

# TRAVEL PLAN FOR WILDMOOR HEATH SCHOOL



## **Article 24**

Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must work to provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food and a clean environment so that children can stay healthy.

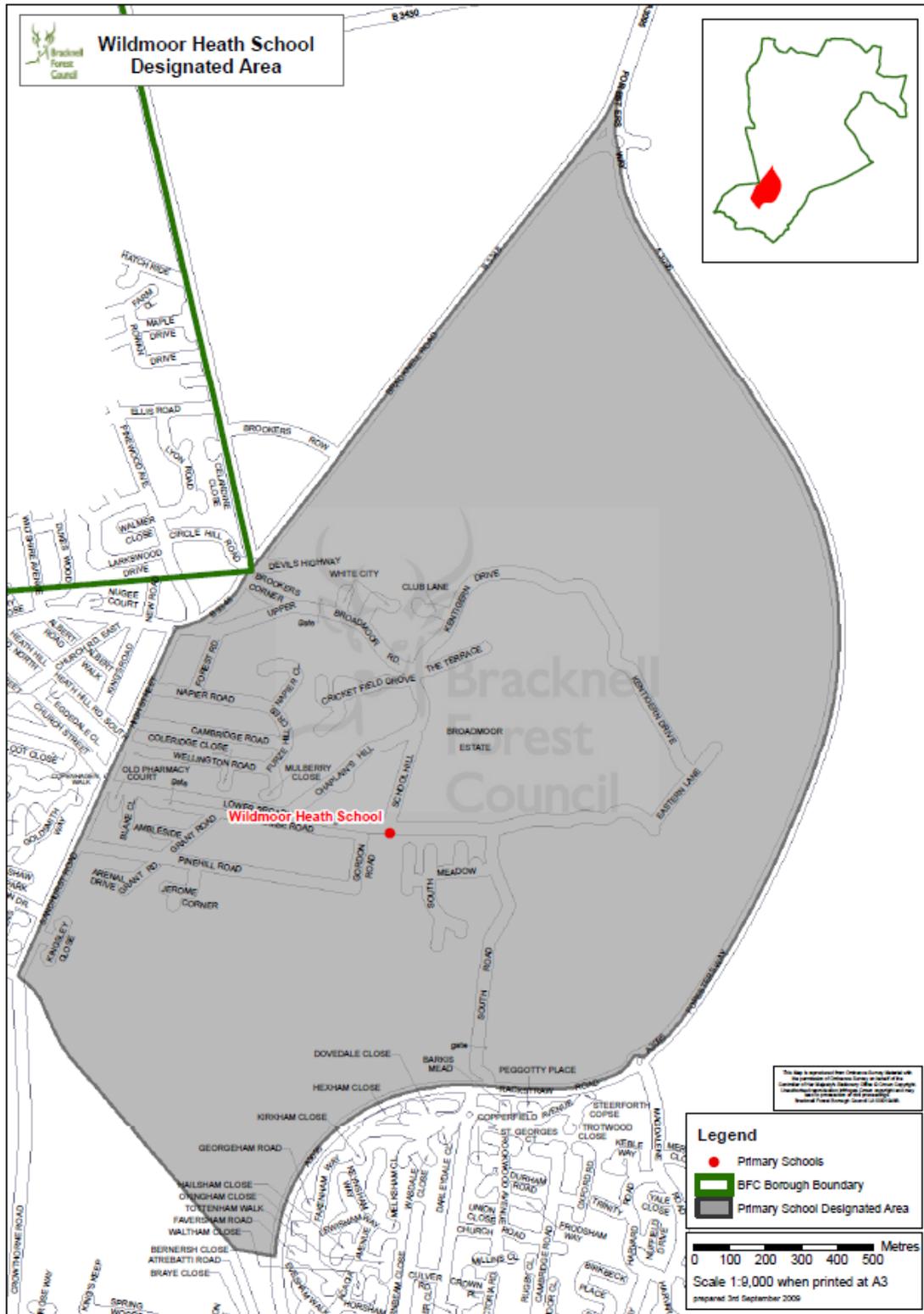
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**DFES School Reference Number: 867/2065**  
**Revised and updated January 2015**

**About our school**

Wildmoor Heath School is a smaller-than-average size primary school located in the village of Crowthorne in Bracknell Forest. The school mainly serves families from the 'Broadmoor' area of Crowthorne. However, around 10% travel in from either central Bracknell or nearby Sandhurst.



