

WALK TO SCHOOL... AT LEAST FOR A WEEK!

Every morning, the same situation unfolds around the schools and preschools in the Ostrčilova area. Parents are rushing to work, children to school. For many families, travelling by car is the most comfortable option. But when a large number of vehicles gather in the same place at the same time, the area becomes unsafe and chaotic – especially for the ones who need it most: children.

The morning rush is also intensified by employees and visitors of nearby offices and institutions looking for a place to park. Traffic is so heavy that two other schools in the area have already shifted the start of classes to help spread arrivals throughout the hour. Even that is not enough, so we are trying another solution.

BUILDING CONFIDENCE

Getting to school each day is a great opportunity to help children become more independent. Along the way, they learn to navigate the city, stay aware of their surroundings and make decisions in everyday situations. Each experience helps build their confidence – whether they walk, cycle, ride a scooter or take public transport.

WHAT WE FOUND

44% of children walk to school/preschool, 27% arrive by car, 27% by public transport and 2% by bike or scooter.

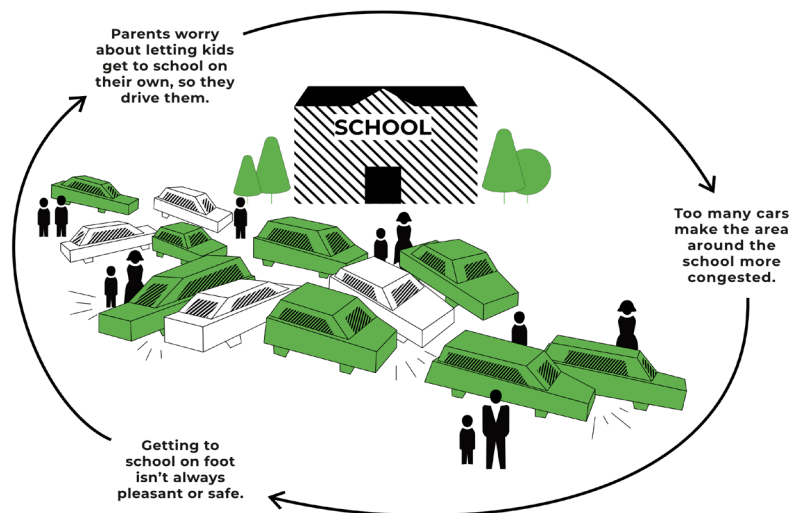
80% of parents who drive their children drop them off close to school entrance.

65% of families live within 2 km of the school in areas with good access to public transport.

60% of parents who drive their children to school, also drive to work.

Traffic is heaviest between 7:30 and 8 AM.

16% cars drive around looking for a parking place.



Walking to school is more than just a great way to build children's health and independence. It's also a step towards a more pedestrian-friendly city for everyone.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

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| We live too far away. | → | Public transport counts too. |
| I drive to work and drop off children on my way.. | → | Drop them off a little further away and let them walk the last part of the journey. |
| The route involves busy or dangerous roads. | → | Find a safer route and travel together first. |
| My child isn't ready to walk to school alone. | → | Go together and guide them towards more independence. |
| It's raining or cold outside. | → | The right clothes can turn rain and snow into an adventure. |
| Everyone drives, so why shouldn't I? | → | Set an example. Fewer cars mean cleaner air and a safer environment. |

WHY WALK TO SCHOOL?



SAFETY

Fewer cars means we feel safer. We can see better when crossing the road, and drivers can spot us more easily, too.



CONFIDENCE AND INDEPENDENCE

Walking with our parents helps us learn how to move around the city safely.



SOCIAL SKILLS

On the way to school, we can chat with friends and have little adventures.



HEALTH

Walking keeps us active, more alert and can make it easier to concentrate at school.



ECOLOGY

Fewer traffic jams around the school mean cleaner air.

Curious about the school street project?

Learn more on the website of MAPPA, Ostrava's urban planning studio.

