

St. Maries RCPS School Travel Plan



Headteacher: Mrs A Robertson

School address: Macindoe Crescent
KY1 2JH

Telephone No: 01592 583459

Social Media/Website: [Website](#)



www.fife.gov.uk/STP

**Frankies
Active
Campaigners
Team**

CONTENTS PAGE

3:	1.0	WHY HAVE A SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN
3.:	2.0	BENEFITS OF HAVING A SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN
4:	3.0	Current Travel Habits
	3.1	Family Questionnaire Data
8:	3.2	Staff Questionnaire Data
10:	4.0	ROUTE AUDIT OF KEY ROUTES TO SCHOOL
	4.1	Access Arrangements
11:	5.0	ACTION PLAN
12:	6.0	MONITORING AND EVALUATION
12:	7.0	DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN
13:		APPENDIX 1 – ROUTE AUDIT REPORT

1.0 WHY HAVE A SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN

School-related traffic congestion and the risks congestion poses to the safety of the pupils, teachers, parents, residents, and motorists in and around school locations is a significant problem in communities around Fife.

The most obvious cause of traffic congestion around our schools is vehicles, and the biggest source of those vehicles is parents' dropping off and picking up their children from school.

Statistics highlight that 1 in 4 cars during the hours of 8:30 to 9:15 and 2:30 to 3:15 is primary school traffic.

Our annual Hands Up Survey highlights that 23%, that's **5562** primary school children are driven to the school gate each day with a further 17% opting to Park and Stride. That is an additional **4111** pupils being driven in and around the school streets.

Fife Council's Road and Transportation Service are working with schools in Fife to develop School Travel Plans and support s to develop campaigns such as Walking Buses, Park n Stride sites, Parking Pledges, available routes to school maps, delivery of Bikeability as well as looking at any engineering works that may be required to make active travel to school your first choice of travel.

2.0 BENEFITS OF HAVING A SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN?

The benefits of encouraging active travel are clear and a school travel plan can ensure that your school has a long-term vision with aid to support Frankies Active Campaigners Team with delivering campaigns to;-

- Improve health and well-being by reducing harmful emissions and increasing activity levels.
- Improve safety through engineering measures and increasing road safety education.
- Improve access and opportunity by developing pupils' skills for safe and independent travel.
- Improve the environment by reducing pollution and CO2 emissions.
- Gain school accreditations such as Fresh Air Frankie STP Awards, Active School Award Eco School Award, Cycle Friendly School Award
- Have access to additional funding and support.

All work associated with School Travel Planning has been designed to fit into the Curriculum for Excellence.

3.0 CURRENT TRAVEL HABITS

Each year all Fife schools undertake the Hands Up Survey which gives a true reflection of how pupils are travelling to school and the latest results show that 22% of pupils are actively travelling to school, 37% choose to park and stride with a further 9% being driven. The remaining 33% of the pupils travel by public transport.

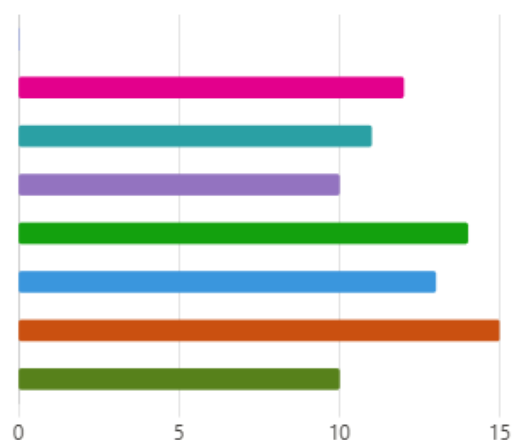
	Walk	Cycle	Scooter / Skate	Park & Stride	Driven	Bus	Taxi	Other	Walk	Cycle	Scooter / Skate	Park & Stride	Driven	Bus	Taxi	Other
P 1-4	34	3	5	67	27	51	5	0	18%	2%	3%	35%	14%	27%	3%	0%
P 5-7	30	3	5	68	5	57	6	0	17%	2%	3%	39%	3%	33%	3%	0%
TOTAL	64	6	10	135	32	108	11	0	17%	2%	3%	37%	9%	30%	3%	0%

3.1 Family Questionnaire

68 families answered the school travel plan online questionnaire, and the results are detailed in the graphs and text below.

