



TRAVEL PLAN

1 INTRODUCTION

The School

Postal address: Milton Road Primary School
Ascham Road
Cambridge
CB4 2BD

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Number of pupils on roll 470
Age range 4 - 11
Number of staff 68

Milton Road Primary School is located just north of the River Cam, about a mile from the city centre on a new green field site. It is set back away from roads and is surrounded by open, green space part of which is used as the sports field. There are two entrances to the site. The main vehicle and pedestrian entrance is in Ascham Road and there is a further pedestrian entrance in Gilbert Road opposite to the entrance to Chesterton Community College. The Gilbert Road entrance is locked from 9.15 to 3.00 when pedestrian access to the school is limited to the main entrance in Ascham Road.

Parking is available on site at the main entrance for staff and deliveries to the school. For everyone's safety at peak pedestrian times, the main gates in Ascham Road are closed to all vehicles from 8.30 to 9.15 and again from 3.00 to 3.45. Outside of these times, parents and other visitors to the school may park on site for short periods.

Travelling to school

The school draws its pupils mainly from its catchment area, with a few out-of-catchment pupils travelling greater distances. There are on-road cycle lanes on Milton Road and Gilbert Road and the nearest bus stops are outside St Lawrence's Church travelling out of town and opposite this near the pedestrian crossing travelling towards town. All parents and pupils are encouraged to travel to and from school on foot, by bicycle, or using other sustainable forms of transport such as rollerblades, scooters and skateboards.



Site of Milton Road Primary School

Travelling during the school day and for after school clubs

Children are not taken off the school site without the prior permission of the parent. However when their child first enters the school, parents sign a general permission slip allowing their child to be taken out of school by their teacher for educational purposes during the school day.

A risk assessment is made for all journeys undertaken in connection with school activities

We only use coaches and mini-buses which have seat belts provided and we instruct children and adults to use seat belts at all times when the bus is moving.

The school does not request parents to transport children in their own cars. If parents wish to transport their own or other peoples' children (eg. to sports fixtures etc.), they must arrange it amongst themselves, with no involvement from the school.

See also Health and Safety Policy

Special Educational Needs

All educational visits are inclusive of children with disabilities or special educational needs. Individual assessments are made for each child and, if special arrangements are required, they are made directly with those involved with transport and delivery in each case. For example, a taxi may be used to transport a particular child who cannot walk far, while the rest of their class makes the journey on foot.

See also Equality Policy

Areas of Concern

Traffic concerns

- The potential for cars causing congestion and danger in Ascham Road, which is a narrow, residential road, by the way drivers park, drive or try to turn around.
- The potential for illegal or careless parking near the pedestrian entrance on Gilbert Road, especially as this entrance is almost opposite to the main entrance to Chesterton Community College which has its own parking and traffic issues.
- Some parents drive their children to and from school because they drop off and pick up their children on the way to and from work. These parents are going to be difficult to get on board our sustainable transport endeavour.
- There are several main roads close to the school which are potentially hazardous to young cyclists and pedestrians.

Health and environment concerns

- We enjoy a relatively pollution-free position on a green field site and are actively seeking to avoid causing pollution for ourselves and our neighbours by our own presence and activities.
- We are actively trying to promote fitness and healthy life styles amongst our pupils, a wide variety of ways, including by encouraging families to use alternative forms of travel to that of the car.
- We encourage our pupils to enjoy the outdoor environment in many ways, including travelling to school in the fresh air whenever possible.

