

## COPMANTHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL - TRAVEL INITIATIVES

1. Copmanthorpe Primary School first wrote its travel plan in 2004. The most recent update of its action plan was prepared in March 2013 with the assistance of the School Travel Advisor. This is attached as Annex B(i).
2. Copmanthorpe Primary is aware of the most recent concerns raised and has a travel plan group that meets termly. The work of this group includes seeking to address the parking issues outside the school and to encourage more sustainable travel. Membership comprises the Head Teacher as chair with a parent/governor, parish councillor/governor, a parent and the School Travel Advisor. Members of the school council join the group to talk about a particular issue or project concerning sustainable travel. Thus the whole school community is involved in promoting safe and sustainable travel to school.
3. The School Travel Advisor met with the Transport Projects Engineer and two governors from the school, who are also members of the travel committee, on site on 16 October 2012 to observe the parking issues and investigate whether any engineering solutions could be implemented to make the journey to school safer.
4. Following these investigations, a highway improvement scheme was developed as shown in **Annex C** to improve visibility for pedestrians and discourage parking at the cul de sac end of Low Green. These proposals are included in the 2013/14 School Safety programme.
5. The school regularly takes part in the Spring and Autumn Walk to School Week campaigns and reports high levels of participation. They also hold their own events during the course of the year and this spring they held a Walk to School Month, which started with the Walk to School Week in May.
6. The school is connected to the car park of the village recreation centre by a footpath allowing safe, off-road passage for those children who are driven to school. The school regularly promotes this car park to parents as an alternative place to park. This is done via newsletters asking parents and carers to park responsibly outside the school. Annexes B(ii) and B(iii) contain newsletters that appeared in May relating to Walk to School Week and in which

parents are encouraged to park responsibly and use the recreation centre car park.

7. The latest action plan places emphasis on continuing participation in walk to school weeks. During May's Walk to School Week, on one morning only two cars were reported to have parked outside the school on Low Green. This shows it is possible for drivers to alter their behaviour and if drivers can change their behaviour for a week, it should be possible for them to make the change more permanently.
8. At the June Travel Plan Group meeting which followed the school's Walk to School Month it was reported that walking and cycling figures had improved. The view of the School Council representatives was that having a whole month helped as it encouraged good habits, compared to the week long events which had only a short lived effect. The children also reported that outside the school felt safer during this period as there were fewer cars around. The school now plan to get the pupils to write to parents reporting how much safer they feel when there are less cars outside the school. Further ideas from the meeting include investigating possible child centred initiatives to encourage parents to use the recreation centre car park
9. All children at the appropriate times are offered pedestrian training and Bikeability levels 1&2 training. In 2012/13 46 pupils attended pedestrian training, 46 pupils took Bikeability level 1 training and 44 pupils took Bikeability level 2. These figures are particularly good in relation to other York schools.
10. The Council's Parking Services regularly visit schools that have enforceable parking restrictions. Copmanthorpe School was visited in May 2012 by Parking Services and no problems were observed by the team. Parking Services can only enforce parking offences and cannot deal with inconsiderate parking. However while they are there, their presence will often encourage 'good' behaviour by drivers.

#### **Annexes:**

**Annex B(i):** Updated Action Plan to the travel plan dated March 2013

**Annex B(ii)** Parents newsletter 17 May 2013

**Annex B(iii)** Parents newsletter 24 May 2013