

Garden Suburb Infant School Travel Policy

September 2021

At Garden Suburb Infant School, we encourage pupils, parents and staff to travel actively to school by walking, cycling and scooting wherever possible.

This school travel policy explains how Garden Suburb Infant School, will be encouraging active travel. We will discuss the policy with the pupils and re-visit it periodically to ensure its relevance. This policy has been agreed by the Head Teacher.

For pupils and staff who are unable to walk, cycle or scoot their whole journey to and from school, we encourage the use of public transport, car share and park and stride. Where a car must be used, we ask parents to drive only part of the way, and drop their children off away from the school so that some of the journey can be walked or scooted. 5 minutes or more is a suitable amount for it to be considered park and stride

What are the benefits of active travel?

- Improves mental health leading to improved attendance and academic success
- Improves physical health, helping pupils to achieve the recommended minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity per day
- Improves road safety awareness
- Reduces congestion and noise in the community
- Improves air quality around the school

In order to ensure as many pupils as possible are given the opportunity to realise these benefits we each have an important role to play:

Staff

We will encourage pupils to travel to and from school more safely and actively by:

- Promoting the benefits of active travel
- Celebrating the achievements of those who travel actively to school
- Raising awareness of the air quality benefits of active travel
- Providing cycle and scooter storage on the school site
- Providing cycle and scooter training to all pupils who wish to participate
- Ensuring we update our school travel plan annually and that it is accredited under TfL STARS (Sustainable Travel: Active, Responsible, Safe) scheme
- Working with our borough school travel and road safety officers to deliver interventions and activities that promote active, safe and responsible travel to school
- By the end of this year our aims are to:
 - Increase the number of children travelling actively to school
 - Decrease the number of children driving to school
 - Increase road safety awareness

Pupils

- Ask your parents to walk, scoot or cycle to school and remind them about 'park and stride'
- Behave in a sensible, safe and respectful manner and to consider the needs of others when travelling
- Use lights and high-visibility clothing where appropriate and consider wearing a cycle helmet

Parents and Carers

For the wellbeing of our pupils, we ask parents/carers to:

- Consider walking, cycling or scooting with their child
- Encourage their child to take up opportunities to develop their competence and confidence in walking cycling and scooting
- Provide their child with safety equipment as appropriate, which may include high-visibility clothing, lights, cycle helmet and a lock
- Ensure that the bicycles and scooters ridden to school are roadworthy and well maintained
- If you travel by bus, try to get off two stops early and walk the last part of the journey.

Parents and carers are reminded that they are responsible for the safety of their child on the journey to and from school.

Garden Suburb Infant School would like to thank you in advance for supporting our travel policy. If you have any ideas on how to promote, or provide new opportunities for active travel please get in touch. Additionally, we would be interested to hear your ideas of how to improve safety or air quality around Garden Suburb Infant School.