

William Gilbert Endowed
(Church of England)
Primary School & Nursery
Vicarage Lane, Duffield, Belper, Derbyshire,
DE56 4EB



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Headteacher: Mrs E H Britten

16th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

ADVANCED NOTICE – VICARAGE LANE ROAD CLOSURE – SCHOOL STREET PILOT – ‘FUME FREE FRIDAYS’

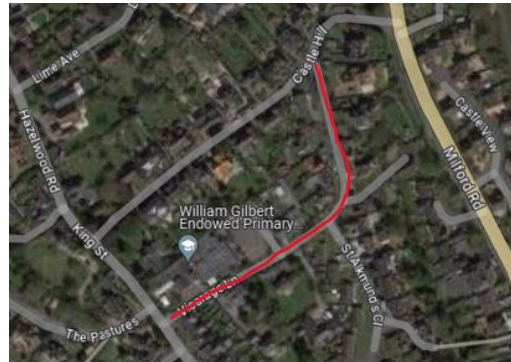
We continue to work with the Local Authority in working towards achieving a ‘Safer Streets’ for Vicarage Lane. Following the successful closure of Vicarage Lane on 20th June 2024, to mark National Clean Air Day, we continue to promote this initiative with the hope that Derbyshire County Council will support the scheme in permitting a permanent School Street.

William Gilbert School, along with other 5 other schools, local councillors and MPs have agreed that a longer pilot is needed to explore all the benefits and barriers to this progressing as we would wish.

Through the ‘Town Police Clauses Act of 1847’ Amber Valley Borough Council has approved 5 temporary road closures for Vicarage Lane. As such the familiar yellow notices used by DCC are not required for such a closure. We will however continue to publicise these road closures with the local community and residents.

Therefore, I am writing to share advanced notice of the closure of Vicarage Lane from the junction with Castle Hill and King Street, (see the red line on the map) will be closed between 8:30am and 9:15am and again at 3:00pm and 3:45pm on the following dates.

Friday 25th October 2024
Friday 8th November 2024
Friday 15th November 2024
Friday 22nd November 2024
Friday 29th November 2024



On these ‘Fume Free Fridays’ we will be working with our school community to help reduce the number of cars near school with this temporary road closure on Vicarage Lane. This closure will only impact parental traffic (disabled and blue badge holders are exempt), and not impact residents, who can still use the road.

For those families that do not live in the village and need to drive into the village, it would help if you could ‘Park and Stride’ at one of our Safe Parking Spaces available locally.

Parents can park in the following places locally and walk the remaining distance to school.

- The Viceroy Restaurant car park – available free of charge until 4pm each day for village parking.
- Enjoy the warmer weather and take a longer stroll or scoot by parking at the Eyes Meadow car park or the car park at the Chevin Golf Club just off Avenue Road. The Chevin Golf Club welcome parents to sit and enjoy a post drop off coffee in the ‘Fairways’ restaurant overlooking the Chevin.
- Could you establish a ‘walking bubble’ with a friend – agree to meet away from school and one parent walk the children to school. Taking it in turns to stride the final 5-10 minute walk to school.

- I am in talks with local parish councillors to re-open the Methodist Church carpark following the closure of the church. This was a valuable parking spot for parents to 'park and stride'. I will keep you updated on this matter.

See the updated 'How to get to William Gilbert Primary School' travel plan attached with this letter. I hope you will all support us in making these days successful and promote healthy and environmentally friendly journeys to school.

We Need You! - Volunteers needed

We are now looking for volunteers to help 'marshal' the two points where Vicarage Lane will be closed,

- The junction with King Street
- The junction with Castle Hill

We need volunteers at both the beginning and end of the school day, in the morning 8.30am to 9.15am and the afternoon 3.00pm to 3.45pm. There will be a school governor who will be there to support volunteers.

Adults that want to volunteer need to spend 20 minutes watching the training video on this web site – [CLICK HERE](#). This video has 10 minutes of information about School Streets and Play Streets before the training for volunteers begins. **Start watching at 10 minutes and 15 seconds.** To watch the whole video only takes 18 minutes. We are operating a School Street scheme, we are not going to be encouraging children to play on the road whilst the road is closed as they do in Play Street schemes. The road will be accessible to residents during the road closure times. We do have a supply of high visibility vests in school, however, if volunteers have their own high visibility vests that they could provide that would be really helpful.

If you want to volunteer, please let school know by completing this online form by 12pm on Monday 30th September at the latest, thank you. – [Please click here to volunteer - thank you!](#)
[Or scan the QR code below](#)



Yours sincerely

E H Britten
Headteacher