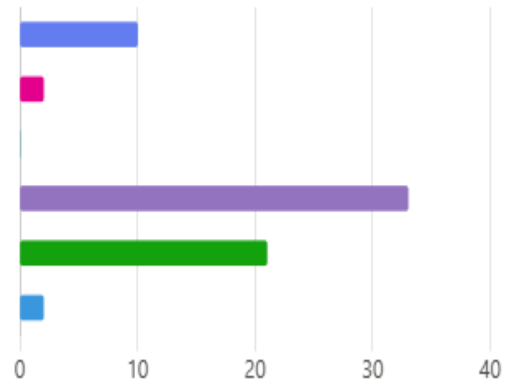
What school year is your child in?

Nursery	0
P1	12
P2	11
P3	10
P4	14
P5	13
P6	15
P7	10



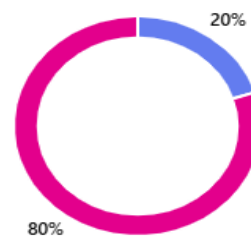
How do you normally travel to and from school?

Walk	10
Cycle	2
Scoot	0
School Transport	33
Car	21
Public Transport	2



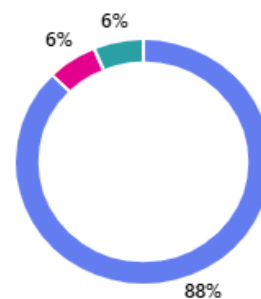
Those parents who are already actively travelling to school were asked if they would like to volunteer to help the school set up a walking bus.

Yes	2
No	8



All parents who stated that they drive to school were asked if they would consider using a Park and Stride Site at the community to help with congestion.

Yes	14
No	1
Maybe	1



Those parents were then asked what could they do to help with safety concerns with regards to parking around the school gate?

- I think the school should build a larger drop off zone on the school grounds
- Not sure, mines walk up and down from Overton
- Remove the exclusion zone
- I do not know, but we usually park far from school and walk or use scooter. We never park on Macindoe Crescent. Maybe tickets for parents who are not following rules.
- Walking
- I'm dropping kids off at the Overton road gate
- Parking car far away and walking with child to school
- Fife Council enforcing fines
- I don't think there's much you can do to reduce bad parking and blocking people's drives. The flashing lights were up for a while saying restricted parking during certain times, but many people still completely ignored it. The only thing which could be done is have police wardens at the start and end of the school day which probably wouldn't be a financially viable option.
- We always park at the community centre and walk to school from there.
- We already do this, we park behind Overton Road and walk to school
- Lollypop man/woman at the Overton gate. Many parents don't like letting their child walk from the park'n'stride location due to how busy and fast the road is. A person helping kids to cross would ease parental concerns.
- Walking bus expansion
- Because there isn't a patrol officer on Overton Road, I don't drop my son off at that gate and tend to park and walk to MacIndoe entrance. Why is there no patrol officer? And why does KHS have one when the children attending that school are older, it doesn't make sense. Would it not be beneficial to take some of the school playing fields that do not get used next to Overton and create a carpark or a drop off zone.
- All the parents must comply with parking in the community centre
- I drop my child off in the morning at Overton Mains car park, it's on the way to my workplace. My child then walks to school. She gets the school bus home.
- Overton Road is one of the busiest roads. Cars speed, jump the traffic lights. Cars are parked on Overton Road right at school gates, visibility is poor. There really should be a lollypop person back at this school.
- Encourage pupils ride to school
- The old drop off system worked well when parents drove round the car park and dropped their kids off inside the gate. It would only work if it was supervised, and parents were not allowed to park in the drop off or on MacIndoe crescent as it was the double parking that ruined it.

Parents were then asked if they wanted to add anything else about their journey to school.

