



To all parents and guardians

Dear Parent / Guardian,

You may have seen the recent announcement by the City Council of the installation signs asking drivers to drive at a maximum of 20mph around schools. While I welcome this as a step in the right direction, the signs are only to be advisory and it will not be possible for the police to enforce the 20mph limit.

I am very concerned that advisory signs will be seen as a substitute for properly legally enforceable 20mph limits and enforceable waiting restrictions. I have been in contact with the Transport Minister and it is clear to me that the process of establishing limits is not always as costly or as complicated as is sometimes claimed.

There is strong evidence that enforceable 20mph zones will save lives. At 20mph there is a 5% of death if struck by a vehicle, whereas at 30mph there is a 45% chance. Areas with 20mph zones have seen accidents involving children cut by 67%.

I am seeking urgent action to ensure that enforceable safety measures are implemented around all schools in Southampton. Please let me know your views on this, and to whether or not you support these measures, by completing the form overleaf and sending it back to me.

I am grateful to your child's school for their permission to distribute this letter.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Whitehead'.

Dr Alan Whitehead MP  
Southampton Test