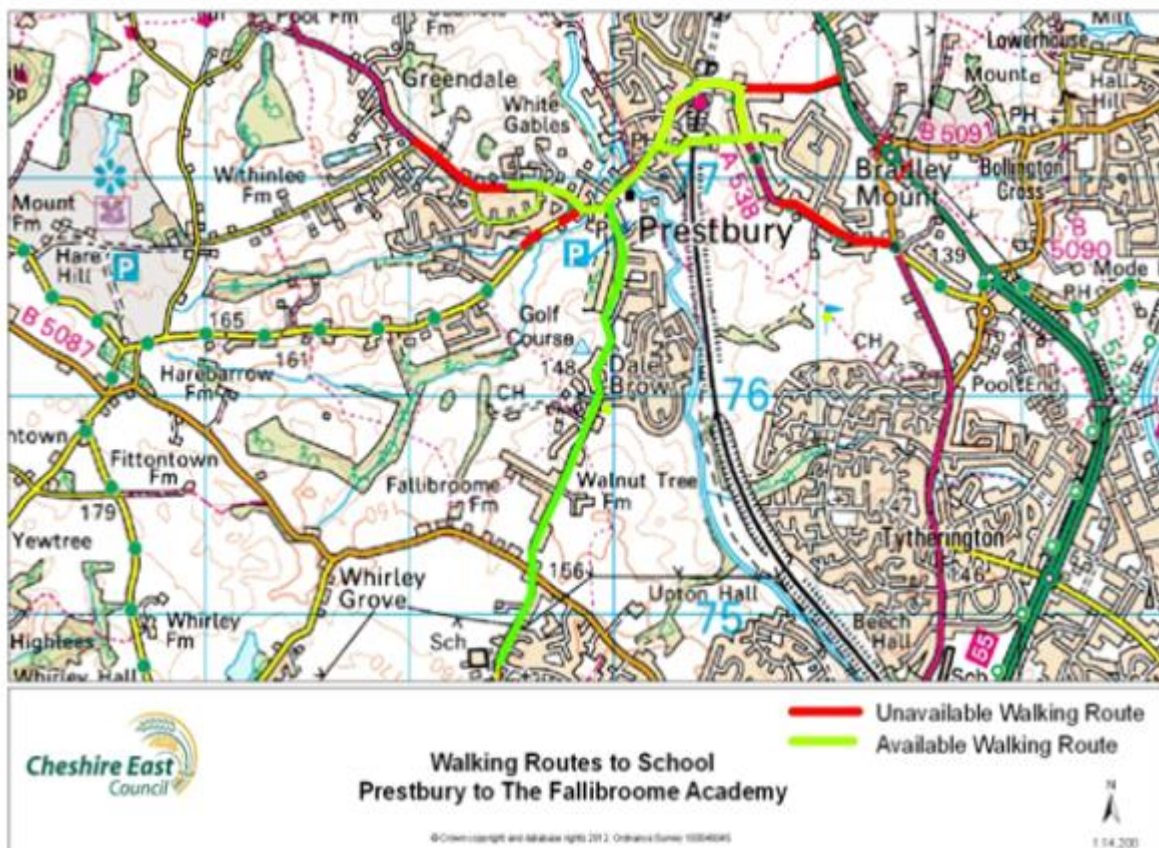


Walking Route to School Assessment Prestbury to Fallibroome Academy

Overall Route Assessment Outcome: Available		
Dates and Times of Full Route Assessment:		
Location:	Dates	Weather
Full Route	9 th May 2023	Sunny
Full Route	12 th June 2023	Sunny
Full Route	12 th July 2023	Cloudy



Strategic Transport
Delamere House, Delamere Street,
Crewe, CW1 2LL

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Document Control Sheet

- **Walking Route to School Assessment – Prestbury to Fallibroome Academy**
- **Route assessment – Available**

Site Safety Assessor:

This assessment is undertaken in accordance with Cheshire East Council's Available Routes to School Policy, which reflects guidance notes issued by Road Safety GB in 2021 'Assessment of Walked Routes to School' and the Department for Education in June 2023 'Travel to school for children of compulsory school age'.

