

From: **Spokes Portobello** <[spokesparty@gmail.com](mailto:spokesparty@gmail.com)>

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Subject: Spaces for People - Craigentenny Primary School

To: <[spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk)>

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Dear Spaces for People team (cc to ward councillors and Spokes)

Spokes Party welcomes the opportunity to comment on the council's proposals for creating safe spaces as pupils arrive and leave Craigentenny Primary School. We see these as an initial set of broader measures that will make the journey from home to school feel much safer for pupils and parents.

The Spaces for People proposal is to extend the northern pavement between the two school gates on Loganlea Drive, the entrance on the south-east of the school. **We support this** as more children are now walking to school, many of course accompanied by their parent(s), but consider that further interventions are required:

(1) The existing entrance on Loaning Road is no longer in use due to building works, with an alternative entrance provided via a pedestrian gate into the green (football) area to the north-east of the school. **We recommend** that CEC considers widening the pavement at this gate in addition to the proposed alterations at Loganlea Drive.

(2) Bus route no 25 goes along Loganlea Drive (in one direction). When the pavement is extended onto the carriageway, **we recommend** that CEC considers suspending parking on one side of the road. We suggest suspending parking on the school side of Loganlea Drive to avoid disruption to local residents, who predominantly use the southern side of the street. The proposed extension of the pavement would have the added benefit of reducing the opportunity for parents who drop off or collect their children by car to park near the school gates. Extending the pavement could therefore increase pupil safety and reduce pollution, in addition to allowing people to keep at a Covid secure distance from others.

(3) There has been a notable surge in walking, scooting and cycling to school. Enabling more pupils to walk / cycle may require changes to the Travel Route to School (we think all schools have Travel Plans) to make them safer. A key travel route crosses the junction of Craigentenny Avenue and Craigentenny Road. When travelling east along the Craigentenny Road pavement, visibility up Craigentenny Avenue is poor, making this an intimidating junction. There have been several speeding related incidents around this junction in recent years. **We strongly recommend** that temporary signalled crossings are installed at appropriate crossing points, with a view to making these permanent in future.

(4) In future plans for the area, we would welcome protected cycle lanes that will allow children, and others, to travel more safely to school.

With kind regards,

Spokes Party

Spokes Party is a local group of [Spokes](#), [The Lothian Cycle Campaign](#).

We are working to make walking, wheeling and cycling safe, easy and fun for everyone in and around Edinburgh East.

Contact us at [SpokesParty@gmail.com](mailto:SpokesParty@gmail.com), @SpokesParty, or on facebook.