

School Travels Plans Ad-hoc Scrutiny Review

Feedback from Visits to Schools

Responses from Person(s) Responsible for Travel Plan

1. How is your travel plan promoted to parents, pupils and staff?		
<p>Pressure from children on parents School knows which parents will let children walk or cycle. Pair up families to help each other e.g. those with small children.</p>		<p>A range of ways, including a launch in school through 'Take Part York'. Used a PowerPoint and display by pupils and advertised to parents to encourage them to attend. Also given to parents as part of the school Easter Egg competition.</p>
2. How well do you think the school and staff understand the concept / rationale behind School Travel Plans?		
<p>Parents involved in drawing up the plan Some hard to reach parents are difficult to engage Some parents understand the concept but won't or can't change their behaviour e.g. travelling on to work School survey not accurate e.g. many parents say they travel by cycle or walk when actually they use the car - reality checked by show of hands with pupils.</p>		<p>Fairly well, but not all pupils as the concept is difficult. Could you not jazz up the name? Need to keep the focus on the environment and health/sport.</p>
3. How the travel plan is monitored - who has responsibility?		
<p>Teaching Assistant has responsibility for monitoring. Need to have one person in school that champions the plan. Committee of staff and parents to support the champion.</p>		<p>Raised at school council and school governors meetings. Chair of Governors takes lead with travel plan as the Headteacher could not do this due to pressures of school improvement. Visits such as today from Councillors do help to focus the mind.</p>

4. What initiatives (if any) is the school focussing on at the moment to encourage walking and cycling to school and reducing car use?		
<p>Roaming Romans Whole school works to promote walking, cycling, scooting. Class targets and prizes Bikeability training starting in Roaming Romans Bikeability training starting in Yr 5 and extending level into yr 6 in preparation for secondary school – <i>good practice for recommendations</i> Walk to swimming baths, library and into York for school trips – <i>good practice for recommendations</i></p>		<p>School has taken part in a variety of initiatives, such as how many steps do you take a day (pedometer challenge etc) and walking into the city centre with all school trips. New initiatives can be helpful.</p>
5. Do you use implementing the school travel plan as a way of addressing the parking issues outside the school?		
<p>New travel plan for new school has targets and actions to reduce parking outside school. Problem is inconsiderate parking on verges and across drives. PCSOs helpful, parents informed by letter that there is to be a 'purge'</p>		<p>No particular parking issues outside school, compared to other schools, due to parents and children living locally and the cost of owning a car School wants the entrance to be improved, so that it is a pleasant experience to walk or cycle. Due to a new development nearby, the school and CYC will need to focus on travel safety around the school entrance</p>
6. Do you link implementing walking and cycling to school with other initiatives in the school such as Healthy Schools?		
<p>Yes. Work in class and assemblies linking benefits to health, climate change and improves fitness</p>		<p>Yes, it supports Healthy Schools (the school is just re-applying).</p>

7. What City wide initiatives have the school taken part in such as Walk with Wilf, Bike It, Walk to School Weeks and the Virtual bike races?		
Bike It, Walk to School Weeks, Beauty and the bike and the Virtual bike races all successful.		Yes, Walk to School week and sponsored mile walk. The school also generates its own ideas
8. Does the school monitor car use to school?		
Annual CYC survey Monitoring in 4 week periods when undertaking walk it, bike it bus it initiative Will have more regular monitoring linked to new school travel plan targets		School has no particular parking issues outside school, compared to other schools. This is due to parents and children living locally and the cost of owning a car.
9. How beneficial do you find having contact with a School Travel Plan Co-ordinator in developing walking and cycling initiatives to school?		
Important – use of provided package for initiatives, help with grants such as for bike shelters, help with new travel plans. Very supportive and helpful expertises. Very well regarded.		Useful as provided information, contacts, discussed issues and provided a focus Found cycling training very useful Chair of Governors feels that a focus on school travel, the environment and health is useful.
10. Has the Council worked with you to implement any Safe Routes to School measures (making walking or cycling routes to school safer, improving crossings and the like) in the last two years?		
Linked to new school, park & Stride. No physical measures.		Yes - looked at routes, particularly junctions. Hedges often too high - 1 recently cut Improvements to walking arrangements within the school grounds e.g. access to reception class - now looking at new access road due to new development. CYC also provided high visibility bands & pencils

11. If so, do you think that these measures have encouraged more walking, cycling or scooting to school?		
		<p>Yes - to a point as the car usage is historically low anyway. Pupils agree, as it 'saves energy' & 'the globe is warming' It has a lot to do with the parents though. Has it really changed 'mind set'?</p>
12. Are you aware of any additional safety measures that could be made and have you reported them to anyone in the Council - If so to whom?		
<p>Yes. Hamilton Drive Crossing Hob Moor dark in winter evenings make parents worry about children crossing on bikes etc Lack of crossing patrol at St Paul's impacts on children coming from that direction. <u>CYC Response</u> Have met on site with CYC Engineer – Hamilton Drive improvements part of development of new school. As Hob Moor is a Local Nature Reserve, lighting is not likely to be installed. St Paul's – this is a designated School Crossing patrol site but CYC have been unable to recruit to fill the post.</p>		<p>Yes – re the school car park, now looking at the internal safety issues for cyclists and walkers. New internal signs around the school site would be useful. School requires new storage, e.g. scooter storage and safe cycle storage for pupils (additional bike locks). They did have contact with School Travel - <i>did anything happen to this funding?</i> The new cycle path does not connect to the school. They did submit a bid to the Ward Committee for a walking bus - <i>did anything happen to this funding?</i> <u>CYC Response</u> The STPC continues to work with the school via the Chair of Governors and the students' School Council to seek ways to address the matters raised in this document.</p>

Responses from School Councils

1. How do you get to school?		
<p>7 young people interviewed from Year 6. All but one either walked or cycled. Other came by car from Copmanthorpe. Most travelled between 1/4 and 1 mile to school. Some cycled across Hob Moor. Worried about dogs not on leads and darkness in evenings on Hob Moor. Joined in walk it, bike it bus it. Talked very enthusiastically about Roaming Romans. Some had involved parents. All had done bikeability training in Yr5 and level 2 in year 6.</p>		<p>Pupils live locally and so most walk or cycle to school. The school undertook surveys last year. Poor weather sometimes makes a difference, as do the cost of cars and the location of the school in the community.</p> <p><u>CYC Response:</u> The ideas put forward here by the school councillors about how to involve their peers in the promotion of sustainable school travel and travel plan development are considered to be very helpful. It is the intention to consider them in more depth at future school council meetings.</p>
2. How could we encourage more children to either walk, cycle or scoot to school?		
<p>Liked the idea of stunts Prizes such as current class prize of a box of Heroes. Stickers and rewards Explain that cycling faster & safer than car Talk to friends or take them with you to get them going on bike Problem continual vandalism to bike shelter</p> <p><u>CYC Response:</u> School due to be rebuilt with Our Lady's amalgamated as from Sept 2011. New bike shed to be built then. For now little can be done to prevent vandalism as it is near to public footpath (low hedge and fence separates) and entrance gate. CYC has been in contact with school.</p>		<p>The messages especially around the environmental benefits are really clear so continue with the message of saving the planet, but suggested updating the name to something a bit more catchy.</p> <p>Previously took part in walk to school week, which helped. Also plan to undertake a new survey this year.</p> <p>Also enjoyed the Primary School Council Conference, including the presentation on school travel planning.</p>