# Edinburgh community demands urgent road safety overhaul after near misses and collisions



In a worrying incident recently captured on CCTV, a driver narrowly missed a group of children crossing the road in Edinburgh, amplifying growing concerns over road safety in the area. The event unfolded on 1 June 2025, when three children were making their way across Arkaig Gardens. While a red car halted to let them pass, a black vehicle sped past, barely missing the last child as they crossed. This alarming moment was not just a singular event but rather a reflection of deepening safety issues in the neighbourhood, as highlighted by local residents.

Bogdan Adamczyk, a parent who witnessed the incident, voiced his frustration about the increasing occurrences of reckless driving in the area. He noted that many motorists are using the estate as a shortcut, resulting in a culture of speeding and dangerous driving. Adamczyk stated, “Most worryingly, a near-miss involving a child was recently caught on video, only millimetres from what could have been a fatal accident.” He emphasized that the dangers are not merely anecdotal but are increasingly felt by parents, children, and elderly residents alike, who find themselves intimidated by the traffic conditions.

The community's concerns about road safety are echoed across Edinburgh. For instance, a mother recently raised alarms about an inadequately marked crossing on Old Dalkeith Road, emphasising the lack of signage and lights, which has led to multiple near-misses with vehicles, including a lorry. Such incidents underscore the pressing need for improvements to pedestrian infrastructure throughout the city.

Meanwhile, parents at South Morningside Primary School are advocating for urgent measures following a near-fatal incident where an eight-year-old boy was struck by a van on Comiston Road. This busy route is frequently travelled by children on their way to school, prompting calls for enhanced pedestrian crossings, speed bumps, and better signage to protect vulnerable road users.

The urgent calls for road safety are not just limited to local anecdotes. Reports of dangerous driving behaviours have surfaced in other areas of Edinburgh, including an alarming incident where a motorist was caught on video speeding at 82 mph on Saughton Road North. Such reckless actions prompt questions about the effectiveness of existing traffic regulations and the need for stricter enforcement.

Further complicating the landscape of road safety are controversial cases of aggressive driving. One instance involved a driver colliding intentionally with a “lollipop man”—a crossing guard intended to protect school children—as part of a fit of impatience. This incident, met with public outrage, resulted in charges against the driver for assault.

The issue of road safety in Edinburgh is compounded by broader societal concerns, including a call from a Scottish judge for mandatory cognitive testing for drivers over 80, following a tragic accident involving an elderly driver. This proposal underscores the systemic problems surrounding driver safety and accountability in light of increasing road incidents that have grave consequences.

As Edinburgh prepares for a school extension that will likely increase traffic, the community faces a precarious scenario. There is a growing consensus that immediate action is necessary to ensure the safety of all pedestrians, especially children, who are disproportionately affected. The incidents serve as grave reminders that it is crucial to address road safety proactively to avoid potential tragedies.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/moment-driver-nearly-ploughed-group-35350947), [[4]](https://nen.press/tag/dangerous-driving/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/moment-driver-nearly-ploughed-group-35350947), [[2]](https://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/people/mum-warns-invisible-crossing-on-busy-road-an-accident-waiting-to-happen-after-near-miss-with-lorry-4427507), [[3]](https://news.stv.tv/east-central/urgent-calls-for-road-safety-overhaul-after-boy-eight-hit-by-van-near-edinburgh-primary-school)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://news.stv.tv/east-central/urgent-calls-for-road-safety-overhaul-after-boy-eight-hit-by-van-near-edinburgh-primary-school), [[5]](https://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/crime/kids-were-crossing-road-as-driver-drove-his-car-at-edinburgh-lollipop-man-3384355), [[6]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2024/oct/22/scottish-judge-calls-for-compulsory-tests-for-over-80-drivers-after-fatal-crash)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://nen.press/tag/dangerous-driving/), [[7]](https://www.falkirkherald.co.uk/news/crime/careless-driver-ran-red-light-and-almost-hit-children-on-larbert-crossing-3544957)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/moment-driver-nearly-ploughed-group-35350947> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/people/mum-warns-invisible-crossing-on-busy-road-an-accident-waiting-to-happen-after-near-miss-with-lorry-4427507> - A mother in Edinburgh has raised concerns about a poorly marked crossing on Old Dalkeith Road after a near-miss with a lorry. The central reservation lacks permanent signs or lights, leading to multiple incidents where vehicles have collided with it, posing risks to pedestrians and cyclists. The mother, who was with her child in a pram, expressed fears that the situation could result in a serious accident if not addressed promptly.
3. <https://news.stv.tv/east-central/urgent-calls-for-road-safety-overhaul-after-boy-eight-hit-by-van-near-edinburgh-primary-school> - Parents of pupils at South Morningside Primary School in Edinburgh are calling for urgent road safety measures after an eight-year-old boy was struck by a van near the school. The incident occurred on Comiston Road, a busy route frequented by children walking to school. The community is advocating for improved pedestrian crossings, speed bumps, and additional signage to enhance safety for students and residents.
4. <https://nen.press/tag/dangerous-driving/> - Edinburgh's Road Policing Unit is seeking information about a dangerous driving incident on Saughton Road North. A video circulating on social media shows a Honda Civic speeding at 82mph, overtaking vehicles into oncoming traffic. The driver was also filming the act. Authorities are urging witnesses to come forward to assist in identifying the driver and addressing such reckless behaviour.
5. <https://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/crime/kids-were-crossing-road-as-driver-drove-his-car-at-edinburgh-lollipop-man-3384355> - An impatient driver in Edinburgh deliberately collided with a crossing guard, known as a 'lollipop man', after being held up in traffic. The incident occurred at Ponton Street, where the driver shouted at the crossing attendant and then inched forward, striking him and forcing him onto the car's bonnet. The driver was later charged with assault and appeared in court, admitting to the offence.
6. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2024/oct/22/scottish-judge-calls-for-compulsory-tests-for-over-80-drivers-after-fatal-crash> - A Scottish judge has called for mandatory cognitive testing for all drivers over 80 following a fatal crash in Edinburgh. The incident involved a 91-year-old driver with undiagnosed dementia who lost control of her vehicle, resulting in the death of a three-year-old child. The judge criticised the current self-certification system for elderly drivers and recommended compulsory testing to prevent such tragedies.
7. <https://www.falkirkherald.co.uk/news/crime/careless-driver-ran-red-light-and-almost-hit-children-on-larbert-crossing-3544957> - A mother in Larbert, Scotland, narrowly avoided a collision with two children after running a red light. The incident occurred on Bellsdyke Road, where the driver, distracted by her son, failed to stop at the pedestrian crossing, causing a near-miss with two 10-year-old boys. The driver admitted to the offence in court and was fined and banned from driving for 72 days.