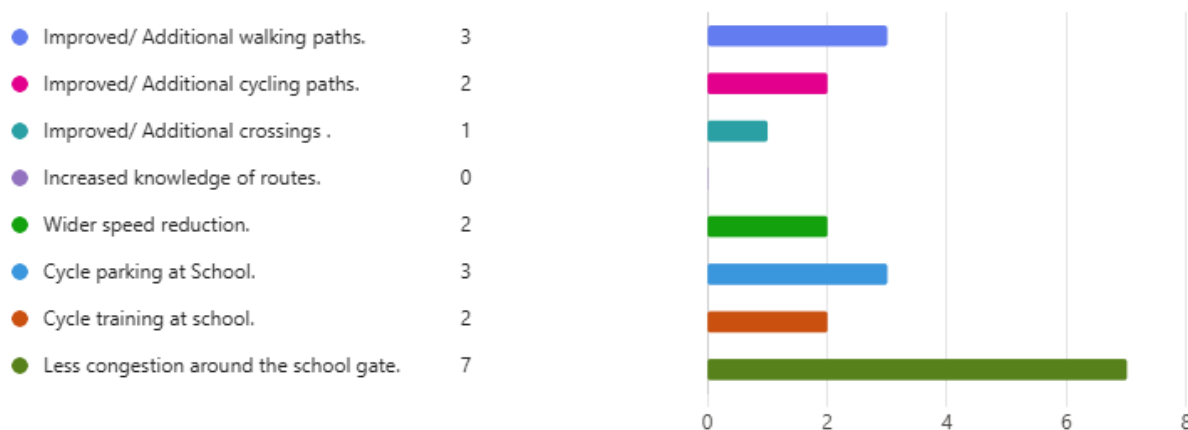
- Bus is often late, driver always grumpy.
- The Cars in Macindoe are still a cause for concern
- Sometimes the school bus misses its route or is extremely late but being early can also be a problem a way to track the bus journey like the stagecoach buses would be helpful to ensure that you know if the bus is coming or not, so you know to make alternative arrangements to get to school.
- Macindoe is way too busy with the cars... still
- Cars parking outside the gates at Overton Road is dangerous, never mind outright laziness and selfishness.
- My daughter loves getting the school bus, she's made so many friends and not just in p1, in all the other years too.
- Child walks from St Andrew's High School car park where I work
- I would like to see a lollipop person at the crossing beside the high school
- The path down the hill is unlit, which is a little inconvenient at times (e.g. Christmas market)
- Buses are great for working parents
- It is safe in the bus
- To school by car, from school by bus SM1
- If school could provide walking bus in the morning it will be much helpful ...
- Great Bus Service Via route and care of kids travel
- I use the bus stop near my house, the bus drivers are all lovely
- We walk through Macindoe crescent and there have been several near misses from cars reversing onto pavements. Also, driving behind us when we walk up the hill. It is intimidating for the pupil and aggressive. Parents argue sending out bad example. Also, there are parents that walk-through carpark to the blue gate, they do not want to walk around the small path around carpark.
- Buses usually on time.
- All good
- We are bit worried that no adult with kids while travel
- The bus is to full, not enough seats so you have to stand. SM4
- It's okay. Nothing to complain.
- My son cycles every day as it's a nightmare to drive and drop off
- Seems to be working well
- my daughter goes to school by bus taxi she is very happy
- I will be allowing my son go on the school bus next year.
- Very conducive and relief
- I 'm quite happy with school transport

- The children usually take car or bus in the morning and then bus home. It's disgraceful there has been no crossing patrol since George retired.
- Cars park on the main road which causes unnecessary congestion. It also makes it hard to get out of the Overton Mains car park. I enjoy driving my child to school as it is a nice time to chat **about the day ahead**.
- School transport is amazing. However, some drivers need to take precautions when manoeuvring by ensuring children are seated 1st before taking off.
- we live in McIndoe crescent therefore its only a few mins walk to and from the school.
- The journey to school has been alright. Drivers are most times on time
- It would be much better if Fife council provided a high school bus
- Nothing to say coz it is just a 5 minute walk from my home.

Parents were then asked about the School Exclusion Zone a full list of these comments can be found in Appendix 1.

Further questions about active travel were asked and the results are as follows

What would improve your journey to school?



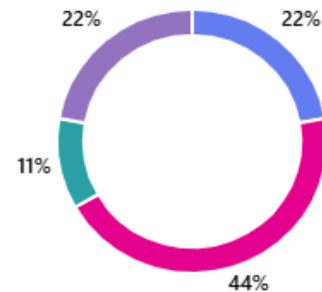
If you have selected Improved/ Additional paths or crossings, please indicate if there is a specific location where you feel either of these can be improved.

