



DEEPING ST NICHOLAS PRIMARY SCHOOL

TRAVEL PLAN

SEPTEMBER 2017

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Our School address is: Deeping St Nicholas Primary School

Main Road

Deeping St Nicholas

SPALDING

Lincolnshire

PE11 3DG

Our telephone number is: 01775 630280

Our e-mail address is: enquiries@deeping-st-nicholas.lincs.sch.uk

Our website address is: <http://deepingstnicholasprimaryschool.schnet.org>

Our Administrator is: Mrs Linda Ecob

Our Headteacher is: Mrs Anita Bandey

Our Chair of Governors is: Mr Richard Platt

INTRODUCTION

Aims of our travel Plan:

- To reduce the numbers of cars used for the school journey
- To encourage car-sharing where journeys are considered essential by parents
- To educate all children about making safe journeys to school
- To encourage more children to walk to school when it is safe to do so

Problems, issues and solutions:

- Parents working outside the village drop off their children at school on the way to work
- The Level Crossing is unmanned and temperamental
- The A1175 is perceived as being too dangerous for children to walk to school safely
- Paths are narrow and overgrown
- Families may not have friends or neighbours to share the school run
- Family size may mean that there are no spare spaces in vehicles

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL:

Our school is a primary school in the South Holland Area in South Lincolnshire. It is situated on the A1175, in the middle of Deeping St Nicholas the longest village in England - approximately half way between Market Deeping and Spalding.

Deeping St Nicholas Primary School is much smaller than most primary schools. There are 59 pupils on roll at the present time aged between 4 and 11, taught in 3 classes. There are 10 staff including teaching and non-teaching.

The school is a small rural primary school with a local catchment. The village of Deeping St Nicholas is spread along the main A1175 road which runs between Market Deeping approximately 6 miles to the South West and Spalding 4 miles to the North East. The nearest train station is at Spalding or the main line train station to both London and the North runs from Peterborough which is just 12 miles away to the South via Market Deeping.

The village is surrounded by Grade I agricultural and horticultural Fen land. The area is very flat and the main employment is based on the farming or associated food industries. There is a large population of migrant workers in the immediate area, many of whom live in and around Spalding. The nearest towns are Spalding and Market Deeping on the A1175, and there is the village of Hop Pole just 2 miles southwest on the A1175, or using the B roads south 3 miles, to the nearer village of Crowland. It is approximately 22 miles to Kings Lynn in Norfolk. Peterborough is the nearest City with all the expected attractions and provisions.

In 2006 a wind farm was established in the area and there are a total of 8 turbines in the immediate area. This is to make use of the ever present wind in the Fens.

Children come to this school from the immediate village and the surrounding area. Many children are brought to school by taxi as school in their own villages were full and our school was the next nearest available school with spaces.

The school has its own playing field and a relatively large playground with a covered seating area for children and parents. Inside the building are three classrooms, a hall, a library, staff room, Kitchen, offices and storage areas on the second floor.

There are three points of access to the school; one dedicated pedestrian access with protective railings and two with vehicular access.

There is a footpath on at least one side of the road for the majority of the village, but this can present difficulties crossing the A1175.

The school is open to children and parents from 08.30 to 15.05, although there are members of staff on the premises from 07.00 to 18.00.

There is a supervisor on site to ensure that children travelling by taxi enter the school safely.

School Clubs operate Mondays to Thursdays from 15.15 to 16.15.

CURRENT TRAVEL SITUATION:

Children and parents enter the school through the rear entrance. Staff and visitors to school use the front access.

Pedestrians have their own path to enter the school grounds safely.

Cycling to school is discouraged due to the dangerous nature of the A1175 and there are no cyclists at this school. However, children in Years 5 and 6 have the option to take advantage of Bikeability Training at the end of every alternate summer term.

There are 9 parking spaces available to visitors and parents.

Although there is not a school crossing patrol, hazard lights are active before and after school.

There is no walking bus.

We have enough cloakroom space for children who want to walk to school but there is limited space to dry wet clothes.

CCTV has not been installed.

The public bus service to our village is limited and does not operate at times suitable to attend school.

Road Safety Education is a part of the PHSE Curriculum and is revisited regularly.

RELATED ISSUES:

There is a constant stream of traffic on the A1175, including farm traffic and heavy vehicles.

Level Crossing Closures can cause traffic to be stationary outside the school blocking the school entrances.

The A1175 is a straight road and speeding and overtaking do cause problems for school users.

Taxis are encouraged to use the car park at the side of the school. There is a turning area at the side of the school if required.

The nearby local farm shop will provide parking when the school car park is closed due to building works; however a park and stride is not on offer due to the health and safety risks of farm traffic.

There are no crossing points near to the school.

Pavements are not provided along the full length of the A1175 in the village and can be narrow and overgrown. Lighting is not provided the full length of the route.

CAR PARKING PROVISION:

There are 9 parking spaces at the front of the school for visitors and parents. Additional parking is available in the lay by across the road which has spaces for 4 cars.

The governors explored the possibility of marking disabled spaces; however it was discovered that this could reduce the parking available to parents as disabled bays are for the exclusive use of disabled drivers.

Parking is made available on the rear playground for whole school events, such as community assemblies and productions.

There is no provision for storing cycles, mopeds or motorcycles.

