

Active Travel to School Policy

At Bathampton Primary School we encourage pupils and parents to travel to school by cycling, scooting and walking (active travel) wherever possible. This school travel policy explains how we will be encouraging active travel to school.

We will discuss the policy with the pupils and re-visit it periodically to ensure its relevance.

We understand that parents work and that this may mean that car is a practical way for children to be dropped at school en route. For pupils unable to travel to school actively, we encourage car-sharing and also encourage families to plan in active travel wherever possible.

If you have any ideas to improve things at or around school for pedestrians and cyclists, or questions about travelling to school, please get in touch with the Safer Routes to School group via email on SRTS@bathampton.bathnes.sch.uk.

Benefits of Active Travel

Some of the benefits of active travel are:

- improving both mental and physical health through physical activity
- establishing positive active travel behaviour
- promoting independence and improving safety awareness
- reducing congestion, noise and pollution in the community
- reducing the environmental impact of the journey to school.

Role of School

To encourage pupils to walk, cycle or scoot to school wherever practical, the school will:

- actively promote walking, cycling and scooting as a positive way of travelling
- celebrate the achievements of those who walk, cycle and scoot to school (keeping in mind that some parents' working patterns make active travel more challenging on a regular basis)
- provide cycle and scooter storage on the school site
- provide high quality cycle training to all pupils who wish to participate
- cover road safety as part of the school curriculum

This policy covers the journey to and from school where the school has no responsibility or liability. When walking, scooting and cycling activities are being led by the school there may be additional rules and guidance concerning equipment such as use of helmets, high visibility clothing, etc.

Role of pupils

To make cycling and scooting to and from school a positive experience for everybody concerned, we expect our pupils to:

- ride sensibly and safely and to follow the Highway Code
- check that their bicycle or scooter is roadworthy and regularly maintained

- behave in a manner which shows them and the school in the best possible light and to consider the needs of others when cycling or scooting
- consider wearing a cycle helmet
- ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.

Role of parents

For the wellbeing of our pupils, we expect parents and carers to:

- encourage their child to walk, cycle or scoot to school whenever possible
- encourage their child to take up opportunities to develop their competence and confidence in cycling or scooting
- consider cycling or scooting with their child on the school run, possibly joining with other families as a 'cycle train'
- provide their child with equipment such as high-visibility clothing, lights, a lock and cycle helmet as appropriate
- ensure that the bicycles and scooters ridden to school are roadworthy and regularly maintained
- decide whether a child is competent to cycle, scoot or walk safely to and from school
- consider appropriate insurance cover as the school is not liable for, and its insurance does not cover, any loss or damage to bicycles or scooters being used on the way to and from school, or whilst on school premises.