Any opinions expressed by the reviewing officer / safety assessor are based on the above guidelines and the experienced professional judgement of the safety assessor.

	Officer Initials and Job Title	Date Approved
Originated by	JM – Transport Officer	17 th July 2023
Checked by	AT – Senior Road Safety Engineer	19 th July 2023
Reviewed by	GM – Contract Manager, Cheshire East Highways	20 th July 2023
Approved by	PD – Contract Operations Manager, CEC Highway Service Commissioning Client Team	28 th July 2023

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1. Route Overview

This assessment relates to children of compulsory school age in years 7 to 11, (aged 11 to 16) walking to Fallibroome Academy. The assessor has not identified any factors in the assessment below which would affect the availability of the route for a young person in these age ranges. The assessment has assumed that pupils are accompanied by a responsible person in line with national guidance.

The assessor has considered how the availability of this route might be affected at different times of the year, such as flooding, and finds that there are no variations on the route.

The assessor has also considered that pupils of the ages noted above would be expected to travel to and from school between 0750 and 0850 in the morning and 1530 and 1630 in the afternoon (1515 – 1615 on Tuesday afternoon).

The assessor noted that this route had previously been assessed as unavailable because of the lack of controlled crossing point on Prestbury Road. However, due to the development of the Kings School adjacent to Macclesfield Road, two new puffin crossings were installed on Macclesfield Road and Prestbury Road which became operational 6th January 2020. The installation of the light-controlled crossing on Prestbury Road has given a safer crossing point for pedestrians travelling to Fallibroome Academy from Prestbury.

The assessor noted that there are a further 4 routes which have previously been assessed as unavailable and are not subject to this route review / assessment and therefore remain unavailable as a walking route to school. The routes are marked in red on a map and are in the following locations:

- Heybridge Lane (lack of pavement from 41 Heybridge Lane to A538)
- Prestbury Lane (lack of pavements)
- Chelford Road (lack of pavements on two sections)
- Castle Hill (lack of pavements from 12 Castle Hill to Withinlee Road)

Pupils are expected to use any alternative available route that is within statutory walking distance to walk to school.

The assessor noted that there was overgrown shrubbery on the route, this has been reported, however, this does not affect the availability of the route. In future, users should note that if there are any concerns that may prevent or impede pedestrians then, it should be reported to Cheshire East Council on 0300 123 5020 or <https://fixmystreet.cheshireeast.gov.uk/>

Important Notes:

- The distances shown in this report should not be used in measuring a child's distance from home to school.

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- Each side road is assessed for sight lines, traffic flow and visibility; where there is low traffic volume and good visibility a traffic count is not required.
- The assessor noted that the crossings of Heybridge Lane and Castle Hill were both assessed in 2013 and 2015 as available. Both sites were reviewed during this site assessment and further traffic counts were carried out on the mornings of 12/07/23 and 17/07/23 to refresh the data and confirm the availability of the route.

2. Route Sections

Section	Description	Distance
1	Shortest route – start Heybridge Lane and follow Bridge End Lane and The Village Road to Prestbury village centre on mini roundabout.	800 m 0.5 mile
	Alternative route – start Heybridge Lane and follow road around the railway station to New Road and The Village Road to Prestbury Village centre and mini roundabout.	1130 m 0.7 mile

Section	Description	Distance
2	Start at Castle Hill on Castle Gate and follow route via The Village Road to the mini roundabout on The Village Road.	320 m 0.2 mile

Section	Description	Distance
3	Start in the village centre at the mini roundabout crossing and follow route down Macclesfield Road across Prestbury Road into Priory Lane to Fallibroome Academy using the existing toucan crossing	2350 m 1.46 mile
Total		3470 m 2.37 miles

