



OLD BEXLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Love God ♦ Love Each Other ♦ Love Learning

*Happy Children and Limitless Learning in an Anglican Christian School
A place where everyone can flourish*

Reviewed	Agreed by Staff	Agreed by Governors	Review Date
September 2024	September 2024	September 2024	September 2025

TRAVEL POLICY

At Old Bexley Primary School we encourage pupils and staff to travel actively to and from school by walking, cycling or scooting. For those who are unable to do so for their whole journey, we encourage the use of public transport, car share or park and stride.

This policy is discussed with pupils in PSHE lessons and is re-visited periodically to ensure its relevance.

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 (8 out of 10 children in London currently do not achieve this);
- Promotes independence and improves road safety awareness;
- Reduces congestion, pollution and noise in the community: over 40% of UK children in urban areas are concerned about air pollution near their school;
- Improves air quality around the school: 57kg of carbon a year could be saved by walking to and from school instead of driving.

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

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

- Promoting the benefits of active travel;
- Raising awareness of the air quality and environmental benefits of active travel;
- Providing cycle and scooter storage on the school site;
- Providing cycle training to all year 6 pupils who wish to participate;
- Ensuring we update our school travel plan annually and that it is accredited under the 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.

Pupils

To make active travel a positive experience for everybody concerned, we expect our pupils to:

- Behave in a sensible, safe and respectful manner and to consider the needs of others when travelling;
- Use lights and high-visibility clothing when cycling and wear a cycle helmet;
- Check that their bicycle or scooter is roadworthy and well maintained;

- Follow the rules of the road (Highway Code) when travelling.

Parents and carers

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

- Encourage their child to travel actively to school;
- 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;
- Not to wait in their car with the engine running, whether it is to keep warm in winter or cool in summer. Idling contributes to air pollution outside of the school and keeping an engine running unnecessarily is an offence which could lead to a fine.

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