

Spaces for People: Craiglockhart Primary School

Response from Spokes, the Lothian Cycle Campaign, 31.8.20

Ashley Grove – remove guardrail and extend footway by 2m Ashley Grove – revoke parking

We welcome both these proposals. The parked vehicles on the school side (east side) of Ashley Grove make the crossing of the street hazardous, and the guard rails make it doubly so because any gap between cars is likely to be blocked by the rail. It's not clear from the map whether *all* the guard rail will be removed. We certainly hope that is the case.

Ashley Drive - TTRO promoting parking restrictions to maintain clear access to towpath

We believe the plans may be out of date. The access point to the towpath from Ashley Drive is now protected by a double-yellow line, which is adequate so long as it is enforced. The access should be monitored at key times to ensure vehicles do not abuse it.

Ashley Terrace - Remove guardrail and extend footway by 1.5m

We welcome this proposal. Ashley Terrace is quite wide at this point, which encourages traffic to speed. The narrowing of the carriageway would make the street easier to cross, and hopefully reduce traffic speeds at the same time.

Other Points

1) We suggest a closure of Ashley Grove at its junction with Ashley Drive. This would stop 'cross-flowing' traffic (eg traffic which uses the Grove to travel between Ashley Terrace and Cowan Rd, or to travel between the Drive and the Terrace). The south part of the Grove would then become a cul-de-sac; the north part would only carry Ashley Gardens traffic; all Cowan Rd traffic to/from The Terrace would stay on Cowan Rd; and likewise Ashley Drive traffic to/from the Terrace would be confined to the Drive.

The residential streets in this area are plagued with parked vehicles owned not by residents, but by commuters and visitors to the city, who treat these streets as a handy park+ride. The suggested closure might alleviate this to some extent.

2) The school could do with more cycle racks. Parents arriving by bike, shepherding or towing small cyclists, or even with younger children in a cargo-bike, need somewhere to lock their bikes while they drop the children off. This could be achieved by extending the number of racks at the Ashley Terrace/Cowan Road corner, or on Ogilvie Terrace just off the towpath.

3) The north corner of Cowan Rd/Ashley Terrace is often obstructed at key times by parked delivery lorries, making the crossing hazardous. Both corners are protected with double yellow lines, so this must a case of non-enforcement. Enforcement is the responsibility of the police. The Council could advise teachers and parents to take photos of offending vehicles and send them to the police.

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