

# Westgate Primary School School Travel Policy



## Rationale

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

- keep us fit and healthy;
- contribute to the government's aim for every child to be physically active for 60 minutes a day, including 30 minutes outside of the school day;
- help our pupils develop road safety skills which will keep them safe as they travel further afield and more independently;
- help keep our local air clean, and our streets free from congestion;
- are life skills that everyone should be able to benefit from.

## What we do

- We use Modeshift STARS to update and monitor our school travel plan.
- We promote safe and active travel as much as possible by using our noticeboard, displays, newsletter and website at [www.westgateprimary.co.uk](http://www.westgateprimary.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:
  - Cycle training (Bikeability)
  - Scooter training
  - Pedestrian training
  - Cycle parking
  - Scooter parking
  - Public transport information
  - Cycle to work scheme for employees through Leeds City Council
- 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.
- Scarborough Road and Springfield Place are designated School Streets, which means they are closed to through traffic at the beginning and end of the day, making the immediate surrounding area safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

## What we ask of parents

- 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.
- Consider providing your child(ren) with a cycle helmet.
- Ensure your child(ren) can be seen by fitting lights to their bike 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, consider getting 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. We have a 'Park and Stride' agreement with Waitrose for this purpose.
- If you do have to drive your child(ren) and stop in the near vicinity please do so legally, safely and with respect for our neighbours and local residents. It is not allowed to park or wait on double yellow lines, on the school zigzags or across residential driveways for any period of time.

Please note that the decision on whether a child is competent to cycle or scoot to school is for the parent(s) or carer(s) to make. The school has no liability for any consequences arising from this decision.

### **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 (this applies to adults too).
- Check that your bike or scooter is roadworthy and properly maintained.
- Consider wearing a cycle helmet.
- 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.

### **Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

The School Eco-Team monitors school travel choices and parking issues. We collect information about modes of travel as part of the annual school census and we conduct annual travel surveys with parents and staff to find out more information about people's travel choices, in order to inform the School Travel Plan.

**This policy was adopted by the governing body on 03/02/2022. It will be reviewed as part of a three year cycle.**

**Signed:** (On behalf of the governing body)

**Signed:** (Head teacher)

**Date:**