

In 2017, the Road
Safety Trust awarded
Bannerman Road
PTA a grant to create
a pedestrian space
and a programme
of events for the
local community
and the children of
Bannerman Road
Academy. A further
grant was then
awarded to Sustrans
to undertake an
evaluation.



A junction leading to one of the three school entrances of Bannerman Road Community Academy was a hazard to children at the school, with speeding issues and unsafe parking. In 2017, Easton Safer Streets, a government initiative to improve road safety and encourage active travel, were given the go ahead to pedestrianise the area.

Bannerman Road PTA used this opportunity to make positive change and update the new pedestrian area to create a safe and healthy environment outside the school.

Artist Bahbak Hashemi Nezhad was commissioned to consult and design a safe, playful space that engaged the local community. Bahbak worked with the children at the school to creatively reimagine the area, what it could look like and how it might function.

Following the consultation, the artist identified three key areas for improvement: safety, identity and community. The Easton Safer Streets design included a raised table to slow traffic, and improved lighting and signage. The artist and Bannerman Road PTA took this one step further to improve road safety by introducing a museum of bollards – a playful collection of different bollards all painted the same colour that skirts the area, and a large, coloured surface to indicate a child-led space.

The area previously had no name, being known as a junction or "the railway bridge outside the school". Bannerman Road PTA wanted to give the area a name and therefore an identity, encouraging residents to feel a sense of ownership and to value the space. A poll was completed to decide the name, and local residents selected Frog Marsh: the historical name for that area of Easton, which was known as Frog Marsh until around 1950. Illustrations for the new Frog Marsh area were then created by Peter Judson.

To make the space a community area and encourage social use, new furniture was designed, creating a warm, welcoming space. The children of Bannerman Road also requested a small stage for events and activities.



The new space was launched to the public with a series of events. The events celebrate the safe space and the contribution of all the participants, demonstrating the opportunities that the new area provides for social and event activity.

Sustrans were commissioned to evaluate the success and impact of the road closure. They found that traffic around the school was recorded to have reduced by 68 per cent across school drop off and collection times and a 29 percentage point increase in people saying they would now walk to the school.



They concluded that road safety appears to have improved at the area around the junction closure with lower traffic volumes, reductions in traffic speeds, more informal crossing behaviours and an increase in sentiment that All Hallows Road is now safer for walking and cycling. Find further information about the project and to read the project report and technical evaluation Bannerman Road Community School PTA — Road Safety Trust

The Road Safety Trust is dedicated to making the UK's roads the safest in the world. As an independent grant-giving charity, The Road Safety Trust funds vital research and practical interventions committed to reducing the number of people killed or injured on our roads.



The Road Safety Trust

Registered charity number 1156300
Company registered in England & Wales number 08837451
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