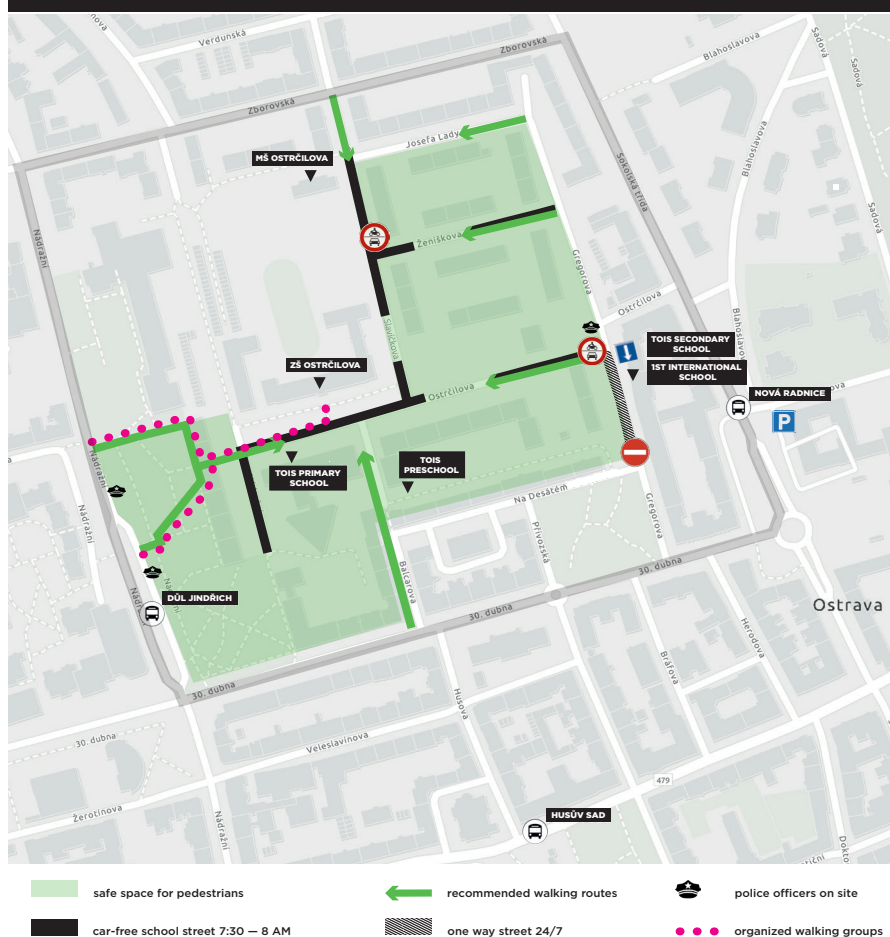


pěšky
městem

THE SCHOOL STREET PROJECT A WEEK OF 14–18 SEPTEMBER

As part of a national campaign promoting more pedestrian-friendly cities, the area around Ostrčilova Primary School will be closed to cars **from 14 to 18 September, between 7:30 and 8:00 each morning**. Exceptions apply to emergency service vehicles and vehicles displaying a disability parking permit. A section of Gregorova Street near the private school entrances will be one-way throughout the week.

HOW WILL THE SCHOOL STREET WORK?



WALKING GROUPS

Let children walk to school together. Walking groups will leave from the Důl Jindřich tram stop at regular intervals. Older students will accompany younger children through the park to school. Look out for the walking group leaders carrying signs with the name of the school.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

After the testing week, we will evaluate how the school street affected traffic around the school and how children, parents and local residents experienced the change. The findings will help us develop a long-term traffic solution for the wider area.



DRIVING HERE?

FOR RESIDENTS

You can leave the restricted areas anytime.

Vehicles carrying the disability permit are exempt from the access restriction.

Please stay alert. Younger children may be hidden from view by parked cars.

FOR PARENTS

Try a different way of getting to school.

Walk the route to school with your children or find the nearest public transport connections.

Teach your children how to move around the city safely.

Between 7:30 and 8 AM, please do not enter Ostrčilova Street from Sokolska Street.

A school street is a traffic measure designed to make the area around a school safer during the busiest times, typically just before the start of the school day. It temporarily restricts car access and gives priority to pedestrians and cyclists in immediate surrounding of a school.