- Macindoe crescent and Beatty cres
- Overton Mains, Overton Road and Beatty Crescent.
- I would like to see the path coming down the hill improved it uneven and cracked in places. Maybe even made wider so buggy s and kids can go down without one of them going on the grass.
- Crossings with lights before entering the school exclusion zone
- A crossing at the side of tasty treats at Smeaton

3.2 Staff Questionnaire

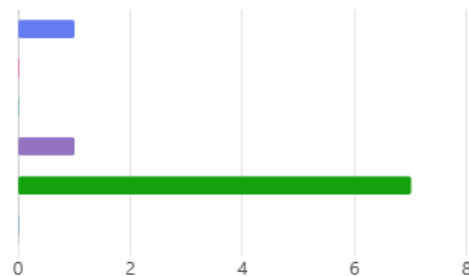
How far do you travel for work?

Under 2 miles	2
2 - 5 miles	4
6 - 10 miles	1
11+ miles	2



How do you travel to work?

Walk	1
Cycle	0
Bus	0
Car Share	1
Car	7
Other	0



Where do you park your car?

All those who drive to school stated that they use the staff car park.

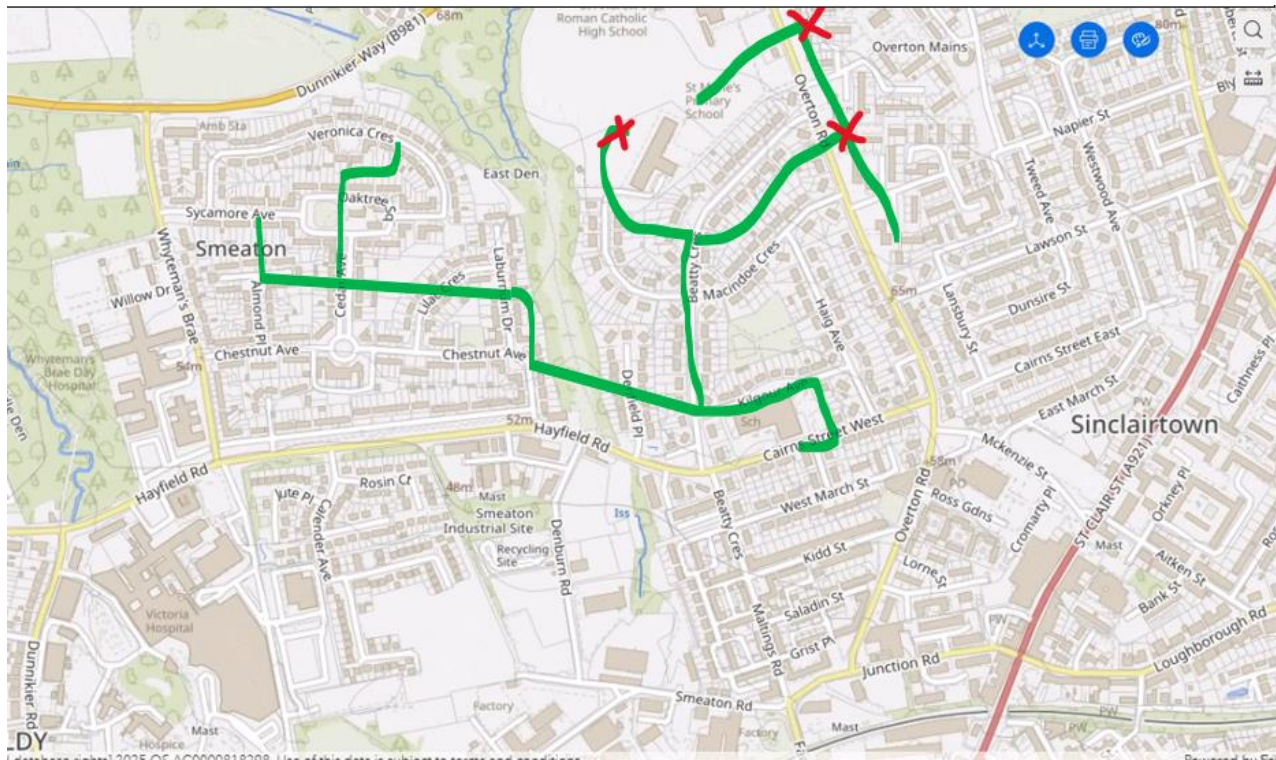
When asked if there was anything they would like to add about their journey to work the following responses were noted.

