



Bishop Wood Junior School

Active Travel Policy

At Bishop Wood 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. For pupils who live too far away to travel from home actively, we encourage them to Park and Stride from a distance of about 1km.

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.

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

- appoint four Year 5 pupils to be Junior Travel Ambassadors, and allow them to plan engaging activities that encourage active travel.
- actively promote walking, cycling and scooting as a positive way of travelling
- celebrate the achievements of those who walk, cycle and scoot to school
- provide cycle and scooter storage on the school site
- provide road safety training to all our pupils
- offer high quality cycle training to all pupils who wish to participate.

To make cycling and scooting to and from school a positive experience for everybody concerned, we expect our pupils to sign a Bike and Scooter agreement in which they agree 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
- wear a cycle helmet
- ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.
- Walk with the bicycle or scooter in the school grounds

NOTE: electric scooter and bikes will not be allowed, unless special dispensation is sought.

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
- 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.

Please note that: 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. 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 additional rules and guidance concerning equipment such as use of helmets, high visibility clothing, etc. Parents are advised to consider appropriate insurance cover (check home insurance) as the school is not liable for, and its insurance does not cover, any loss or damage to bicycles and scooters being used on the way to or from school.

January 2019, Janet Reeve

Reviewed by Governors, January 2022