2 CONSULTATION

PUPIL SURVEY – age of respondents: 4 – 11 (the whole school)

ACTUAL CURRENT TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS		
Number on roll when survey was conducted - 439		
Mode of Travel	Number of Pupils	Percentage of Pupils
Walk	132	30 %
Cycle	141	32 %
Car	56	13 %
Car share	1	0 %
Public transport	1	0 %
Other (eg. scooter, skateboard etc)	108	25 %

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS PREFERRED BY PUPILS		
Number on roll when survey was conducted - 439		
Preferred Mode of Travel	Number of Pupils	Percentage of Pupils
Walk	81	18 %
Cycle	159	36 %
Car	17	4 %
Car share	17	4 %
Public transport	14	3 %
Other (eg. scooter, skateboard etc)	151	34 %

Those involved in this Travel Plan

The School Travel Plan Working Group comprises:

the Headteacher
Deputy Headteacher
Leadership Team
Chair of Governors

This group has worked in partnership with:

the school community
the governing body
community police
traffic wardens
Cambridge Parking Service
Health Promoting Schools initiative.

This partnership is based upon consultation with:

teachers and other staff members
parents
pupils
governors
local residents

As participants in the Health Promoting Schools initiative, we see this Travel Plan as an important element in our commitment to the health education of our children.

3 POLICY STATEMENT

The Governing Body acknowledges that there are issues of traffic congestion school site which could have a detrimental effect on the health and safety of our pupils and the general public. This Travel Plan has been developed to address the issues by actively working with the local community and the Transport and Road Safety specialists on the City and County Councils.

In seeking to increase healthy ways to travel to school and diminish the negative effects of too much traffic around the sites, the school intends to work on the following areas:

- Actively promoting alternative ways of travelling to school other than by car, such as walking and cycling;
- Encouraging pupils to enjoy their journey to school by providing storage during the school day for other sustainable modes of transport, such as rollerblades, scooters and skateboards;
- Giving pupils greater independence, better road sense and growing awareness of personal safety when travelling to and from school;
- Reducing the number of car journeys made by pupils, parents and staff, thereby decreasing traffic congestion and pollution and contributing to an improvement in our city environment;
- Ensuring safe access to the school grounds;
- Improving safety on the journey to school;
- Raising awareness of health and environmental issues in pupils, parents and staff;
- Considering the needs of the local community when addressing transport and parking issues;
- Ensuring that those who need to travel to school by car park legally and safely, showing care and respect for the needs of pedestrians, other road users and local residents;
- Appointing a Community Liaison Officer to be a conduit between the community and the school.

The school envisages many benefits resulting from its Travel Plan for the school, for its pupils, parents and staff and for the local community.

Benefits to the school

- Helping to establish safer walking and cycling routes to the school for all its members;
- Reducing traffic congestion in and around the school and thus improving the school environment;
- Providing opportunities for learning about healthy life-styles and other related issues;
- Improving relationships with the school's neighbours and others in the local community;
- Enhancing the reputation of the school with those who judge it, such as OFSTED and the LA Inspectorate.

Benefits to the pupils

- Improving road safety and personal safety skills and increasing awareness of sustainable modes of transport;
- Improving fitness and health through increasing the levels of healthy modes of travel;
- Improving behaviour in school and on the journey to school;
- Increasing awareness and understanding of the local environment and community.

Benefits to parents and staff

- Reducing driving stress and improving the quality of the journey;
- Improving awareness and understanding of the needs of the community by working together;
- Building positive links between parents, school and staff.

Benefits to the local community

- Seeing the school as enhancing the community;
- Having the school as a partner in trying to improve the local environment.

4 OBJECTIVES OF THIS TRAVEL PLAN

We have identified the following objectives in our Travel Plan:

- Increasing the number of people who walk to and from school;
- Increasing the number of people who cycle to and from school;
- Increase the number of children who use other sustainable modes of transport, such as rollerblades, scooters and skateboards;
- Reducing the amount of car travel to and from school;
- Improving road safety and reducing traffic congestion in the local community;
- Enriching pupils' learning about sustainable transport and healthy life choices;
- Involving parents and the local community in the carrying out of this Travel Plan.

