

to: spacesforpeople <spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk>
date: 21 Oct 2020, 11:43
subject: **St John's Vianney and St Catherine's primary schools**

Dear Spaces for People team,

Spokes' responses to these two SfP school schemes are below. Thanks for your work on them! Please do let me know if you have any questions about our responses.

St John's Vianney:

We support this proposal and simply note that we hope that it can be implemented as soon as possible, along with the already-approved proposals for Gilmerton Road.

St Catherine's:

The proposal to close Gracemount Drive in order to provide more space outside St Catherine's primary is a good one in our opinion. Although it means some car journeys will be made longer, the maximum additional distance on any journey is around 500m, which is modest.

Some car journeys may be displaced to Lasswade Road, but the number of such journeys is likely to be small, since going via Captain's Drive is likely to be quicker for most people. Additionally, closing Gracemount Drive to motorised through traffic is likely to make walking and cycling to the schools, shops and other amenities in Gracemount easier and more appealing for many people. We also note recent vehicle counts at Comiston Road show that the closure of Braid Road has led to a substantial overall reduction in traffic levels, and our understanding is that journey times on Comiston Road have not increased as a result either. There are therefore good reasons to expect that the current proposals would reduce the number of car journeys in the area, and would not increase congestion on Lasswade Road.

The temporary nature of barriers of course means that the layout can be easily modified if necessary, as well.

We ask that the two sets of chicane barriers on the path between Gracemount Drive and Gracemount House Drive, and the barriers on White Church Lane, are removed at the same time as the guardrail. Consideration should also be given by the active travel team to more clearly signposting this path as an alternative to Captain's Road/Lasswade Road for cyclists.

Thanks,
David French
Spokes Planning Group