

St Mary's CE VC First School



Active Travel to School Policy

Adopted date:	September 2018
Signature of Headteacher:	<i>Iszanne Carter</i>
Signature of Governing body:	
Next review date	Autumn 2021

Active Travel To School Policy

At St Mary's First 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. 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 Mrs K Brake or your local Sustrans Schools Officer, Jonathan Dixon.

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 cycle or scoot to school frequently the school will:

- Actively promote cycling and scooting as a positive way to travel
- 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

To make cycling and scooting to and from school a positive experience for everyone 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

For the wellbeing of our pupils, we expect parents and carers to:

- Encourage their child to walk, cycle or scoot to school wherever possible
- Encourage their child to take up opportunities to develop their competence and confidence in cycling and scooting
- Consider cycling or scooting with their child on the school run, possibly joining in 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

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 parents/carers. 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 or cycling activities are being led by the school there may be 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.