



Active Travel Policy

June 2017

Approved by GB: June 2017

Next review due: June 2020

Purpose

At Churchfields Junior 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 unable to travel to school actively, we encourage use of public transport or car-share.

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 Headteacher via (admin.churchfields-jun@redbridge.gov.uk)

Aims

To encourage active and safer travel at the school, and to promote an ethos where children are aware of their individual impact on the environment, we, as a school, aim to:

- improve both mental and physical health through physical activity.
- establish positive active travel behaviour across all year groups.
- promote independence and improving safety awareness.
- reduce congestion, noise and pollution in the community.
- reduce the environmental impact of the journey to school.

Actions to promote Active Travel

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

- actively promote cycling and scooting as a positive way of travelling
- celebrate the achievements of those who cycle and scoot to school
- provide cycle and scooter storage on the school site
- provide high quality cycle training to all pupils who wish to participate

Expectations from 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.

Expectations from parents/carers

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.

Actions of the school

As a school, we will work collaboratively to promote Active Travel:

- local school trips are made by public transport where possible, or on foot if the destination is close by.
- we encourage members of our school community to walk, scoot, cycle or travel by public transport to school.
- the Junior Travel Ambassadors actively promote cycling and scooting as a positive way of travelling.
- where a car must be used we encourage all parents to drive only part of the way, park away from the school and walk the last few minutes of the journey (park and stride.)
- we ask everyone to join in with WoW (walk 3 times a week) walking scheme provided by Living Streets and London Borough of Redbridge Smarter Travel Team – walking the whole journey to school or parking away from the school and walking as far as possible.
- we celebrate the achievements of those who cycle and scoot to school.
- we provide cycle and scooter storage on the school site.
- we provide high quality cycle training using Cycle Confident Ltd a recognised training company.
- we provide a school travel walking map showing a 5-10 minute walking zone, and reminding our school community of the benefits of active travel.

Additional notes for parents/carers

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.

Review

This policy is reviewed by staff and governors every three years. Part of this procedure will be the gathering of views from the staff, children, parents, governors, School Council and the Learning Council on its effectiveness.

Parents are most welcome to request copies of this document and comments are invited from anyone involved in the life of the school.