



School Travel Policy

Introduction:

The health and wellbeing of our pupils are at the heart of our school's values. How we travel to school can significantly impact children's physical and mental health, as well as the air quality around the school.

Children are especially vulnerable to air pollution due to their developing lungs, lower height, and faster breathing rates. In the BCP area, road traffic is the main source of pollution, with peak levels during school drop-off and pick-up times.

This policy aims to:

- Promote safer, healthier travel choices;
- Reduce traffic-related pollution near the school;
- Encourage walking, cycling, and other forms of active travel.

We will regularly review this policy with pupils and welcome suggestions from families. If you have ideas or questions about travel to school, please contact the school office.

To meet these aims:

| At Talbot primary school, we: | Why |
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| Encourage pupils and parents to travel to school by cycling, scooting, wheeling and walking (active travel) wherever possible. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the quality of the air the children breathe at our school • Improving both mental and physical health through physical activity. • Establishing positive active travel behaviour. • Promoting independence and improving safety awareness. • Reducing congestion and noise in the community. • Reducing the environmental impact of the journey to school. |
| Encourage use of public transport, if possible, for those who can't actively travel. | Improves air quality at our school and teaches children to travel sustainably |





| At Talbot primary school, we: | Why |
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| Request that if you choose to drive your child to school, you park at least a 5 minute walk away. | Stops a pollution bubble forming outside the school from all the vehicles, thereby gives children (and everyone else) cleaner air to breathe in school and for a section of their journey to/from school. |
| In the rare event that individuals drive closer to the school, you switch your engine off whenever stationary. | Each idling engine (when a car is stopped but with its engine running) produces 150 balloons worth of toxic gases every minute it is left on! |

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

- Actively promote walking, cycling, wheeling and scooting as a positive way of travelling.
- Celebrate the efforts of those who actively travel to school.
- Provide cycle and scooter storage on the school site.
- Offer high quality cycle training to all pupils who wish to participate by engaging with Bikeability

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.
- Wear a cycle helmet.
- Ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.





For the well-being of our pupils, we expect parents and carers and anyone transporting our pupils to:

- Encourage their child to walk, cycle, wheel or scooter 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 bus'.
- 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.
- If in a vehicle, switch off engines whenever their vehicles are stationary

Please note:

- 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.
- Parents are advised that the school's insurance does not cover any loss or damage to pupil's bicycles and scooters left on the premises.

