



Devon County Council

Figure 6.8 The footway and pedestrian areas provide for a range of functions which can include browsing, pausing, socialising and play.

6.3.20 *Inclusive Mobility* gives guidance on design measures for use where there are steep slopes or drops at the rear of footways.

6.3.21 Places for pedestrians may need to serve a variety of purposes, including movement in groups, children's play and other activities (Fig. 6.8).

6.3.22 There is no maximum width for footways. In lightly used streets (such as those with a purely residential function), the minimum unobstructed width for pedestrians should generally be 2 m. Additional width should be considered between the footway and a heavily used carriageway, or adjacent to gathering places, such as schools and shops. Further guidance on minimum footway widths is given in *Inclusive Mobility*.

6.3.23 Footway widths can be varied between different streets to take account of pedestrian volumes and composition. Streets where people walk in groups or near schools or shops, for example, need wider footways. In areas of high pedestrian flow, the quality of the walking experience can deteriorate unless sufficient width is provided. The quality of service goes down as pedestrian flow density increases. Pedestrian congestion through insufficient capacity should be avoided. It is inconvenient and may encourage people to step into the carriageway (Fig. 6.9).

6.3.24 Porch roofs, awnings, garage doors, bay windows, balconies or other building elements should not oversail footways at a height of less than 2.6 m.