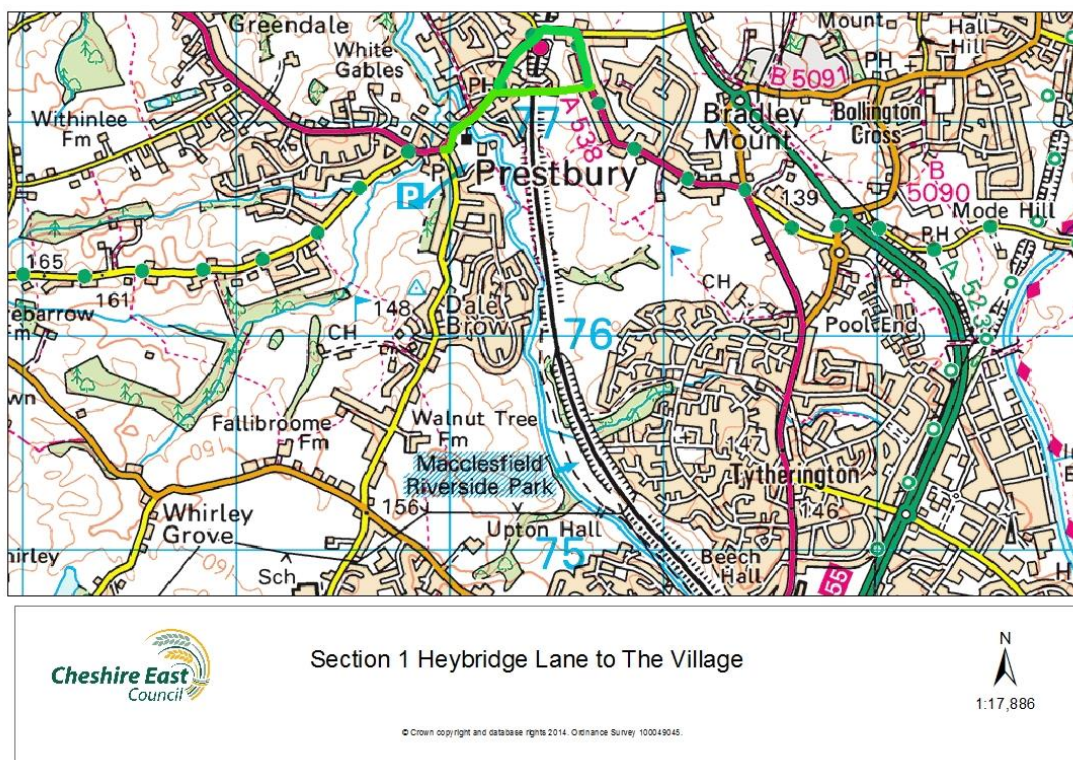
3. Recorded Collision Data

In the 3-year period between 1st May 2020 and 30th April 2023, there were 8 recorded collisions of all types involving personal injury on the route. None of these collisions involved a pedestrian. 1 collision was classified as serious and 7 as slight and no fatalities.

- Section 1 – there was 1 recorded collision with no pedestrians involved
- Section 2 – there were 6 recorded collisions with no pedestrians involved
- Section 3 – there was 1 recorded collision with no pedestrians involved.

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Section 1 - Assessment



Section Characteristics

- Pupils in Meadow Drive, Oakwood Drive, Yew Tree Way, Little Meadow Close and Yew Tree Close can use the alleyway which is classified as a Public Right of Way (FP Prestbury 34) between Yew Tree Close and Bridge End Lane. The route then follows The Village to Macclesfield Road.
- Pupils need to cross Heybridge Lane (A538), which is classified as a wide 2 lane single carriageway with a speed limit of 30 mph.
- The crossing of Heybridge Lane has twice previously been assessed as available in 2013 and 2015. This data was renewed and refreshed as part of this assessment and traffic data collected on Heybridge Lane.
- Bridge End Lane is classified as a Public Right of Way (FP Prestbury 4) but is also the access to a small number of houses and is a no-through road. The public right of way is steep and it may be necessary to take care in certain conditions, e.g. frost and ice. There is no pavement and no lighting on this section, but vehicles only use this road to access the houses and traffic volumes are very low.
- Alternatively, pupils may wish to walk on Heybridge Lane and follow the route adjacent to the railway station onto New Lane. There is some low-level lighting adjacent to the pavement on New Lane.
- The Village is the main road that runs through Prestbury and is classified as the A538. There is a traffic management scheme on this road and is subject to a 20mph zone
- There is no street lighting on Heybridge Lane.