5 INITIATIVES AND TARGETS

Initiatives already in place

Action	When	Resources	Responsibility
Community Liaison Officer appointed to liaise with the community over Travel Plan	Summer 2006	Salary for liaison officer's duties	Headteacher / Governing Body
Illegal and careless parking outside school discouraged by Community Liaison Officer and communications with parents/carers.	Ongoing – whenever possible	Community Liaison Officer time	Headteacher
Actively promote sustainable transport with parents, pupils and staff.	Ongoing	assemblies, newsletters etc.	Leadership team
220 new covered and open cycle racks provided for pupils and staff	2006	Part of the new school build	Headteacher
Promoting health and fitness in assemblies, in the curriculum and through initiatives such as "Health Promoting Schools"	Ongoing HPS award 2004	Funding for "HPS"	All teaching staff
Use of Headteacher's letters to parents to keep parents informed of dangers of illegal parking and penalties for those who do it	Ongoing	Letters to parents	Headteacher
Enforcing total traffic curfew during peak pedestrian times in morning and evening.	Ongoing	School brochure	Policy of Governing Body
Road and pedestrian safety talks by community police	Whenever offered	Police time	Community police
Risk assessment of all journeys during school day, walking or by coach	Ongoing		Leadership team All teaching staff
Exploring risk, health and citizenship in PSHCE	Ongoing	PSHCE scheme of work	PSHCE Subject Leaders
School has two pedestrian entrances at opposite ends, for pupil and parent access.	Ongoing		Governing Body
Service vehicles can access school and turn round in child free space at the rear of the site	Ongoing		Governing Body
Shower facilities available in school to encourage staff to cycle to school	Ongoing		Governing Body
School site allows total access for people with disabilities and provides 4 access toilets	Ongoing		Governing Body
For community use out of school hours, parking is permitted on site.	Ongoing		Governing Body
Coaches picking up pupils have access onto the site outside the peak traffic curfew times.	Ongoing		Governing Body

Pedestrian training for pupils in Years R, 1, 2	Ongoing	Class time	KS Leaders
Cycling proficiency training provided in both Y5 and Y6 by in-house team of 4 TAs.	Starting Autumn 07	TA time TA training	Y6 teachers/DH
Ensure that new school brochure and website include information about this Travel Plan.	Spring / Summer 07	Brochure, website	Headteacher/DH Governing Body

Initiatives to explore in the future

Action	When	Resources	Responsibility
Walk to School Day		Letters home Assembly	Leadership Team
Pedestrian training for pupils in all years.		Class time	KS Leaders
Ways of encouraging parents not to use cars for the school run.	Ongoing	Assemblies/events / website/brochure	Governing Body
Car pooling for staff and parents			Governing Body
Ways to provide incentives to pupils and parents to use sustainable transport.			Leadership team/ Governing Body
Ways to bring the issues of sustainable transport and healthy life styles into more areas of the curriculum.	Ongoing	Class time, schemes of work, extra events	Leadership team
Possibility of organising family cycle or pedestrian training			Headteacher
Organise events such as, car-free days, walk/cycle to school days			Leadership team

Main Targets

Main Target	Target Date
Decrease the number of complaints of illegal or careless parking outside the school gates and along the neighbouring roads to almost nil.	Summer 2009
Decrease the number of complaints of traffic congestion on roads near main gates of the new site.	Summer 2009
Increase percentage of pupils who walk to school, or use other forms of sustainable transport, by at least 5% per year over the next three years.	Summer 2009

6 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This Travel Plan will be monitored by the Governing Body, Headteacher and Leadership Team, in order to review the main targets and evaluate how far they have been achieved.

The framework for this evaluation is as follows:

Action	When	Who
Review the Travel Plan	Annually	Headteacher / Governing Body
Carry out regular checks on parking around the school at the beginning and end of the school day	Daily	Community Liaison Officer
Carry out regular checks on traffic congestion outside the school at the beginning and end of the school day	Daily	Community Liaison Officer
Information about parking and traffic issues in letters home to parents	As required	Headteacher
Carry out regular "travel to school" surveys amongst the pupils and staff	Annually	Deputy Head
Publish "travel to school" survey results on school website	Annually	Deputy Head

