BRIDGEWATER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Travel Plan 2013

THE STAFF AND CHILDREN OF BRIDGEWATER
WELCOME YOU TO OUR LEARNING COMMUNITY
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This plan seeks to:

- reduce vehicular traffic around our school,
- improve the safety and health of our pupils, staff and parents, and
- lessen the impacts on the environment for the benefit of the wider community

The aims of the plan will be shared with all parents including new parents at induction meetings, as well as pupils and the wider community.

The plan is written in accordance with the guidelines produced by Northamptonshire County Council and SUSTRAN. The plan will be reviewed regularly by the governing body and will evolve as necessary.
2.0 BACKGROUND TO THE SCHOOL

DfES No: 928/2010

Number of Pupils on role: 442

Age Range: 4-11

Location: Bridgewater Drive, Abington Vale, Northampton

Catchment: In its early phase as a new school, Bridgewater Primary School attracted pupils from many different parts of Northampton. This has meant that car usage is a necessity for many families who travel several miles each way to get to school. The school’s ‘catchment area’ is narrowing, as children from the Abington Vale locality form a larger proportion of each intake.

Staff: 15 full time teachers, 7 part time, 26 full time and 4 part time support staff, plus 14 lunchtime supervisors

Governors (excluding staff): 12

Other users/visitors: 2 caretakers and 3 cleaners
Parents with disability permits
Peripatetic music teachers and other NCC staff visiting the school
Caterers bringing school meals
Large lorries delivering educational products etc
Coaches for swimming, trips, etc
After school sports clubs - instructors/coaches
Out of school hours users
Pre-school group:
Breakfast Club 7.45 - 8.45am
After School Club 3.15 - 5.45pm

Bridgewater Primary School is currently a two form entry school which has plans to expand to a three form entry school. It was a new school created in 2003 following the Northampton schools review.

The location of Bridgewater Primary school can be seen on the Location Plan BCAL DWG 4875-35.
3.0 AIMS

1. To minimise the impact upon the environment of journeys made to and from our school.

2. To seek ways to minimise the proportion and total number of car-journeys made by pupils (parents), staff and visitors to the school.

3. To improve the safety and health of our pupils, staff, parents and neighbours.

4. To promote a positive attitude to walking amongst pupils, in order to encourage parents to leave the car behind.

4.0 ACTIONS

In order to achieve our aims we will:

1. Consult parents, pupils and staff on this travel plan and seek their active participation in achieving its aims. In particular the need for us all to reduce our carbon emissions wherever possible will be a continuing theme.

2. Undertake an annual travel survey to identify from where and how people travel to the school. This will then be used to formulate targeted measures to reduce the number of car-borne journeys to the school (especially single person/pupil car-journeys) and achieve the other aims of the plan.

3. Seek to work with parents, staff, pupils, the Police, Northamptonshire County Council, the highway authorities and the local community to develop the safer routes to school initiative in specific relation to our school. Continue to promote the 'Park by the Park' initiative (parking along the park side of Abington Park Crescent and then walking to the school).

4. Work with the NCC Travel Plan Team to adopt a positive approach to alternative means of travelling to school throughout the school-year. We will continue our participation in the 'Walk to School Week' project and survey our performance integrating where possible with the pupils' curriculum.

5. 20mph limit and parking restrictions. Continue to ensure the co-operation of Police Community Support Officers to enforce speed limits and give reminders of good driving/parking practice, e.g. parking considerately, not blocking drives etc.
6. Institute a cycling proficiency programme and/or level 2 Bikeability training for Year 6.

7. Educate and re-educate pupils and adults of the 'school community' in kerb and road safety, perhaps using the 'hazard-alley' facility at Milton Keynes for pupils.

8. Continue to develop Road Safety in the PSHCE programme and through other associated curriculum links e.g. pupils conducting surveys of cars, traffic in the local area, making use of reflective fabrics etc.

9. Regularly publicise all relevant issues and initiatives in school newsletters/flyers, including, where appropriate sharing our news with local residents e.g. through local publications.

10. Include this Travel Plan on the school's website and summary in all school brochures

11. Continue the Junior Road Safety Officer scheme for pupils in Year 5 or 6

12. Ensure this Travel Plan and associated initiatives are regularly discussed at School Council and in school assemblies.
5.0  HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAVEL CONCERNS

The current school location on Bridgewater Drive has given rise to considerable parking issues outside the main pupil entrance. Concern has therefore arisen over the congestion caused with its inevitable impact on pollution levels, safety for pedestrians, emergency vehicle access, etc.

Various steps have already been taken to reduce these issues. Amongst steps taken are regular promotion of walking or cycling to school, promotion of the usage of the rear access from Filleigh Way and the ‘Park Along The Park’ scheme. The latter encourages parents to park vehicles alongside Abington Park and to walk the remainder of the journey, using the controlled crossing installed under the Safer Routes to School Scheme.

Manoeuvring vehicles in the access road into school are a particular problem. Despite repeated requests not to park on this stretch of road, some parents continue to ignore our safety concerns. Neither the County Council, the Police nor the school has any powers to enforce parking restrictions, as the road is currently not adopted; we therefore rely solely on parents’ goodwill. This is a wholly inadequate situation, but one that we are unable to address until building work on the new housing development on the old Middle School site starts. We will continue to do what we can to discourage misuse of this stretch of road (e.g. notices on car windscreens, children to monitor parking etc).
6.0 PARTICIPATION

6.1 Pupils – Involvement in Walk to School Weeks has ensured that children's awareness of travel plan issues is regularly updated.

