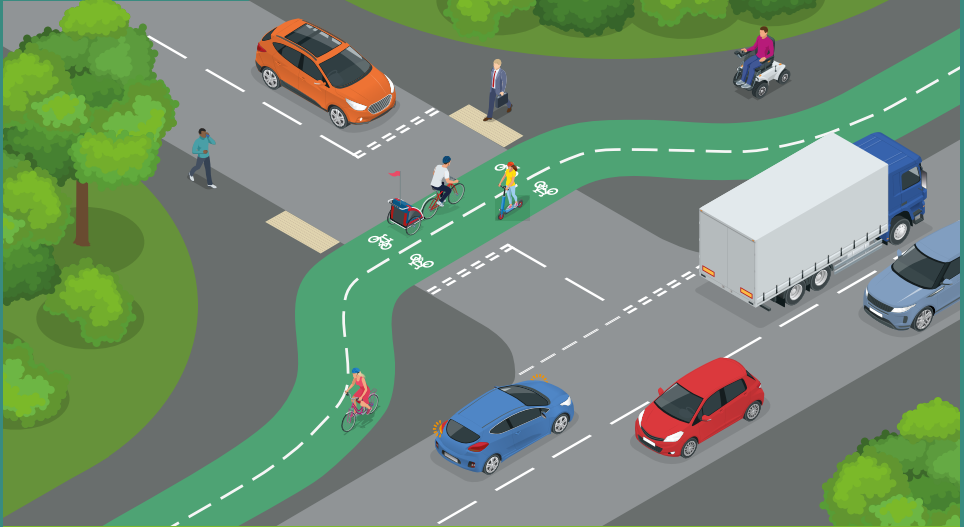


CONTINUOUS PATHS



What are continuous paths?

Continuous paths are designed to run seamlessly across side roads at junctions without interruption. They are usually at the same level as the adjoining paths and have a consistent colour or surface type to visually prioritise pedestrians and cyclists using the route.

These features are important for providing a modern road layout that improves safety and accessibility for all users.

The Highway Code changed in January 2022

- In January 2022 the New hierarchy of road users was introduced.
- Those who can cause the greatest harm have the greatest responsibility to reduce danger.
- Pedestrians, cyclists, and horse riders are prioritised.
- Pedestrians crossing or waiting to cross now have priority at junctions.
- Cyclists going straight ahead also have priority at junctions.

Read the full details on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

Guidance for drivers

Reduce speed: Slow down when approaching a junction and be prepared to stop.

Give way: You must give way to pedestrians, cyclists and e-scooter riders using a continuous path.

Comply with signs: Obey all traffic signs, including stop signs, which require a complete stop.

Look both ways: Pedestrians, cyclists and e-scooter users may approach from either direction. Always check it is safe before proceeding.

Respect the space: Do not obstruct the pathway when waiting to turn or when exiting side roads to join the main road.

Guidance for pedestrians and cyclists

Stay alert: Even if you have priority, always check for approaching vehicles and be ready to stop if necessary.

Ensure you have been seen: Make eye contact with drivers to confirm they have seen you.

Use the path correctly: Keep to your designated areas and share the space responsibly.

Understanding the risks

Collisions can occur when:

- Drivers fail to give way or stop for those using the path.

- Cyclists, pedestrians or e-scooter riders assume drivers will stop without confirming it is safe.

Mitigating the dangers

Knowledge: Understanding who has priority helps prevent confusion and collisions. **Always follow the Highway Code.**

Safe speed: Travel at a suitable speed for the environment, especially in poor weather or low light.

Enforcement: Failing to comply with the law or endangering others may result in prosecution.

Why this infrastructure matters

Enhances safety: Reduces the risk of collisions between vehicles and vulnerable road users.

Promotes active travel: Makes walking and cycling more appealing, attractive and safer.

Supports accessibility: Helps those using mobility aids or pushchairs move around more easily.

Reduces emissions: Encourages sustainable transport options.

Let's work together for safer streets

Whether you are driving, walking or wheeling, understanding and respecting continuous paths contributes to safer and more inclusive roads and communities.

Stay aware. Stay considerate. Stay safe.