our SEND students receiving the expert support that they need e.g. educational psychologists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapy specialists, social and emotional support as they would need to arrive at the school during the proposed school streets times. It has been said the proposals will have some flexibility to meet such circumstances, but frankly unless this essential group are given a blanket exemption we cannot see how that can be achieved on a day to day basis.

In our view these proposals would also disproportionately affect working mothers that need to travel to work after dropping off their children. The implementation of the scheme would penalise hard working mothers who have no option but to go to work. Speaking to our parents we know that the scheme will raise serious challenges for parents needing to travel to their place of work and could affect their terms of employment or at the very least incur significant extra childcare costs. It could also affect the school's ability to provide wraparound care as it means that after school club providers would not be able to access the site during the necessary times to provide these services.

TRO Legislation

The 1984 Act provides that the traffic authority may make an order in respect of the road where it appears to the authority making the order that it is expedient to make it

- a) for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or
- b) for preventing damage to the road or to any building on or near the road, or
- c) for facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians), or
- d) for preventing the use of the road by vehicular traffic of a kind which, or its use by vehicular traffic in a manner which, is unsuitable having regard to the existing character of the road or adjoining property, or
- e) (without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (d) above) for preserving the character of the road in a case where it is specially suitable for use by persons on horseback or on foot, or
- f) for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road, or
- g) for any of the purposes specified in paragraphs (a) to (c) of subsection (1) of section 87 of the Environment Act 1995 (air quality).

It is our view that the only one that could theoretically apply (but does not apply) is section 1(1) a - for avoiding danger to persons using the road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising. We also do not believe the Environment Act 1995 (g) is relevant, but we nonetheless address air quality below.

Evidence

It is our evidence that there is in fact no evidential basis for the Council's proposal to make Canon Close a School Street. Quite the reverse, it is our sincere view that all the evidence points to Canon Close being excluded from the programme.

Air Quality

As far as we are aware the Council has not undertaken a survey of air quality in Canon Close so by definition has no evidence that their proposal is required because air quality needs to be improved.

Further, there is apparently no evidence that we know of that the air quality has been improved in the locations of the seven schools that are already in the School Streets programme.

The proposal is to ban some cars from Canon Close for two hours every weekday during term time – 390 hours out of 8,760 hours in every year. Some cars will be banned from Canon Close for 4.4% of the year but allowed within 100 yards of the school. The impact on air quality in the location of the school will therefore in our view be non-existent.

Safety

In our view the only justification for a TRO under the 1984 Act is avoiding danger to persons using Canon Close. However, we believe the Council's proposal will actually increase the danger.

The Council's stated objective (emphasised at the Cabinet meeting on 19 November) is traffic displacement. But under these proposals the Council appears to be actively seeking to move traffic out of Canon Close onto other more dangerous roads.

We are of the strong opinion that the other roads near to St William of Perth the Council is seeking to force parents and carers to use are much more dangerous than Canon Close. There have not been any RTAs in Canon Close but there are frequent RTAs on Maidstone Road. According to Medway Council's own figures, Maidstone Road Rochester is one of the most dangerous roads in Medway. Only this August a wall was demolished by a car on the corner of Canon Close and Maidstone Road. And in the list of the top 20 Kent Roads for speeding, Maidstone Road is number 16. We are sure the Council must be aware of research by relevant road safety charities, which shows the impact speed of a car hitting a child significantly affects the severity of injuries, with higher speeds drastically increasing the risk of serious harm or death. A child hit by a car travelling at 30 miles per hour has a high risk of severe, potentially fatal injuries. The nature of Canon Close is such cars cannot travel faster than 20 miles per hour. A child hit by a car at 20 miles per hour or less may result in minor injuries, comparable to a fall from a low height. Therefore, in our opinion the evidence is Canon Close is demonstrably safer than Maidstone Road or Priestfields.

In the summer of 2021 Cllr Teresa Murray assisted the school PTA in their request for a crossing patrol to help parents cross Maidstone Road safely. Leanne Adams, Senior Road Safety Officer explained that after a PV2 assessment the request had been rejected. Although vehicle numbers in Maidstone Road were high, because they can drive into Canon Close a very low number of St William of Perth families crossed Maidstone Road to reach Canon Close. Further evidence that Maidstone Road is already dangerous to cross. Therefore, we believe it will be significantly worse if Canon Close is closed to traffic.