There are 215 children on the school roll (including Nursery) and 32 staff at the school. The pupils are aged from 3 – 11. The school day begins for most pupils at 8.50am and finishes at 3.15pm. Most nursery

children leave at 11.50am, however, some stay for a lunch club which finishes at 1.00pm. There is a breakfast club, serving an average of 10-12 children, from 8.00am each morning and an after school club which runs until 6.00pm daily. In 2013, the school introduced a 'rolling start' with the doors opening at 8.40am.

Wildmoor Heath School is located at the junction of Lower Broadmoor Road and School Hill. There are few parking restrictions (i.e. yellow lines) on these roads and there are also a limited number of parking bays for parents to use. The school has two vehicular entrances. The 'main' entrance (with electric gates) leads to a car park at the front of the school and is used by staff, visitors and deliveries. There are 19 spaces, including one disabled bay. The other entrance, located on the East side of the school is used for refuse collection and school lunch deliveries only. Parents are actively discouraged from using the staff car park during the school day and the gates are shut with access via an intercom for most of the day. The gates are open from 3.30pm and the car park may be used for collecting children from after school activities or EnergyKidz.

Outside organisations also use the school for regular activities after school. They can use the staff car park and if necessary, the playground can also be used for further parking.

There is a pedestrian / cycle access off Lower Broadmoor Road. There are cycle and scooter racks available for the pupils to use. Parents are encouraged to lock their younger children's cycles in these racks, with older ones doing it themselves, if left during the day.

Pupils participate in the national 'Walk to Schools' weeks, Year 6 take part in the 'Bikeability' programme and the school is working with Sustrans to promote cycling and scooting through the 'Bike It' initiative.

Between 2010 and 2013, pupil numbers (including Nursery) declined steadily from 195 to 180. This trend, however, has been reversed recently with 201 on roll at the January 2014 census return and a projected 212 on roll for January 2015. Demand for Reception year places across Bracknell Forest continues to be high and recently, the Local Authority has also seen an increase in 'in year' admissions. In addition, there have been two small housing developments near the school – Wildmoor Copse off School Hill and houses on Lower Broadmoor Road. For these reasons, numbers are likely to continue to rise over the next few years. In the long term, the Local Authority are considering expanding the school to be two forms of entry (2FE) to accommodate the additional pupils expected from two significant developments within its catchment – at Cricket Field Grove and part of the Broadmoor Hospital Estate itself ([see](#) Bracknell Forest School Places Plan 2013-18 and Site Allocation Plan).

### **Why we are implementing a School Travel Plan**

Wildmoor Heath School recognises the importance of reducing the reliance on the car and thus reducing the level of traffic congestion around Lower Broadmoor Road and School Hill. The school's travel plan sets out the measures and good practice regarding the travel arrangements for its pupils and staff. The school undertakes to promote the good practice set out in the travel plan and will encourage parents, staff, carers and pupils to seek new opportunities to travel to and from school.

There are several issues that have been identified which the travel plan seeks to address:

#### **1. Traffic congestion near the school**

In the morning and afternoon, parents park in Lower Broadmoor Road and School Hill to drop off and collect their children. This allows single file traffic only, particularly in Lower Broadmoor Road, and causes congestion. There have also been complaints from local residents about their driveways being blocked.

#### **2. Dropping off at the Lower Broadmoor Road and School Hill junction**

A particular issue is the parking and / or dropping off near the mini-roundabout at the Lower

Broadmoor Road and School Hill junction. Cars are sometimes parked on the ‘cobblestones’ within 15m of the junction causing problems for other road users entering the mini-roundabout. Children are sometimes dropped off outside the school gate with cars stopping on the mini-roundabout to do so. These conditions make crossing the road safely particularly difficult and there have been several ‘near misses’ in the last year as well as a minor road traffic accident.

