

Ingleby Manor Free School & Sixth Form Transport Policy

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1.0 Roles and Responsibilities

The responsibility for the implementation of this policy and provision rests with the Principal. On an operational basis, the management, responsibility and evaluation of this policy will be undertaken by the **Office Manager**.

2.0 Suggested Audience

All staff, parents/carers, and students.

As part of their school induction or professional development, all staff will be familiar with the contents of this plan.

3.0 Related policies

This policy is part of a suite of policies which should also be referred to:

- Communication with Parents/Carers
- Home-School Agreement
- Educational Visits and Off-site activities guideline

4.0 Introduction

This school is a member of the School Partnership Trust Academies (SPTA). It will work closely with other SPTA academies and with the education partner's Core Team and other personnel to ensure this plan is fully developed and implemented.

The education partner and the school are fully supportive of a sustainable travel plan and through the careful collaboration of other SPTA academies and the effective use of ICT, the School will move to adopt the highest levels of sustainable practice.

This plan will seek to put in place a plan based on best advice a practice from parents, the school's foundation trust (Ingleby Manor Foundation Trust – IMFT) and Stockton Borough Council (SBC) officials.

The school acknowledges and fully supports to move towards 'greener' transport, recognising that many of the student-related outcomes can be supported by adopting a more sustainable transport approach:

- Better health, through additional exercise and better air quality
- Improved safety, by minimising student movement off the school site, ensuring good access routes to and from the school, through the planned use of Ingleby Barwick's excellent network of cycle ways and footpaths and monitored crossing of routes to the Low Lane site of the permanent building.
- Greater community involvement through increased use of sustainable travel which improves the environment for all members of the community.
- In this case, following advice from SBC officials, discussion with IMFT members and consultation with parents the school accepts that, during the temporary occupation of the Jay Avenue site, the safest, and advised, mode of transport to school shall be via car or school bus.*

5.0 Aims of the School Travel Plan

The aims of our travel plan are as follows:

- Support the health and safety of our students, staff, and visitors
- Minimise traffic and vehicle usage;
- Minimise congestion outside the school building;
- Encourage students to cycle or walk to school;
- Involve the local community;
- Support the local environment by minimising private transport;
- Encourage increasing independence of children; and
- Provide safe parking for staff and visitors

6.0 School Aspirations

- 6.1** Encouraging parents/carers to allow their child to walk or cycle to the school at certain times, rather than travel by car then student car usage would be minimised. The school will make plans to minimise car usage in the morning and in the afternoon by working with the local community and SBC to ensure confidence in pedestrian travel routes and crossing points on key roads.
- 6.2** Congestion on the roads around most schools is a big issue and our intention to encourage parents, students and staff to adopt more sustainable transport will help to reduce this potential issue.
- 6.3** Concerns about crossing roads are often an issue for many parents and students. The school will work with Stockton Borough Council officers to monitor this. Where concerns are identified, the school will work with SBC to find practical and safe solutions.
- 6.4** Some schools report that some students were afraid of strangers. Parents/carers also worried about the possibility of their child being confronted by a stranger. Work to address these fears will take place as part of the scheme of work for Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) lessons.

7.0 Indicative Action Plan

School will consider the following:

7.1 Encourage students to walk and cycle to the school by:

- promoting healthy lifestyles as part of our core ethos
- promoting healthy lifestyle benefits to parents/carers via our website, in meetings and via IMFT's wider community engagement programme.

7.2 Review the need for pedestrian crossings and crossing patrols by:

- Working with SBC to assess existing crossings with a view to improvement; and

- Encouraging SBC to assess the frequency of pedestrian and vehicular traffic to decide if a further crossing is justifiable.

7.3 For students worried about strangers the School will:

- continue to help students to know how they should behave if confronted by strangers; and
- encourage groups of students to walk home together

7.4 Utilise existing excellent provision for cyclists

- To build on the strong foundations already existing in the town :
- Encourage staff to join the Government's 'Cycle to Work' scheme (The SPTA group are participants in this scheme and already support staff in taking advantage of this initiative).

