



Three Bridges Primary School

Travel Policy

Approval Date: 1st October 2018

Updated: November 2022

Review Date: November 2023

Headteacher: 

At Three Bridges Primary School, we encourage pupils, parents and staff to travel to school by cycling, scooting and walking wherever possible. We work in partnership with the local authority and the UK charity Sustrans, to help make sustainable and active travel easier for everyone.

The aim of this school policy is to outline how and why we encourage active travel to school. The policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure its relevance and effectiveness, in relation to our pupils and the local needs.

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

- keeps us fit and healthy (a 15-minute walk or cycle to and from school will provide your child with half of the recommended daily exercise intake)
- helps our pupils develop road safety skills which will keep them safe as they travel further afield and more independently
- helps keep our local air clean, and our streets free from congestion
- develops life skills that everyone should be able to benefit from
- provides opportunity for families, siblings and friends to talk and socialise during the journey to and from school.

Please note, for pupils unable to come by foot, scooter or bike, we like to encourage the use of public transport, park and stride or car-share.

What we do

- We promote safe and active travel as much as possible by using our noticeboard, displays, newsletters, themed events, visitors, the school prospectus and website at <http://www.threebridgesprimaryschool.co.uk>
- We encourage all members of our school community to walk, cycle or travel by public transport for the journey to school. To support this we provide:
 - Bikeability – cycle training for our Year 6 pupils
 - Scooter/bike skills sessions run by Sustrans
 - Pedestrian and road safety training through assemblies and whole class lessons/activities.
 - Cycle parking
 - Scooter parking
 - A school crossing patrol on Crossways
- Local school trips are made by public transport where possible, or on foot if the destination is close by
- We let all new pupils and their parents/carers know that we promote healthy and sustainable travel to school before the child starts at our school
- We take part in the Big Wheel during the spring term.
- We offer support for children and young people with complex special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities with home to school travel/ transport options.

What we ask of parents.

- Please encourage your child(ren) to walk, scoot or cycle to school whenever possible
- Ensure your child(ren) 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. If in doubt consult a qualified mechanic
- Ensure that your child(ren) has appropriate safety wear and equipment e.g. a cycle helmet, appropriate foot wear.
- Ensure your child(ren) can be seen by fitting lights to their bike and by supplying them with high-visibility clothing
- Make sure your child(ren) has a lock for their bike or scooter and that they know how to use it
- Ensure you have appropriate insurance cover for your child(ren)'s bicycle or scooter as 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
- If you travel by bus, can you get off the bus at least two stops early and walk the last part of the journey?

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

- Where a car must be used we ask parents to drive only part of the way, and drop their child(ren) off away from the school so that some of the journey can be walked or scooted
- If you do have to drive your child(ren) and park in the near vicinity please do so legally, safely and with respect for our neighbours and local residents
 - It is not acceptable to park or wait on the school zigzags, on double yellow lines, in the bus stop or across residential driveways for any period of time
 - When parking, please consider how safe it is for others to pass by your car especially young children, buggies and disability scooters.

What we ask of pupils

- Ask your parents if you can walk, scoot or cycle to school
- Behave in a way that shows you and the school in the best light whether walking, scooting, cycling or using public transport
- Ride or walk courteously, sensibly and **safely** on the way to and from school
- Push bikes and scooters on school grounds
- Check that your bike or scooter is roadworthy and properly maintained
- Wear a cycle helmet when cycling or scooting.
- Make sure you can be seen by using lights in the dark or bad weather and by wearing high-visibility clothing
- Make sure you have a lock for your bike or scooter and that you use it
- Walk with your bike or scooter when crossing roads.
- Find a safe place to cross e.g. the traffic light crossing, the traffic island, the lollipop crossing, away from parked vehicles, a clear view both ways etc.
- Do not wear headphones or use an electronic device while crossing the road.

Please note: The decision as to whether a child is competent to cycle, scoot or walk safely to and from school rests with the parent(s)/carer(s). The school has no liability for any consequences of that decision. Parents are advised to take out appropriate insurance cover for bikes (check home insurance) as the school's insurance does not cover any loss or damage to bicycles and scooters.

Original policy developed October 2018.