PLANS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHOOL:

There are no current planning applications or building works planned that are likely to create and increase in the number on roll and the potential for more cars.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

- Bikeability training has been provided to children in Years 5 and 6 for the last three years
- Pedestrians have a covered seating area on arrival at school
- Children have taken part in a GIST workshop with a focus on safety near heavy goods vehicles
- Staff and governors have walked to school and shared findings with the Local Authority and parents

DEEPING ST NICHOLAS PRIMARY SCHOOL TRAVEL POLICY

Rationale

It is well noted that the amount of traffic on the roads has increased dramatically over recent years. As a result, too many accidents involving children occur nationally on a daily basis. Moreover, accidents concerning children during their home to school journeys arise too frequently. By issuing this policy the school community acknowledges that we have a duty to help prevent such tragedies and will ensure to meet our educational responsibility to contribute to the effective road safety education to all students in its care.

Aims

To establish and maintain a school ethos that incorporates: -

- safer journeys to school
- congestion free school gates
- walking to school when accompanied by adults
- investigating and encouraging other forms of transport for school journeys, for example park and stride
- educating children and parents in road safety issues and make them aware of the dangers of road traffic around the school environment
- encouraging children to take the road safety issues that they have learnt from school and adopt them in other areas of their lives i.e. around their home environment etc. so they may become confident with these skills
- ensuring the road safety issues that have been taught to children at an early age are part of a sustainable long term strategy which can be used as a building block that can be built on as they get older.

- encouraging a healthy attitude and walking culture amongst the school community that will lead to a healthier life style
- developing and maintaining a School Travel Plan which covers all aspects of school travel and related health and environmental issues.

Journeys to school – preferred means

Parents will be made aware that the preferred means of travel to school is walking to school.

This will be done by: -

- the policy being strenuously stated on the school's website
- regular reminders of the school ethos being made in the school's newsletter
- road safety education to illustrate importance of walking to school safely
- participation in national events such as Walk To School Week etc.

Children to be educated in pedestrian skills and road safety

Parents and children to be encouraged to either wear bright or reflective clothing or carry something of that description on their school journey especially in the winter and poor conditions

Parents to be encouraged to use the approved crossing site where appropriate

Car journeys

If the use of the car is considered unavoidable for the journey to and from school:

1. Parents should be encouraged to consider a park and stride scheme so that they park away from the school at a sensible location that will not impede the safety of others. The parents should then be encouraged to walk the final part of the journey to adhere to the school's "walking ethos"
2. The parents of new children to the school should be made aware of the opportunity for a park and stride journey to school encouraging walking for the last part of the journey.
3. Car drivers should be reminded to approach the school community with caution, drive at a sensible speed and be aware of other road users and pedestrians in accordance with the highway code
4. All car passengers should be restrained by seat belts and child locks should be used if appropriate
5. The school will promote car sharing amongst those who live in the same vicinity and rely on the car as their only viable means of transportation

Taxi Journeys

1. Children are to be reminded that they should enter and depart from the taxi in an orderly and sensible manner with due regard for their environment and the carriageway.
2. Children will be accompanied to the taxi by Mrs Oldham who will be aware of road safety issues
3. Taxi drivers will be regularly advised to approach the school with caution and pay due care to other pedestrians and vehicles within the school environment

Cycling

Children are not encouraged to cycle to school as the main road is considered too dangerous and the footpaths are narrow. Parents considering allowing children to cycle to school should be aware that there are no facilities to store bicycles, but the following criteria should be met: -

- they have prior consent from the headteacher
- they have participated in a nationally recognized Cycle Training Course
- they wear a cycling helmet and safety gear made to British Standards specification
- they are aged ten years or over

Road Safety in General

1. Parents should be encouraged to notify the school of any road safety issues within the school community that they believe has the potential of causing an accident. By the same token, feedback should be given to the parent once the matter has been investigated
2. The school should attempt to make and maintain links with Lincolnshire County Council and the Community Police and work in partnership to ensure road safety best practices are upheld
3. Constant reminders of the school's road safety policy and ethos will be provided to parents via the school newsletter, the school website, occasional handouts etc.
4. Parents of new children to the school will be verbally briefed of the schools road safety policy and ethos

5. The school will develop a full School Travel Plan that will assist with monitoring, evaluation and planning for all school travel related issues

Road Safety in the Curriculum

1. Road safety issues to be raised on a regular basis during school assemblies
2. The issue of road safety and school travel to be part of the schools personal, social and moral education and /or citizenship lessons
3. Road safety will also be introduced to children through class work, organized specialist events advertised locally, visiting speakers and national campaigns.

Actions	Responsibility	Timescale	Monitoring and Evaluation	Funding	Further Action
Provide all children walking to school with a high – visibility vest	Anita Bandey Linda Ecob	September 2017			Ensure stocks of high – visibility vests are maintained.
Deliver a Road Safety Week of Assemblies	Anita Bandey	Academic Year 2017-2018			
Promote car-sharing for parents who must use the car	Anita Bandey Linda Ecob	Academic Year 2017-2018			
Reward road safety consciousness on the Respect Tree display	All staff	Academic Year 2017-2018			
Develop staff awareness of car sharing when appropriate	All staff	Academic Year 2017-2018			
Develop governor awareness of car sharing when appropriate	All governors	Academic Year 2017-2018			
Promote road safety on newsletters and the school website	Anita Bandey Linda Ecob	Academic Year 2017-2018			