8.0 Student Involvement

The Travel Plan will be evaluated and further need identified through the school Student Council. This will seek to gather and expand the following information:

- Where students travel from, how they travel to and from the school and whether they travel alone, with other students or with an adult;
- If travelling by car, whether there is potential for car sharing;
- What routes students use in travelling to and from the school;
- Which places are found dangerous for walking or cycling and why;
- What difficulty students have in making the journey on foot or by cycle;
- Details of accidents and near misses;
- Identify measures which would encourage students to walk, cycle, or car share
- The information gathered will be used in the first instance to ensure that this School Travel Plan provides support for students' safety and security in travelling sustainably to and from the school.

9.0 Monitoring and Review Process

In order to ensure that the objectives and targets are being achieved, the **Office Manager** will arrange for annual surveys to monitor travel methods. This review will consider students' travel needs arising from new developments in education and transport provision and the School Travel Plan will be reviewed as necessary to take account of these.

A survey will be completed in autumn each year. This will be coordinated by the **Office Manager and Student Council**, who will review the School Travel Plan itself, also on an annual basis, in autumn each year.

Appendix 1: Outline of a Travel Plan

1. Introduction

Over the last 20 years, the number of children travelling to school by car nationally has doubled, despite many children living close enough to school to walk. One in five cars on the road in urban areas at the morning peak of ten minutes to nine is taking children to school, leading to localised congestion, increased air pollution, a rise in the number of children injured in road traffic accidents, and a reduction in health and fitness.

The promotion and provision of sustainable transport is high on Government's as well as this School's agenda. The paper from an earlier Department for Education (DCSF): 'Aiming High for Young People: A ten year strategy for positive activities' has very clear messages and excellent examples of how sustainable travel can support a broad range of initiatives. Through the 'Local Transport Act 2008' Local Authorities have been strongly encouraged to develop annual Sustainable Modes of Travel strategies (SMoTS).

2. What is a Travel Plan?

- A travel plan is a document produced by the School that sets out how it is going to encourage students to walk, cycle or use public transport on the journey to and from the School, in order to reduce the number of car journeys.
- The School travel plan contains information about the way students presently travel to and from the School, objectives and an action plan.
- In order to be successful, the travel plan will need to have the support of students and parents/carers, the Local Authority and any other relevant partners, such as the Police or Bus Operators. It will also need to be incorporated into the School Development Plan.

3. Why have a Travel Plan?

Travel plans are an excellent way of reducing both car use and road accidents on the journey to the School. An School Travel Plan can:

- Improve safety
- Improve the environment
- Improve health
- Encourage independence
- Improve accessibility

4. Specific Benefits to Ingleby Manor School

The benefits of implementing this School travel plan are:

- minimally congested environment immediately outside the school;
- students will be healthier and fitter, which should promote high attendance;
- crossing the busy roads in the local area will be safer for both our students and local residents;
- ensure safety for students who walk to the school;
- increased use of sustainable transport modes would give students more choice, encourage independence and reduce reliance on parents/carers;
- the school has a well-managed arrival and departure of staff and students to the building with reduced potential for accidents;

- good relations with the wider community would result from minimised congestion.

5. Action points for the school

- To encourage the use of more sustainable methods of transport;
- Hold discussions with SBC to provide safe access to the school;
- Provide a safe environment for students and staff accessing the new school building by reducing congestion and improving safety on the school approach by:
 - designating a properly laid out one way system to and from Jay Avenue;
 - ensuring clear segregation on the new site of pedestrian and vehicular movement
- Promote student, staff and parent/carer awareness of travel issues; and
- Promote good relations with our immediate neighbours and the wider community by establishing our ethos of mutual respect and positive behaviour of all students on the journey to and from the school.

