



Title	School Travel Policy
Purpose	To promote active healthy lifestyles, road safety and independent skills To promote sustainable and safe commuting modes that reduce air pollution and ease local traffic congestion.
Relevant to	Trustees, Local Governors, all staff, parents/carers, students
Responsible Officer	Academy Development Director
Introduced	5/2019
Modification History	nil
Related Policies	Anti-Bullying; Behaviour; Educational Visits; Safeguarding; Special Needs.
Date Due for Review	4/2022
Relevant committee for review	LGB
Agreed at meeting of Local Governing Body	
Filed as	BSET_Pol.28_School_Travel_Policy_Vs1_0519.docx

Introduction

Oak Lodge is situated in the South-East of the London Borough of Barnet. Students attend the school from across the borough, with many travelling from the North and West.

All students who attend the school have an EHC Plan as a result of their significant and often complex special educational needs and disabilities. This means that very few students are able to travel without direct assistance or supervision; even in our Post-16 provision.

The Spring 2019 survey of commuting modes to Oak Lodge School shows that 88% of students travel from home to school using SEN Transport minibus, or for some, shared minicab. Only 2% are able to travel independently by public transport modes. A further 2% live close enough to the school to walk, supervised by parents or carers. This leaves 8% who travel to school by car.

The staffing at Oak Lodge is very high in comparison to the number of students attending; a reflection of their very complex and diverse special needs. Staff travel to school every day from many parts of the Greater London area and neighbouring counties of Hertfordshire and Essex. This means that very few live close enough to school for it to be practical to walk or cycle.

The annual staff travel survey for 2019 recorded that 40% of staff travelled to school by car, with a further 8% car sharing. A further 40% use public transport, 8% walk and just 4% cycle.

Rationale

We will continue to use Transport for London's STARS to update and monitor our school travel plan

We promote safe and active travel as much as possible by using our noticeboards, displays, newsletter and website at www.oaklodge.barnet.sch.uk

Despite the challenges that we face, we actively encourage all staff, students and parents to use public transport, walk, scoot or cycle to school whenever possible. This will:

- Help to keep us fitter and healthier
- Help keep our local air clean, and reduce congestion in our streets
- Help students develop road safety skills which will keep them safe as they travel further afield and gradually develop more independence.

We are committed to improving our children's understanding of the importance of safe travel to school and for all other journeys during school or leisure time.

Aims and Objectives

By the end of this year, our aims are to provide:

- Scooter training
- Pedestrian training
- Increase student road safety awareness

To ensure that local school trips are made on foot if the destination is close by.

To take all opportunities to use public transport routes for educational visits when it is safe for the students involved to do so.

To take all opportunities in the curriculum to support safe and sustainable assisted or independent travel according to the individual needs and capabilities of each student.

Staff Role

We expect all staff to support this policy and its values of sustainability and social responsibility, directly contributing where possible in their daily commute and in their support of students to promote safety and ecological sustainability.

We expect all teachers and support staff to contribute to student development of safe and sustainable travel through the formal and informal curriculum activities of the learning programme.

Parents Role

We ask parents to support their children, assisting them to use public transport, walk, scoot or cycle for journeys outside the school day whenever possible, in order for them to practice their developing independent travel awareness and skills.

We ask parents to assist their child(ren) to develop their travel skills sensibly and safely, and ensure that if used:

- bicycles and scooters are roadworthy and properly maintained.
- children are provided with a cycle helmet, high-visibility clothing and lights where appropriate
- Provide security locks if required

Students Role

We ask our students to:

- Behave in a way that shows that both they, their families and the school are presented in the best light whether walking, scooting, cycling or using public transport.
- Ride or walk courteously, sensibly and safely.

Driving to School

We understand that sometimes there is no alternative to driving to school.

We ask car drivers to consider car-sharing where possible.

Parents (and staff as appropriate) must ensure children travel safely in their car adhering to car seat laws and requirements and wearing a seatbelt at all times.

Where a car must be used we encourage parents and staff to drive only part of the way when practical, parking in a designated parking bay or space slightly away from the school so that some of the journey can be walked or scooted.

Parents and staff must ensure they park legally, safely and with respect for our neighbours and local residents. **It is not acceptable to park or wait on yellow lines, or across residential driveways for any period of time.**

Monitoring and Review

The school will continue to annually monitor the development of sustainable commuter modes within the school community.

This policy will be reviewed on a three-year cycle.

Appendix 1: Staff Car Share Promotion



STAFF CAR SHARE SCHEME

Help to improve the environment and reduce local pollution by supporting the Oak Lodge School Travel Plan Car Share Scheme! Some members of staff already car-share for their daily commute, but perhaps there are more of you who would like to join in and do your bit to reduce traffic congestion, whilst improving air quality? If you would like to car-share, please add your name to the list below.

Name	Home area	I am a driver who can share with others	I am a driver who would like to share with other drivers	I don't drive but am interested in car sharing

