

# School Travel Plan 2019-2020



## Introduction

Wendover CE Junior School has had an active School Travel Plan since 2003 and we take pride in promoting healthy ways of travelling to and from school. We joined the Modeshift Stars Accreditation Scheme in 2012 and achieved Bronze Level in 2013, followed by Silver in 2014 and Gold in 2016. In 2017 our Junior Road Safety Officers attended a ceremony at the Houses of Parliament to proudly receive the School of the Region Award. Modeshift Stars is a national on-line scheme which encourages schools to engage in initiatives to develop healthy modes of travelling to reduce congestion in areas around schools, improve air quality and fitness, as well as focussing on road safety and ways to engage the whole community in 'shifting modes of travel'. We run many initiatives and have been accredited with the Gold Award again this year.

## Junior Road Safety Officers

Junior Road Safety Officers are appointed each year from Year 6 to help promote School Travel initiatives to the whole school. They generate new ideas and support campaigns. Currently they are Adhi, Emilia, Finnley, Lottie, Oliver and Ted and are very proactive in organising activities for the whole school, for example, road safety competitions and making presentations to children at the our school and the John Hampden School. They also actively support our Park and Stride initiative by attending Parking patrols on the schools campus.

They are enthusiastic promoters of road safety schemes during Walk to School Month, National Road Safety Week, The Big Pedal and Walk to School Week.



## Travelling to and from school

### The WOW Travel Tracker

We encourage children and their families to travel sustainably to and from school, either by walking, scooting, cycling or 'Park and Stride', parking responsibly away from the school area and walking the rest of the way. We are in our third year of using the **WOW Travel Tracker**, which is an interactive, in-class system where each child can click on their mode of travel each day as they arrive in the classroom. At the end of each month children who have travelled actively at least three times each week receive a **WOW badge**. The badges are themed and this year the theme is 'Inventions that changed the world' and children are proudly collecting their badges, which are all designed by school children around the country. The WOW Travel Tracker is run by Living Streets, the everyday walking charity.

## Hands-up Travel Survey

Each year we take a Hands-up Travel survey to give us baseline data. Our last Hands-up Travel Survey in the Summer Term showed the following results:

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Mode	Walk	Cycle	Scoot	Taxi	Park and Stride	Car Share	Car
%	53	3.5	10	1	25	0.5	7

We would like to thank all parents and carers who make such a determined effort to travel to school sustainably and we are very proud of the fact that our data shows that sustainable methods of travel account for 92.5%. However, we have a Park and Stride rate of 25%, which equates to about 95 cars arriving in the area at peak times. If Park and Stride is used correctly, drivers should be parking outside of the Active Travel Zone. While we know that many drivers park responsibly it is apparent that some drivers do not. To this end, our focus this year is to improve this situation by promoting correct Park and Stride use and educating our children to ask their parents and carers to park responsibly.

### MAPS

In 2017 we launched the **MAPS** initiative. Every family was issued with a MAP of the local area which highlights five and ten minute walking zones and the **Active Travel Zone**. The **ATZ** covers the Wharf Road and Manor Road area including the **Schools' Campus**. We ask that all children and their families travel actively, i.e. walk, cycle or scoot, within this zone to eliminate congestion and provide a safe and healthy environment in an area where large numbers of children and parents converge at peak times. A PDF copy of the Active Travel Zone Map is available on the Parents section of the website.

To help those who find they have to drive to school we offer some ideas as recommended on **MAPS**

- park in the village car park adjacent to the library (10 minute walk and free for an hour although a ticket is still required)
- park at St Anne's Hall (5 minute walk - the church are kindly tolerant of considerate drivers)
- park at a friend's house and walk
- drop your child with a friend so they can walk with them
- some parking spaces are available in the lay-by on Aylesbury Road opposite Costa, on Tring Road outside Tesco and outside the Post Office in the village. Please check parking restrictions but usually parking is free for up to one hour.

### Parents' Parking Promise

Many of our families have signed up to the Parents Parking Promise, part of the countrywide Perfect Parking Campaign, encouraging drivers to park away from the schools' campus, outside of the Active Travel Zone. Parents/carers receive a car sticker to display on their windscreen. Parking Promise Registration Forms can be requested from the school office.

