

**Thurston CE Primary Academy**



SCHOOL

School Travel Policy and Plan

Produced: Spring 2019

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**School Travel Policy and Plan**

Working together to inspire, challenge and achieve

**Introduction**

The staff, governors, parents and children of Thurston C of E Primary Academy are committed to the health and safety of all our children. We aim to make the journey to and from school a safer, healthier experience for all and we will strive to make a positive contribution to our local and global environment by encouraging sustainable travel behaviour. It is our intention for the school travel plan to be owned by the whole school community. It is made up of a series of practical steps for improving our children's safety and health during the school journey.

We actively encourage our pupils and staff to walk, scoot or cycle to school as they:

* keep us fit and healthy help our pupils develop road safety skills which will keep them safe as they travel further afield and more independently
* help keep our local air clean, and our streets free from congestion are life skills that everyone should be able to benefit from

**Rationale**

By implementing our school travel plan we hope to benefit our school community by:

* reducing accidents and dangers on the way to and from school
* reducing congestion and improving safety around our school
* encouraging a quieter more pleasant school neighbourhood
* enabling parents and children to choose walking with confidence
* reinforcing our Healthy Schools ethos
* giving our children the opportunity to have a say in things which affect them
* playing a part in reducing the consumption of fossil fuels
* encouraging regular exercise which helps to prevent against heart disease, strokes and other related illnesses later in life
* reducing traffic fumes which can help those with respiratory problems such as asthma.

We have taken extra care to ensure that all the actions and initiatives we have planned involve all the children and where possible their parents. We feel that this is the best way to go about changing behaviours and attitudes in the long term. We have sought the views of our stakeholders through our travel survey <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PM2F3Y3> and aim to publish results in appendix 1.

We promote safe and active travel as much as possible by using our noticeboard, displays, newsletter and website at [www.thurstonprimary.net](http://www.thurstonprimary.net)

We encourage all members of our school community to walk, ride or scoot to school wherever possible.

We are committed to improving our children’s understanding of the importance of safe travel to school

**Aims and objectives**

By the end of this year, our aims are to provide:

* Stunt Scooters training
* Year 6 trained in Bikeability Levels 1 and 2
* Increase children road safety awareness with CPO
* Increase the number of children walking, scooting and riding to school.
* Local school trips are made on foot to close by destinations
* We aim to let all new pupils and their parents/carers know that we promote healthy and sustainable travel to school

**Parents Role**

Parents will to support the school by encouraging their children to walk, scoot or cycle to school whenever possible. We ask parents to:

* Ensure children walk or ride sensibly and safely on the way to and from school, and to push bikes and scooters on school grounds
* Ensure that bicycles and scooters are roadworthy and properly maintained.
* Ensure children wear a safety helmet.
* Ensure children can be seen, by fitting lights to their bike by supplying them with high-visibility clothing.
* Consider providing their children with a lock for their bike or scooter and that they know how to use it.
* Consider appropriate insurance cover for their children’s bicycle or scooter, the school is not liable for any loss or damage to cycles or scooters on the premises or being used on the way to or from school.

**Pupils Role**

We ask our pupils to:

* Ask their parents if they can walk, scoot or cycle to school.
* Behave in an exemplary fashion to make themselves, parents and school proud.
* Ride or walk with courtesy, in a sensible and safe manner on the way to and from school.
* Ensure bikes and scooters are not ridden on the playground.
* Check that their bike or scooter is roadworthy and properly maintained Ensure they are wearing a safety helmet
* Make sure they can be seen by using lights in the dark or bad weather and by wearing high-visibility clothing.
* Consider having a lock for your bike or scooter and that you use it.

**Driving to School**

We understand that sometimes there is no alternative to driving to school.

Where a car must be used we encourage parents to drive only part of the way when possible so that some of the journey can be walked or scooted.

Parents must ensure they park their car in a safe and legal parking space and with respect for our neighbours and local residents. **It is not acceptable to park or wait on double yellow lines, on the school zigzags or across residential driveways.**

Parents must ensure they do not drop children off directly on the main road if they are in Key Stage 1 and Lower Key Stage 2, but park and escort children to the pedestrian gate.

Please note that the decision on whether a child is competent to cycle or scoot to school is for parents/carers to make. The school has no liability for any consequences arising from this decision.

**7. Monitoring and review**

The senior management team is responsible for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of this policy.

It is the responsibility of our Senior Leadership Team to agree and then monitor the School Travel policy.

This policy will be reviewed in two years, or earlier if necessary.

**Appendix 1**

**Results of Parent Survey**