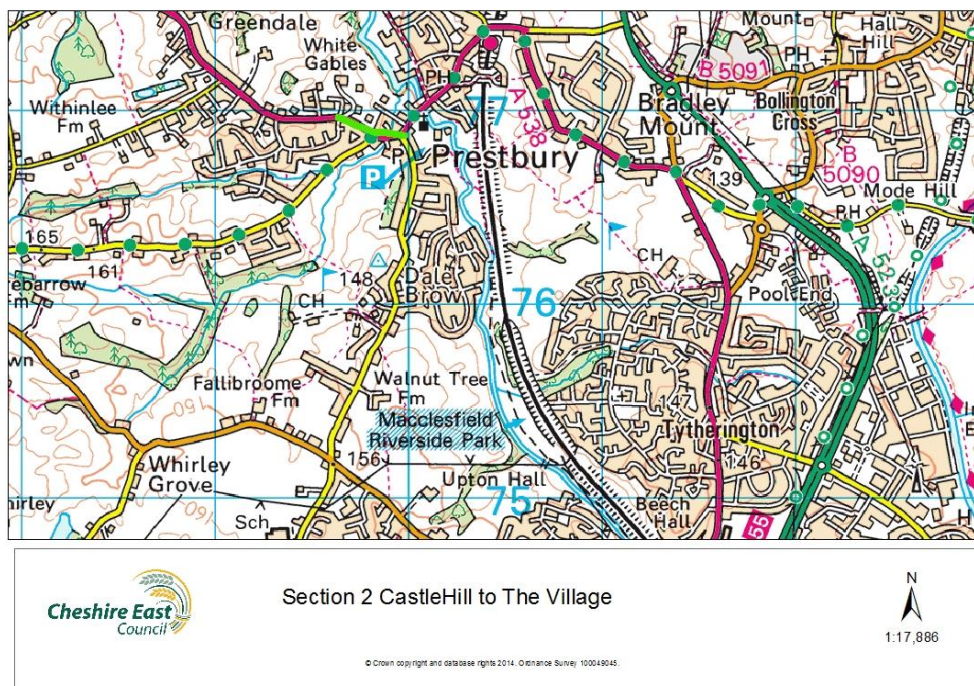
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Footway Assessment:	
Is there a pavement/ footway segregated from traffic?	Yes Pavements are in good condition and are of adequate width and segregated from traffic. The section of pavement over the railway line is 0.75m in width (minimum requirement is 0.5m).
Is there a need to walk on the carriageway?	On Bridge End Lane pupils need to walk on the carriageway, but this road has a very low traffic volume and vehicles only use this road to access the 6 houses along this road.

Crossing Assessment:	
Does the road require crossing?	Yes
	Heybridge Lane
Sighting time	There is more than 4 seconds sighting time at this location.
Traffic and gap count	<p>A traffic and gap count were carried out on 12/07/23 between 0745 and 0845.</p> <p>Based on the width of Heybridge Lane, 9 seconds is used to assess the gap in traffic needed to cross the road.</p> <p>During the hour there were 550 passenger car units and an average of 18 crossing opportunities every 5 minutes. Crossing opportunities were least between 0825 and 0830 with 16 within the 5 minute period.</p>

