



# Write to your council to tell them you want Safe Streets for Kids

#### Who to write to?

#### 1. Your local councillors

Contact details here https://www.writetothem.com/

## 2. Your council cabinet lead for school streets and sustainable transport

#### 3. Your council leader

Contact details for 2 & 3 are available on your council's website

### What to write

Below is a template you can use to write to your political candidates. It's very powerful for candidates to hear about the specific issues within their own ward and borough that the Streets for Kids manifesto will solve.

**Step 1:** Find the email address of your councillor/candidate.

**Step 2:** Use the template below, copy & paste it into an email and add any personal perspectives.

**Step 3:** Send to your chosen recipient and cc us (hello@solvetheschoolrun.org).

Hurrah! you've just taken bold action for change

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Dear X

I am writing to you to call for your support for the **Streets for Kids** and **Solve** the **School Run's London election manifesto**.

Every day across London, children face unacceptable levels of road danger. Each year the equivalent of an entire primary school —**443 children**— are injured on their way to and from school.

Busy, congested roads and the growing dominance of SUVs (carspreading) are making the situation even worse. SUVs, in particular, pose a significantly higher risk to children, who are far more likely to be killed or seriously injured if struck by one. At the same time, the air our children breathe on the school run is the most polluted they encounter all day —**up to five times worse** than other times.

I see these dangers being faced by children in [insert local area/school/roads. If you have a personal experience of road danger or negative health implications of the school run, share it here].

I'm asking you to sign up to the Streets for Kids manifesto to solve these issues.

The manifesto asks for:

## 1. An effective school street for every school

A school street is where the road by a school is closed to traffic during the hours of school drop off and pick up. We'd like to see effective school streets which have the right sized area and the right type of enforcement in place to deliver the benefits to children.

### 2. Access to a cargo bike for every family

Cargo bikes are often the quickest and most convenient way to transport children for local trips, and can replace lots of car journeys, but families currently face significant barriers to using them. We want to see council funds directed to making cargo bikes more affordable, delivering the storage infrastructure needed to store them safely and expanding community hire bike schemes and helping remove fears around safety.

### 3. Reallocate kerb space in child-friendly ways.

Cars are parked on the kerbside, stationary 90% of the time, dominating pavements, blocking sightlines and stopping children from crossing safely. The growth in SUVs in London boroughs has hugely exacerbated this issue. We want to see a council kerbside strategy that reallocates this space in child-friendly ways, including creating safer sightlines, parklets and active travel bays and fairer parking tariffs to discourage carspreading.

You can read the manifesto in detail on the **Streets for Kids campaign page.** 

This is a moment for bold leadership. By committing to this manifesto, you can help set a new standard for safe, child-centred streets and solutions to this public health emergency—not just for our borough, but for London as a whole. Our children deserve nothing less.

Yours sincerely

[insert name]

[insert road/postcode]