- No, my journey to work is quiet due to the time I arrive.
- It involves travelling to childcare at different places around Kirkcaldy and so it is not viable to travel any other way.

Staff were also asked about the school exclusion zone and the data from this is contained within Appendix 1.

4.0 MAPPING WORK AND ROUTE AUDIT

A mapping exercise was carried out on Thursday 20th February with the road safety committee to identify the routes pupils travelled to school. These were then analysed and categorised into active travel routes. The red crosses represent where parents either park or drop off pupils.



4.1 Access Arrangements

Pedestrian access to the school is via 2 entrances sited on Overton Road and Macindoe Crescent. There is also a vehicular access on Macindoe Crescent that is governed by the School Exclusion Zone and a bus entrance on Overton Road.

5.0 ACTION PLAN

Action	Solution	Action Owner
Promote School Travel Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upload plan to website and social media pages • Create a FACT notice board or story board • Create articles for school newsletters, social media, and assemblies, • Keep the school travel plan team updated on all work carried out to include in the Fresh Air Frankie termly newsletter. 	School
Travel Tracker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the travel tracker every day during FACT campaigns 	School
Local and National Campaigns	<p>Term 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands up Survey Active Travel • Cycling Competition • Bike Week • Interschool Active Travel Challenge <p>Term 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch #dontparkhere Campaign • Parking Letter to Parents • Road Safety Week • Be Bright Be Seen Competition <p>Term 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an active travel leaflet for the new starts that can be included in the school induction pack. <p>Term 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk to School Week • Scoot to School Week • Active Travel Treasure Hunt • Bike to School Week 	<p>School</p> <p>School/Travel Plan Team</p>
Reduce congestion	<p>Consider developing the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking Pledge • Park N Stride Site • Walking Bus 	School/Travel Plan Team
Bikeability	Deliver Bikeability	School/Bikeability Team
Awards	Work towards gaining the Fresh Air Frankie School Travel Plan and Active Schools Award	School/Travel Plan Team

6.0 MONITORING & EVALUATION

The FACT will continue to meet periodically to monitor progress.

Specific progress will be monitored by participation in the “Hands Up Travel Tally” each year and a repeat of the full travel survey will take place in 2028. The school’s ongoing commitment to travel planning will be publicised in the school handbook, the school newsletters, the Parent’s notice board and through assemblies.

7.0 DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN

The following bodies will receive a copy of the School Travel Plan:

- Fife Council Roads and Transportation via the Travel Plan Team
- Fife Council Education Service
- Fife Council School Estates Team
- Parent Partnership
- Active Schools
- Copies will also be made available to the parents from the School Office and via the school information site.

Route Safety Audit

12th March, 2025

Appendix 2

INTRODUCTION

This report results from a Safety Audit, undertaken on 12th March, 2025, of key routes taken by children attending St Maries RCPS as part of the school travel plan. The weather was cold, sunny and showery.

The audit team consists of:

- Marta Ramage and Trudy Brown – Travel Plan Coordinator (Sustainable Transport & Parking)
- FACT Group
 - Sophie P
 - Duncan D
 - Zuzanna
 - Bianca
 - Lewis
 - Rayan
 - Jacob

The school currently has two pedestrian entrances - Overton Road and Macindoe Crescent.

Overton Road has a 30mph speed limit reduced to 20mph at peak times. There are some good remote footpath links around the school, and this leads to the schools dedicated Park and Stride site at the Overton Community Hall on Overton Mains.

Macindoe Crescent entrance is within the school exclusion zone which has restricted access during drop off (8:30 to 9:30) and pick up times (2:30 to 3:30).

The routes audited on the day were, Overton Mains, Overton Road, Beatty Crescent. Macindoe Crescent and Hayfield Road.

Overton Road Entrance

The area is governed by a 30 mph speed limit that is reduced to 20mph during school times. However, the FACT group felt that cars did not adhere to the speed limit and due to the volume of parked cars at this gate they felt the area was very congested.

There is a pedestrian barrier that prevents pupils from walking directly onto the road and there is also a signalised pedestrian crossing.

The audit team spoke about how they could reduce the volume of parked cars in the area and decided to go look at the dedicated Park and Stride Site with the aim to promote this area as the safest place to park and walk the rest of the way to school.

