



Beal High School

Beal High School
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20th November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Road Traffic Accident

In October 2018 we contacted Transport for London outlining our concerns about traffic issues and road safety on the A1400 Woodford Road outside Beal High School.

In response to the points raised in our query, TFL have offered the following support:

Signalised crossing timings

We have discussed the staggered crossing in Woodford Avenue just south of Lord Avenue with our Network Management team. The crossing operates under our centralised computer controlled traffic management system. Once the crossing demand push button is pressed the green man indicator will be illuminated within one minute. The time the green man is illuminated allows waiting pedestrians to establish themselves on the crossing. When the green man extinguishes the pedestrians complete their crossing and the Pedestrian Countdown timer will indicate the amount of time left. Under the staggered arrangement the total carriageway crossing time would be no more than two minutes. All timings are in accordance with Department of Transport Guidelines.

Our Network Manager will be visiting site to observe operation and review timings in order to see what improvements can be made for pedestrians. It is proposed that new timings are planned for school arrival and departure times. We will consider reducing the cycle time and wait time, increasing the green man invitation to cross time so that potentially more pedestrians can cross during each cycle. We will also be looking at the coordination of the two crossings aiding east to west progression in the morning and west to east in the afternoon thus reducing the overall crossing time. Further reviews are due to take place in the coming weeks and we will update you on progress and outcomes.

School signs and Driver speed awareness signs

Suitable signage and location will be discussed at the meeting and we can visit the site and forward proposals in due course for comment.

In the longer term, as part of Vision Zero, the approaches to Gants Hill roundabout will be reviewed as part of the Mayoral commitment to reduce London's road speeds. This work has not yet to be started but we will look to include the Woodford Road approach up to the school area within this review. Enforcement is one way in which to reduce vehicle speeds, however this review will look at how the street environment can affect driver behaviours.

We also contacted our local MP, Wes Streeting, who has been advised that TfL are looking into the circumstances of this particular accident as quickly as possible and that the Lead Sponsor in the Surface Strategy and Network Development team would be very happy to meet to discuss the concerns about road safety further. We have made that contact and are awaiting a response.



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TfL works in partnership with the Metropolitan Police, providing funding to the Metropolitan Police Roads and Transport Policing Command to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on London's roads through targeted enforcement, engagement and education activity. TfL has fed back the concerns about speeding at this location to the local Metropolitan Police Safer Transport team to help them to target their enforcement activity and to deploy their officers most effectively.

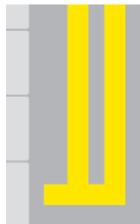
More generally, TfL says that it encourages anyone with concerns about dangerous or illegal road user behaviour in London to report it to the Metropolitan Police using their online reporting tool Road Safe London <https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/rti/report-a-road-traffic-incident/>. The information will go to the police intelligence systems, which are used to help direct enforcement activity.

Finally, we have contacted 'highways.roadsafety@redbridge.gov.uk' to alert them to dangerous driving around Beal High School. We have requested support with drivers who stop on the hazards outside school, wait on double yellow lines, stop on a dual carriageway or make a U turn on the entrance. All of these are traffic offences and will be subject to Penalty Notices. We hope that this will discourage the bad driving, in the vicinity of our school, which puts lives at risk and sets a very poor example to our children.

Unfortunately, the majority of drivers committing these offences are parents and carers. Therefore, to remind you of the correct rules and to help you avoid an accident or a fine please see an extract from the Highway Code.



Keep entrance clear of stationary vehicles, even if picking up or setting down children



No waiting
at any time

'Clearways are not restricted to **dual-carriageways**. However, most **dual carriageways** are clearways. On roads with the clearway sign **you** must not **stop** on the main **carriageway** except at a layby. Clearways are designed to allow the free flow of traffic.' **You** must not **reverse** or turn on a **dual carriageway** or cross the central reservation, or drive against the traffic.'

For further advice on your rights and responsibilities as a driver, please see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code/waiting-and-parking-238-to-252>

Thank you in advance for your support as we continue to work together to keep our children safe.

Yours sincerely

T S Wilmot
Principal