Comments on Section 1
<p>This section of the route is in a village setting, it follows 2 footpaths for a short section, the remainder of the route is through Prestbury Village which is in a 20 mph zone. The assessor noted that this is a route for pedestrians walking to the village centre and for primary school children travelling to school.</p> <p>Pedestrians may wish to use the alternative route which follows Heybridge Lane and New Lane. There is a narrow section over the railway line and pedestrians will need to walk in single file.</p>

Section 2 - Assessment



Section Characteristics

- Access from Castlegate is across the pedestrian refuge on Castle Hill, this route then follows The Village and crosses at the zebra crossing towards Macclesfield Road.
- The section of road is classified as the A538 and is in a village setting.
- The pedestrian refuge has a street light but there is no other street lighting on this section of road.
- Castle Hill is a wide single 2 lane carriageway with a 30 mph speed limit.
- There are walking bus warning signs in advance of the pedestrian crossing

Footway Assessment:

Is there a pavement/footway segregated from traffic?	Yes
Is there a need to walk on the carriageway?	No

Crossing Assessment:

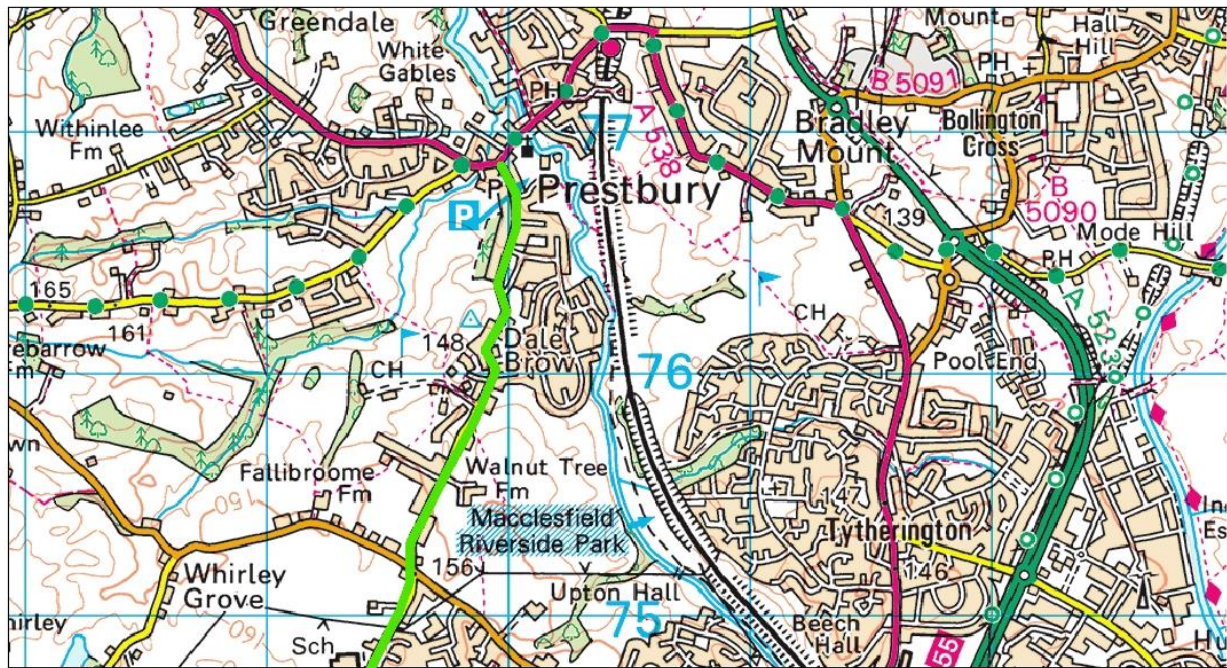
Does the road require crossing?	Yes
Sighting time	There is more than 4 seconds sighting time at this location.