Overton Mains/Community Centre – Dedicated Park and Stride Site

The dedicated park and stride site which utilises the car park at the local community centre has ample parking and there is also street signage directing parents to the site.

Although some parents still use this site the FACT group felt that by promoting the site again through their action plan that this may help with the congestion around the school gate on Overton Road.

During the audit the FACT group counted how many steps it took to reach the school gate as well as how long it took to walk. They also made a short video to use in further promotions.

They counted 179 steps, and it was only a 2 minute walk.



Beatty Crescent

Pupils agreed that the footway here is wide and separated from traffic by the trees. They also discussed the issue of cars parking on the pavement in this area and about plastic waste found along the route. It was noted that the zebra crossing at the bottom of Beatty Crescent was in need of a refresh and the Travel plan team will add this to their works programme.

There were remains of street markings from a previous travel plan and the FACT group asked if these could be replaced. Again, the Travel Plan Team will investigate the possibility of funding and replacement of the street markings.

Hayfield Road leading to Smeaton Estate

There are good connecting paths through the estate that lead onto Hayfield Road. The FACT group commented on the noise level while walking along Hayfield Road due to the volume of traffic and the speed of the traffic. It was discussed that being aware of your surroundings is vital with regards to road safety and that during their road safety education they should look at undertaking peer training with the lower school.

Macindoe Crescent

As the main entrance for pupils travelling actively to school and the past issues raised by parental parking it was decided to include this street as part of Fife Council's School Exclusion Zone. During this period it was found that the project had reduced the number of cars in the area so therefore the pilot was extended.

There are currently still issue with those parents that ignore the traffic restrictions, but pupils felt that it had improved the area slightly.

The area will continue to be monitored by Fife Council with the FACT group reminding parents about their responsibilities through school newsletters and active travel campaigns set out in the travel plan.

SUMMARY

There are good opportunities for parking and walking a short distance from the school. The roads around the school generally seemed to be quite safe. The area immediately outside the vehicle entrance on Macindoe Crescent is the main area where improvements have been made but continued promotion is required.

Interventions should include Education and Enforcement to improve safety around the school and to support a successful School Travel Plan.

Fife Council reintroduced a School Exclusion Zone to prevent non-residential traffic from using the road network between 8.30-9.30 and 2.30-3.30. What are your thoughts on the School Exclusion Zone?

- "It has just moved the problem, not solved it. So many parents park on the zigzags at the Overton Road crossing making it even more dangerous than before.
- Abuse from. Residents mean we don't feel we can use our blue badge to drop off in McIndoe"
- Slightly better but still dangerous for kids.
- No because people still drive up and down the street!
- We park at Overton for safety, but I see many cars going into McIndoe at the exclusion times
- Remove it
- I don't often travel during these times but due to my blue badge I am allowed to use the road and I see a lot of non-residents and non-blue badge holders using the road to drop their children off at school just as they did before so not much has changed the only time it is better is when it is monitored as that's when people abide by the rules.
- Many parents ignore that unfortunately
- Wish fife council was stricter about it, same people still driving up to the gate, speeding, not paying attention to the kids
- Slightly but some of are still bringing their cars
- Good idea but it needs policed by personnel if it's to truly work.
- Not enough people pay attention to this
- I think this is a good idea as the exclusion zone is designed to make young people feel safer, but they still need to be vigilant for those who don't observe the exclusion zone.
- It was working for a little bit but now it has gone back to same way as before. Cars parked on the pavement all the way up to the school. Very dangerous.
- It makes very little difference, as mentioned in the previous answer.
- Happy with it, because the community centre parking is available.
- Is a good measure to keep the children and residents safe
- Perfect idea
- Slight difference at the beginning of the trial, but this quickly changes when parents realise that this exclusion zone isn't monitored or policed by anyone.
- I do not see any differences. The best idea is to have a space where you can drop off a child safely, then move forward to give other parents room to do the same.
- The children will be safe enough to walk through the roads
- "Yes, has made a difference, however still a number of parents coming in vehicles.
- Safer for children walking and with prams etc. "
- I firmly believe in having a school exclusion zone but feel it is difficult for Fife Council to enforce.
- Great idea but not sure if that reduced as much Overall would like to see car park at school for parents
- "It has made little to no difference; the issue has been pushed down the street and onto the surrounding streets. Most parents are ignoring the exclusion. Making the street even more

dangerous for children because cars are turning at the bottom of the road and bumping up onto pavements where children are walking. Before at least cars were turning at the top and children could be seen by staff. Overton road has become an issue, because cars are parked up all along the road to the school gate- hanging over the corner of junctions and pulling out into traffic without considering others. There needs to be double yellow lines along the side of the road up to the gates at the traffic lights - this is where children are being forced to cross if using the Overton community centre car park. As cars are trying to turn into Overton community centre carpark - children are often being flung out car doors - by lazy parents. Walking straight into traffic. Or cars are pulling out and accelerating towards the lights or making U turns - small children cannot anticipate cars driving like this. This area needs to be double yellow lines.