### 3. Safe use of bicycles and scooters

The school is participating in the ‘Bike It’ programme to promote the use of bikes and scooters and as a consequence the number of children using bikes has increased. However, we have noticed that not all children are wearing cycle helmets. Year 6 pupils have the opportunity to participate in a cycling proficiency course (Bikeability) up to Level 2. Parents have indicated that they would like their Year 5 children to undertake a cycling proficiency course, but the school is reliant on off-site trainers who are a scarce resource. It may benefit the school to have a member of staff or parent who could undertake the course and then provide training for the pupils.

### 4. Cycle and scooter storage

The current storage is inadequate for the number of bikes and scooters being brought to school. It is also uncovered. The school has secured funding from Sustrans to establish two new sheltered cycle / scooter stores, one in the existing space and one at the front of the school. However, this is taking longer than anticipated due to the lack of school plans and the need for a survey.

## Survey Results

We use a number of sources of information to build a picture of current travel to school including information from Bracknell Forest Borough Council on walk to school week statistics, hands-up surveys in school and surveys of both parent/carers and staff.

Date of Survey	% walking (Incl. Scooters)	% cycling	% car	% other
Jan 2014 (census)	54	4	41	1 (car share)
Jan 2013 (census)	59	1	38	2 (car share)
Jan 2009 (census)	53	1	45	1
Jan 2008 (census)	58	2	39	1
Jan 2007 (census)	60	2	38	0
May 2006	62	3	26	9
May 2005	48	2	34	16 (car share)
May 2004	49	3	47	1

The percentage walking or cycling to school has been around 60% for the last two years with approximately 40% using a car.

### Staff Survey (December 2014)

The School also issued a survey to staff to find out how they travelled to school. The majority (61%) always drive to work, with a further 6% who sometimes drive. The main reasons given for this were ‘ease’, ‘distance travelled’ and ‘too much to carry’. 26% always walk to school, with a further 6% who sometimes walk. The majority of those walked did so because of their proximity to the school. 2 members of staff (6%) catch a train to Crowthorne Station and then cycle to school.

## Objectives & Targets

Objective	Targets
1. To increase the proportion of children coming to school by foot or on a bike;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the proportion of pupils walking / scooting to school to 62% (measured by regular pupil hands-up survey and census);</li> <li>• Increase the percentage cycling to school to 8% by January 2016 (measured by regular pupil hands-up survey and census);</li> </ul>
2. To improve safety and traffic flow in the vicinity of the school so that (a) fewer parents raise concerns about their journey and (b) fewer of our neighbours complain about parking;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce complaints / concerns from neighbours and / or PCSO to 0 by January 2016.</li> <li>• Reduce concerns expressed by parents about road safety to 3 per year by January 2016.</li> </ul>
3. To improve pupil cycle skills and awareness;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By July 2016, all Year 6 pupils leave school with at least 'Bikeability' Level 2;</li> <li>• By July 2016, all Year 5 pupils achieve Level 1.</li> </ul>

## Action Plan

Objective 1	Measure	Monitoring	Who is responsible?	Target date
To increase the proportion of children coming to school by foot or on a bike;	Continue to promote scooting and cycling through Bike It scheme;	Census data and regular show of hands; Number of scooters and bikes in school;	S Leadbeatter	Jan 2016
	Identify opportunities to discuss travel issues (i.e. environment, road safety, health) within PSHE and wider curriculum;	Pupil voice; Planning monitoring; Assembly overview;	S Leadbeatter / G Strudley	Feb 2015
	Develop inter class competition using pedometers (Inter-House?);	Pupil voice; Feedback from parents;	S Leadbeatter	Mar 2015
	Establish a project to draw pupil walking maps on key routes using an appropriate year group;	Maps created and put on website;	G Strudley	Mar 2015
	Establish regular visits by police / PCSO to talk about road safety;	On general calendar;	G Strudley	Feb 2015
	Increased School Eco Council involvement in STP;	Eco reps are familiar with the travel plan and contributing ideas to it.	S Leadbeatter / G Strudley	Mar 2015
	Develop Y6's 'street wise' skills in preparation for their journey to secondary school.	More Year 6 pupils walking to school	M Gater	Ongoing