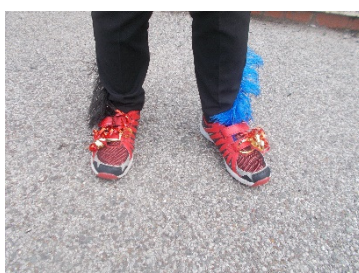
The road through the campus is simply an access road for staff and deliveries, so parking or dropping off/picking up on campus is prohibited as per the signs at the entrance on Wharf Road. Entry to the campus is controlled by automated barrier. There is a small emergency drop-off zone near the exit of

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the campus but this is suitable for quick drop-off only and not for parking and waiting. This area must be clear at all times to allow for ease of access and exit for emergency vehicles.

### Walk to School Month – October 2019

During Walk to School Month, the JRSOs run a campaign to encourage safe journeys to school. This year they held Happy Shoesday to encourage walking – children come to school in their most colourful, decorated or ‘blinged’ shoes. There were some wonderful ideas as you can see in the photos below.



### Parking Patrol

The JRSOs also regularly organise a ‘Parking Patrol’ at the campus exit to remind drivers that parking is prohibited in this area. They display banners but also, with adult supervision, speak to drivers and explain the No Parking Policy and issue a flyer explaining more about the Park and Stride scheme.



### Walk to School Week – May 2020

We always take part in this annual event, which is sponsored by Living Streets. Each year our JRSOs run an activity to encourage walking to school and make sure that we have fun while doing so. Last summer they organised an Activity Day in conjunction with Premier Sports. All classes took part in a multi-skills Activity Carousel and a Power Walk around the school fields.

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### John Hampden School Safety Week – November 2019

The JRSOs are always invited to the JHS Safety week and give a talk about road safety. This year they focussed on the Green Cross Code and Stop! Look! Listen! Think! and sang a song to support this message. They also stressed the importance of wearing bright colours and reflective clothing to make sure children can be easily seen by drivers.



### National Road Safety Week – November 2019

We always take part in National Road Safety Week, which is promoted by BRAKE, the road safety charity. This year the JRSOs have launched a Poster or Poetry Competition on the theme of 'Step-up for Safer Streets' and have created a Step-up for Safer Streets Treasure Hunt Map for each class.

#### Scooting

We encourage scooting to school and provide four scooter racks in the Parent Waiting Area, which hold 60 scooters. The Campus Pedestrian Pathway and the Parent Waiting Area are pedestrian only zones, so scooter riders should dismount for safety reasons. We politely ask parents and carers to ensure young scooter riders are supervised at all times.

#### Cycling

Children are very welcome to cycle to school and may make use of surrounding cycle paths. Cycle racks are currently situated in the Parent Waiting Area and hold 20 bikes. While the racks are getting busier, normally not all of our cyclists cycle on the same day and adjacent railings may be used. Each year in the spring, we enter The Big Pedal, a national cycling, scooting and walking competition and this produces an increase in active travel over the Summer Term. The event also gives our JRSOs the opportunity to talk to the school about cycling safety and the benefits of adopting cycling as part of a healthy lifestyle.



#### Cycling Policy

Our Cycling Policy encourages safe and responsible cycling as well as reminding children to wear helmets, suitable clothing and ideally Hi-Viz gear to ensure they can be easily seen. Children of junior school age are not expected to cycle on the road unless cycling with parents or carers. A Shared Cycle Path runs along the Tring Road and leads off down Manor Road directly to the campus. On the

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other side a Shared Cycle Path runs along the Aylesbury Road, however this comes to an end at Victory Road. At the time of installation, the pavements along Wharf road were considered too narrow, so cyclists either have to cycle carefully along the pavement via Wharf Road or may cycle down Victory Road, turn right onto The Paddocks and either join Wharf Road at the end or dismount and cut through Swan Mews before re-joining Wharf Road. Cycle paths can be identified on the Active Travel Zone Map.

Cyclists are asked to dismount at the entrance to the campus. Cycling is prohibited along the campus road due to safety reasons following the installation of the automated barrier and the pedestrian pathway is too busy at peak times for safe cycling.



### Bikeability Level 2 Cycling Training

Each year Year 6 and Year 5 pupils are offered the chance to undertake this very comprehensive cycling course. The courses are run by Bespoke Cycling and courses take place during school holiday periods.

Children learn how to check their bikes and undergo rigorous off-road training before going onto local roads. Children are awarded a badge and certificate on completion of the course.



### School Travel Plan Working Group

If you would like to get involved in the School Travel Plan, please consider joining our working group. We meet our partners on campus once per term and discuss all aspects of travelling to school and plan ahead for new initiatives. We would like to get more involved with the community so please contact the office if you are interested in coming along to our meetings.