- The residents also are driving far too fast - bumping up onto kerbs and pulling out of driveways with little consideration for kids. It would be helpful if there was a restriction on all traffic between these times. Otherwise, what is the point.
- Consideration also needs to be made for the dangers of other children - flying down from top gate on bikes and scooters - using the path other small children are walking. A child can have a serious injury very easily from a bike especially if they are hit from behind. The path is very busy with children coming from the bus park.
- It is impossible to mitigate all risk when travelling to school. However ticketing parents who do not comply with the exclusion zone would be a start. There is really no need for any child unless they themselves are disabled to be dropped at the school gates. Parking exclusions on the road up to the school, on one side would give a clear area for children to walk. With no residents being allowed to park on a set side - the street would be clear for children walking and cycling. "
- I think people will continue to drive up McIndoe crescent because there aren't repercussions for them. As previously stated, they will drive up to blue gate. Sit and idle. And there have been near misses. Shameful. I think there should be a traffic camera at end of street and/or top of blue gate where it will take photos of car registration plate and fine the drivers that drive on that street during school drop off/pick up times.
- I don't think it has made a difference there's still people parking where they shouldn't my daughter if I'm off work will cycle to school, and she has to push her bike down the hill or up due to cars parked on pavement.
- Slightly. However still some parents parking in this zone, there is plenty of information through school app and emails, so they know they shouldn't
- Still some people driving in to this street so crazy 😞
- I think it should be there to protect the children walking. Also to allow the neighbours to get in and out of their street. But I don't think anyone sticks to the rules.
- They are good but no one follows them. People do not care about them as no one enforce that rule.
- I believe it will make a difference knowing that their roads are free at those times of the day. It will Helps them to plan their movement during the day though they may consider it to be very short period.

- I think it's a great idea and I feel that it provides a safe environment for the children walking to school
- I understand the reasons behind this, but it seems to be the same card each day that still park in the exclusion zone, I park out with and walk to the MacIndoe entrance. I have always had the opinion that the walk from the school to Overton/buss park is extremely long when the weather conditions are terrible and again don't understand an additional car park cannot be created closer to the school.
- "I think there is some difference, but some parents still park there.
- I recently had to come to school early to collect my children. There were still cars parked up in Macindoe from around 2.35! At Overton Community Centre Car Park very few cars drop off in the car park. Many cars (same ones all the time) park both sides of the approach road or drop off right outside the top gate making it difficult for other road users and dangerous as parents also do U-turns in the road. All while children crossing with no patrol. Very rarely see any staff presence in the morning in the last 5-10 mins before bell which is when it is most hectic. Some children now come zooming down through Overton Mains on their bikes which is good but also dangerous with the mad parking, turning etc going on up at Overton. I know that over the years the school has done a lot of work to improve the safety of children in the morning/afternoon and the situation for residents. I think the only option left is for staff or police? to talk individually to drivers behaving irresponsibly, at Overton as well as in the Exclusion Zone.
- In my opinion it's not a good idea, because now other streets are crowded, and the parking lot you mentioned, to walk 5 minutes, is also not enough for everyone who comes by car. Maybe a good idea would be to enlarge the parking lot in the school area. It could also be considered that some parents, right after dropping their children off at school, rush straight to work and every minute is important to them.
- I don't go near that area but I think it's a good idea to keep traffic away from the school so pupils can walk safely, and neighbours can come and go as they please.
- This is fine but there really should be a lollipop person. There seems to be lollipop person at other schools that have quieter roads.
- This makes a difference in an emergency. The access should be possible for parents who pick up their sick children or after injury.
- That would be good
- Cars ignore signs at bottom of road
- Not at all. Still vehicles comes in to drop off and pick kids up