

School travel plans

School travel plans help to reduce the effects of the 'school run' on congestion and pollution.

- They are an individual school strategy designed to reduce car use on the journey from home to school.
- They encourage walking and cycling as a way of improving children's health and fitness.
- They raise awareness of sustainable transport choices through teaching in the curriculum.
- The whole school community needs to be involved in writing a travel plan as it will be a living document for years to come.

One-off government grants are currently available to schools for completed travel plans. This money can be used to fund schemes such as cycle parking or pedestrian access.

Resources

- The Department for Transport's [Sustainable School Travel Database](#) allows access to more than 50 school travel resource areas, including teaching resources.
- [Safe Routes To Schools](#) - excellent teaching resources, ideas for cycling and walking initiatives and help with producing travel plans from Sustrans, the sustainable transport charity.
- [Living Streets](#) - walking initiatives and campaign material from the Pedestrian Association, the organisation behind Walk to School week.
- [Teachernet](#) - school travel plans.

The council is not responsible for the content or reliability of external websites.

Contact

School Travel Adviser
Transport Planning Unit
9 St Leonard's Place York YO1 7ET
tel: (01904) 551345
fax: (01904) 551340
email: schooltravel@york.gov.uk

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Sustainable Travel to Schools Strategy (Draft)

Education is a hugely important part of a child's development and being able to get to that education is therefore just as significant. Travelling to school necessitates in over 23,000 children and young people making a morning and an evening journey each day in York.

As a result of this it is in the interests of the city, the school community and children and young people to use sustainable modes of travel wherever possible for a variety of reasons. This strategy will examine these reasons and develop an action plan for how York will promote sustainable modes of travel and will detail how the city will develop sustainable travel infrastructure.

This document is targeted at those with both a professional and general interest in school travel in York. It is accompanied by a summary publication, which details the main objectives, the initiatives that are currently ongoing and offers some ways as to how people can get involved. The summary publication will be available online soon.

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Documents to download

- [Draft Sustainable Travel to School Strategy \(PDF, 44 pages, 4MB\)](#)
- [Help viewing PDF documents](#)

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Walking Buses

A 'Walking Bus' lets a group, or 'bus', of children walk from home to school each morning quickly and safely under the guidance of trained adult supervisors.

The perfect alternative to the school run in the car, the idea has been developed by the Pedestrians' Association and is a perfect fit with the government's aim to reduce road traffic congestion and provide safe walking routes.

Not only does it take pressure off parents in the morning, but it also provides children with a healthy, educational and environmentally sound way of getting to school each day.

If you would like more information on setting up a walking bus, please download the documents on the right-hand side of the page, or contact our School Travel Advisers.

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Documents to download

- [Resources List - Road Safety in Education](#) (PDF, 7 pages, 64kB)
- [Setting up a Walking Bus](#) (PDF, 4 pages, 74kB)
- [Walking Buses - Information for Parents](#) (PDF, 2 pages, 45kB)
- [Walking Buses - Permission Note and Pupil's Promise](#) (PDF, 1 page, 59kB)
- [Help viewing PDF documents](#)

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Writing a school travel plan

How to write a school travel plan:

1 - Set up a working group

- Get together a team of enthusiastic people to help produce the plan and share tasks.

2 - Undertake consultation

- Talk to everyone in the school community to find out what your school's particular transport problems are.
- Conduct surveys to find out how children currently travel to school.

3 - Set targets and agree on initiatives

- Come up with ideas to encourage walking, cycling and to decrease car use that would work for your school.
- Set yourself some realistic targets and timescales for the next few years.

4 - Write up the travel plan

- Create a travel plan outlining your issues and proposed solutions and providing evidence of consultation.
- Once written, you can also apply for a travel plan grant from the DfT/DfES towards the funding of items such as cycle parking.

5 - Implement the plan and publicise it

- Make it work
- Action the plan
- Tell everyone about it!

6 - Monitor, review regularly and reassess

- A successful travel plan is a living, breathing document; make sure that yours is regularly reviewed and improved upon.
- Targets will need to be closely monitored.

A Guide to School Travel Plans

For more detailed information on producing and implementing a school travel plan, download the guide

You can use the following Microsoft Word document as a template when writing your school travel plan:

> [School travel plan template \(Microsoft Word document, 8 pages, 331 KB\)](#)

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Documents to download

- [A Guide to School Travel Plans \(PDF, 23 pages, 408kB\)](#)
- [Help viewing PDF documents](#)

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