Objective 2	Measure	Monitoring	Who is responsible?	Target date
To improve safety and traffic flow in the vicinity of the school so that (a) fewer parents raise concerns about their journey and (b) fewer of our neighbours complain about parking;	Continue to ask BFBC traffic wardens and PCSO to police areas near school at school pick up and drop off times;	Presence deters illegal and inconsiderate parking as observed by PCSO and HT;	G Strudley	Ongoing
	Increased School Council involvement in STP;	School Council aware of STP; Letter to parents reminding them about safety near school;	S Leadbeatter / G Strudley	Mar 2015
	Highlight and promote travel issues to PTA and governors to encourage parental discussion and focus on travel issues;	PTA are active in promoting travel awareness in their parent network	G Strudley / CoG / CoPTA	Apr 2015
	Issue a travel survey to parents to update opinions on travel issues;	Measure change in opinions and travel habits;	G Strudley	Dec 2015
	Produce regular item for newsletter and website highlighting and reporting travel issues.	Travel issues discussed every term;	G Strudley / S Attfield	Ongoing

Objective 3	Measure	Monitoring	Who is responsible?	Target date
To improve pupil cycle skills and awareness;	Promote existing Bikeability scheme to Year 6;	100% take-up. All children achieve Level 1 and 90% achieve Level 2;	M Gater	Dec 2014
	Year 5s have opportunity to access Bikeability;	Pupils access cycle training either on-site or on BFBC schemes.	M Gater	Dec 2015
	Continue to work with Luke Forshaw and Sustrans to up-skill (i.e. safety, bike maintenance) children and raise awareness;	Pupil Voice; Surveys and 'bike counts';	S Leadbeatter	Dec 2015
	Use Private Fund to purchase bike helmets and basic reflective gear;	Bike permit take-up; Checks when children come into school; Pupil voice;	G Strudley	Dec 2015
	Improve bike and cycle storage;	Bike / scooter counts;	G Strudley / B Pither	Mar 2015

**Consultation**

Parents – Parents are surveyed as part of an annual census about their travel habits. A further questionnaire will be issued by December 2015. Parents will be consulted about the Bike Permit and Bikeability schemes.

Staff – Staff will be regularly asked about how they get to school and any issues they have. A staff travel champion will be identified to assist with dissemination of travel issues across the school.

Pupils – Regular hands-up surveys asking how pupils travel to school are conducted. School Council and Eco reps also ask their classes about issues relating to walking / cycling to school. Eco reps will increase their involvement with the School Travel Plan.

Governors – The Headteacher will report progress on the STP to the Finance & Building (F&B) Committee of the Governing Body. F&B will review the current Travel Plan actions annually and discuss appropriate funding from the Private Fund to support initiatives.

PTA – The PTA will be asked to assist with travel issues at school by disseminating issues and travel activities using their ‘home room’ representatives.

Local Authority – Links will be established with the Local Authority.

Police – The local PCSO continues to patrol areas around school at the beginning and end of the school day when possible and is in close contact with the school.

**Monitoring and Review**

The effectiveness of the travel plan will be monitored by parental surveys and pupils surveys. Pupil surveys will be held during walk to school weeks and during the annual January census times to measure changes.

The SL&MT will review the plan at least annually. A review document will be provided to the LA in time for the required deadline each year.

The travel plan actions will be monitored by the F&B committee and progress will be monitored at least annually at a meeting held by the committee.

The school will also consider pupil travel needs arising from new developments in education and transport provision and the travel plan will be revised as necessary to take account of these.

**Signed By:**

Grant Strudley  
Headteacher

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Karen Roche  
Chair of Governors

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Date

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