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Cllr Razia Daniels

Here is some information about 20mph speed limit outside school.

A BLANKET 20 MPH speed limits outside schools

At the last Budget Council meeting I seconded an amendment to the Cheshire West and Chester Council budget for 2025/26 which was proposed by Cllr Simon Eardley. It was intended to fully fund changes to each school road that is not already covered by a 20mph limit. The initial Conservative Group proposal was fully funded through the proposed Highways budget to cover 24 areas and employ a new 'Safer Routes to Schools' officer to support the existing team.

I was pleased to second the amendment that will ensure every remaining school in our borough benefits from a 20mph speed limit—a vital step forward in improving road safety for children, families, and all road users. Safer streets should always be a priority, However I was disappointed to see all Labour Councillors voted against our amendment which means we did not get a new Safer Routes to School Officer but pleased that we have finally secured 20 mph speed limit outside schools.

Over the years, I have repeatedly pushed for safety improvements in my ward, including for an additional safe crossing on Wrexham Road, Chester. I welcome the recent temporary reduction in speed that was announced near the King's School but this is temporary for 18 months whilst consultation takes place. That's why I was determined to ensure we further lower speed limits, particularly near schools, nurseries and other education institutions, to make our roads as safe as possible for all students and pedestrians crossing busy roads.

Here is my speech:

20mph speech for the Budget Council meeting:

Thank you Chairman for giving an opportunity to speak.

I am pleased to second this amendment because it is a simple, sensible, and necessary step to make our roads safer for children, families, and all road users.

We already recognise the importance of 20mph speed limits in residential areas, especially around schools. We know that lower speeds reduce the risk of serious injury or death, encourage more families to choose walking or cycling, and help improve air quality.

Yet, despite this policy being in place since 2016, 24 schools in our borough still have roads outside them with speed limits above 20mph.

That is 24 too many.

I welcome the recent temporary reduction in my own ward to 30mph, on Wrexham Road near the King's school, but let's be clear—this does not go far enough. - it is temporary for 18 months.

We need to be bold enough to make the right decisions and put children's safety before convenience. There is no journey so urgent that it justifies putting lives at risk.

...But speed limits alone are not enough....

That's why I also strongly support the creation of a Safer Routes to Schools Officer.

We need a dedicated person working with schools to identify barriers to active travel and to help make walking and cycling safer and more attractive options.

Many parents would love for their children to walk to school, but they worry about busy roads, dangerous junctions, or lack of safe crossings.

This role will help identify and fix those problems, making our communities safer, healthier, and more sustainable.

This amendment is not just about road safety—it is about creating a better environment for future generations.

By lowering speed limits and improving active travel options, we are giving our children safer streets, cleaner air, and healthier habits.

That is a legacy worth supporting.

As councillors, we have a responsibility to prioritise people over speed, safety over convenience.

I urge all members to back this motion today.

Let's put our children's safety first.

Thank you.

Cllr Razia Daniels

Here is my Quote for Press Release:

"I fully support the amendment to ensure that all roads outside schools have a 20mph speed limit. This is a common-sense measure that will save lives, reduce pollution, and encourage more families to walk and cycle. I welcome the recent reduction to 30mph in my ward, but this does not go far enough—we need to be even more ambitious in protecting our children. I also welcome the creation of a Safer Routes to Schools Officer, who will work with schools to make our streets safer for children. We have a duty to prioritise safety over speed, and this motion is a step in the right direction for a safer, healthier community."

Over the years, I have repeatedly pushed for a safe crossing on Wrexham Road, and I welcome the recent temporary reduction in speed on Wrexham Road. That's why I am determined to ensure we further lower speed limits particularly near schools and nursery to make our roads as safe as possible for all school pupils and pedestrians crossing the road.

After the Budget Council meeting a Review of Speed Limits Outside Schools with existing speed limits of 30 mph was on the Agenda of Places Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting which took place on 24th March 2025.