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Traffic and gap count	<p>A traffic and gap count were carried out on 17/07/23 between 0745 and 0845.</p> <p>Based on the width of Castle Hill, 10 seconds is used to assess the gap in traffic needed to cross the road.</p> <p>During the hour there were 679 passenger car units and an average of 10 crossing opportunities every 5 minutes for the full road width. Crossing opportunities were least between 0825 and 0830 with 7 within the 5 minute period.</p> <p>Gap counts were also taken using the pedestrian refuge to divide the road. On the southern leg of the refuge, there were on average 32 crossing opportunities, and on the northern leg, there was an average of 19 crossing opportunities every 5 minutes. 4 seconds were allocated to assess the gap in traffic either side of the pedestrian refuge.</p>
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Comments on Section 2
<p>The assessor noted that this is a well used route for pedestrians walking to the village centre and for primary school children. The crossing of Castle Hill has been used by a walking bus to the primary school.</p> <p>The route assessment has assumed that pedestrians cross The Village using the zebra crossing and not cross directly at the mini roundabout on Macclesfield Road.</p>

Section 3 - Assessment



Section 3 The Village to Fallibroome Academy



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Section Characteristics

- Junction of Macclesfield Road with A538, The Village, Prestbury to Macclesfield Road / Prestbury Road crossing Prestbury Road to Priory Lane.
- Macclesfield Road is a single 2 lane carriageway. There are houses on either side of the road, but there are also sections of this route adjacent to woodland or open spaces (playing fields and golf club).
- Macclesfield Road is classed as a 'c' road with a speed limit of 30 mph. There is some street lighting at the start and finishing points of this section, but the main part of the route is not lit.
- There is a puffin crossing on Prestbury Road which was installed in January 2020 and provides a signal controlled crossing for pupils to Priory Lane.
- Prestbury Road is classified as the B5087 and is a single 2 lane carriageway with a speed limit of 30 mph.
- There is a traffic management scheme on Priory Lane with several refuges sited along the road. These refuges are generally designed as a speed management device.
- There is a toucan crossing outside Fallibroome Academy.
- Priory Lane is a single 2 lane carriageway with a speed limit of 30 mph.
- There is street lighting on Priory Lane.

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Footway Assessment:	
Is there a pavement/footway segregated from traffic?	Yes Good quality pavement with adequate width for the full length of the route and segregated from the traffic. On Priory Lane the pavement converts to a shared cycle way at Stafford Close up to the school entrance.
Is there a need to walk on the carriageway?	No

Crossing Assessment:	
Does the road require crossing?	Yes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shirleys Drive minor road • Ashbrook Drive minor road • Broadwalk minor road • Squirrels Chase minor road • Dale Head Rd minor road • Prestbury Road puffin crossing • Churchway minor road • Priory Lane toucan crossing
Sighting time	There are at least 4 seconds sighting time at each crossing point.
Traffic and gap count	Not required as crossing either on minor road due to low traffic and good visibility or with a light-controlled crossing.

Comments on section 3

The route follows Macclesfield Road which passes by houses but there are also sections of this route that are adjacent to wooded areas and a golf club. There is no street lighting on this section of the route. The pavements are generally wide and in good condition. There is a puffin crossing on Prestbury Road which was installed in January 2020. The assessor noted that there was overgrown shrubbery adjacent to the crossing on Prestbury Road and this has been reported.

Comments on whole route

The route between The Village and Fallibroome Academy had previously been assessed as unavailable due to the lack of light-controlled crossing facilities on Prestbury Road. However, since the installation of the puffin crossing in January 2020, the route is now an available route to school. The assessor noted that the routes are in a village setting and are well used routes by pedestrians.

Further information on available walking routes can be found at:

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school_transport/available-walking-routes/walking_routes_to_schools.aspx



The Puffin Crossing on Prestbury Road (installed January 2020)



The crossing on Castle Hill



Pavement on Heybridge Lane over
Railway bridge (width 0.75m)

The route can be viewed on the below link

<https://www.google.com/maps/@53.2782849,-2.1564497,14z?entry=ttu>

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