Far from 'avoiding danger to persons...or...preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising' the Council will, we believe be substantially increasing the danger to the very children the Council says we must do all we can to protect.

It is our understanding that based on the available data in the three years to December 2023, 248 under 16 years of age pedestrian casualties were reported in Medway, an average of 83 per annum.

That is all children under 16. The TRO would apply to Canon Close and St William of Perth is a primary school. So we need to estimate the number of casualties aged 5-11. Younger children are accompanied by adults who will protect them, so are much less likely to be casualties. But we will be generous and assume that nearly half of all child casualties are primary age. That is 40 per annum.

Some accidents happen during school holidays. Let us assume an equal distribution throughout the year. The school year is 39 weeks so $40/52 \times 39 = 30$ per annum.

How many of those 30 5–11-year-old casualties were within 100 yards of the school gate - the area to be excluded in Canon Close under the TRO? In our estimation, almost certainly none, but again let's be exceptionally generous and assume around half. So, 15 casualties aged 5-11 near to their school every year.

There are 86 primary schools in Medway so the statistical probability for any one school that one of their pupils will be injured outside the school gates is 15/86 per annum. A 17% chance

that one pupil in each primary school in Medway will be injured in an RTA every year. 71 primary schools will have no pupil accidents outside their gates.

We agree that 17% is too high, everyone would prefer 0%, but does that really represent a **danger** in the terms of the 1984 Act?

We have a much better spread of data for St William of Perth specifically. The school was opened in 1974 and in 50 years the number of pupil casualties in Canon Close was - 0. None; Canon Close is one of the safest streets in Medway.

Is that enough danger to meet the requirements for a TRO under the 1984 Act? Clearly it is not. The evidence does not support the existence of a danger which needs to be addressed through a TRO. Is there any likelihood of a danger arising that a child pedestrian will be injured by a car outside the gates of St William of Perth? No, there is not. On the basis of 50 years of data, the statistical probability of a pupil of St William of Perth being hit by a car in Canon Close is 0%.

The requirements of the 1984 Act have clearly not been met and we formally object to a TRO for Canon Close.

Public Inquiry

A TRO can be subject to a Public Inquiry if its effect is to prohibit the loading or unloading of vehicles or vehicles of any class in a road on any day of the week

- (i) at all times;
- (ii) before 07.00 hours;
- (iii) between 10.00 and 16.00 hours; or
- (iv) after 19.00 hours,

and an objection has been made to the order (other than one which the Council is satisfied is frivolous or irrelevant) and not withdrawn.

It is our view that the TRO will prevent parents and carers from loading and unloading their vehicles between 15.00 and 16.00 and the school has objected (by means of this letter) to the TRO. Even if the Council overrides our objection and proceeds to make the TRO, it cannot we believe claim that our objection is frivolous or irrelevant, and therefore we say the requirements for a public Inquiry would be met and we would in the circumstances expect one to be held. .

Conclusion

Our sincere hope is that with the detailed explanation of our reasons for arguing the inclusion of St William of Perth in School Streets is not appropriate, the Council will be persuaded to take Canon Close out of this scheme. There is a very real concern that traffic will be displaced to surrounding streets making school journeys much more dangerous for local pupils. We understand all of the Rochester schools affected have voiced concerns about the school streets proposals and have made representations to that end. We firmly believe that School Streets is not going to be appropriate for every one of the 86 primary schools in Medway so why can the council not accept that it is not appropriate for St William of Perth?

We therefore feel our arguments are well reasoned and closing Canon Close to vehicles will increase the danger our children face getting to and from school. We believe it to be unnecessary and indeed inconsistent with the 1984 Act. We therefore urge the Council to think again about these proposals and agree that there is no reasonable justification to include Canon Close in these proposals.

We are available at any time to discuss our objections in more detail and would welcome the opportunity to meet with Councillors on-site during the times we have pupil drop off or pick up.

Yours sincerely

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