Children took part in a competition to design a 20mph speed limit sign as part of the Safer Routes to School Campaign in 2005/06. The winner and runner-up attended a presentation at Sixfields highlighting the importance of this issue. The winning design is in use outside the school.

The School Council continues to be a main focus for the review of the Travel Plan. The dangers posed by scooters and bicycles on the pedestrian route into school are regularly discussed.

Now that the school covers the full primary age range, it is intended to further involve the children in traffic surveys, data analysis, etc.

The Junior Road Safety Officer Scheme has been introduced since the school has had children in Years 5 & 6. Two Year 5 children were appointed to this role following an application process at the end of Year 4 in 2008. Further appointments were made from Year 5 in 2009/10, as deputies and to provide continuity when the first cohort left the school. The school allows children in Years 5 & 6 walk to school & home independently, on receipt of signed authorisation from parents.

A survey of children showed that 45% would like to be able to cycle to school and a further 23% would like to walk each day. Only 16% would choose to come by car.

6.2 Staff – The Headteacher and PSHCE Co-ordinator have been involved in the preparation of this plan and will each play a major role in ensuring its successful implementation, monitoring and review. Other staff members have a responsibility to support the aims of the plan, collect data as appropriate and deliver curriculum content linked to it.

6.3 Governing Body – This Travel Plan has been prepared by the Premises Committee of the Governing Body. Other governors have been consulted fully during preparation and prior to final adoption. The Premises Committee will be responsible for monitoring the impact of this plan and for its annual review, presenting their findings to the full Governing Body.
6.4 Parents and the Wider Community – Parent governors have contributed to the preparation of this plan through their roles on the Premises Committee. Residents’ concerns regarding traffic around the school are discussed at Abington and Weston Parish Council, with the involvement of the local PC/PCSO.

The Abington and Weston Joint Action Group (JAG) provide a productive forum for communicating with the local community, and the school will continue to support this group whenever possible.

Regular reminders of travel issues and concerns are given through both the weekly newsletter and termly 'Messenger'. In some cases, other publications may also be used, such as 'Abington and Around' and the 'Down Your Way' column in the Chronicle & Echo.

Parents have been surveyed and will continue to be on an annual basis with regard to car usage, distances travelled, attitudes towards alternative modes of travel, etc.

The school website will be used for wider publication of this plan with feedback being welcomed.
7.0 MONITORING AND REVIEW

1. This is an ongoing document and will evolve according to circumstances.

2. Annual review will be in the first instance the responsibility of the Premises Committee during the Autumn term. It will then go to Full Governing Body in January, with at least 2 governors to have responsibility for ensuring continued and effective consultation and partnership working with school and wider community to successfully implement the aims of the school travel plan. The next Governing Body review will take place in May 201_.

3. Review of the curriculum elements will be the responsibility of the PSHCE coordinator.

4. Records of walking to school will be taken at least annually and checked against previous year’s totals. (Premises Committee based on evidence from class teachers.)

5. Pedestrian and cycling education to be developed in conjunction with the Road Safety Office of the LA.

6. Leadership Team will be responsible for managing this school travel plan.

7. Safer routes to school survey and review to become part of the curriculum. Leadership Team to supervise.

8. School web site to be used to promote the school travel plan and wider participation in attaining the aims and ethos of the school travel plan.

9. An annual survey of parents will be carried out.
8.0 CONTACT DETAILS

1. The Headteacher will be the first point of contact and will be responsible for the day to day overview of the plan.

2. The PSHCE coordinator will be responsible for ensuring the curriculum elements are planned for and carried out.

3. The class-teacher will be responsible for ensuring the 'Walk to School Week' survey information is collected.

4. The Premises and Learning and Teaching Committees will be responsible for reviewing and monitoring progress on the plan.

All can be contacted at the school on 01604 637056

Signed…………………………………………………………… Headteacher

Signed…………………………………………………………… Chair of Governors

Date……………………………………………………………….Adopted by Full Governing Body
Appendix A

Location Plan
BCAL DWG No 4875-35
Northampton Schools Ltd

Project:
Bridgwater Primary School
Bridgwater Drive, Abington Vale
Vale, Northampton NN3 3AF

Location Plan

Scale: 1:10,000

DRAFT
Appendix B
Action Plans
## Bridgewater Primary School Travel Plan: Action Plan

**Objective:** To make access route into school safe for bikes/pedestrians; to prevent drivers parking/turning in access route into school, including parents of children at A’ton Vale Playgroup; to reduce congestion caused by vehicles outside school in general.

**Target:** to significantly reduce number of vehicles using access road and school car park

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Responsible Person(s)</th>
<th>Timescale</th>
<th>Success Criteria</th>
<th>Monitoring and Evaluation</th>
<th>Method/Resources Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Prevent cars parking and turning in access road</td>
<td>NCC in conjunction with HT/ Prem C’ttee</td>
<td>ASAP - URGENT</td>
<td>No cars parking or turning in access road</td>
<td>Junior Road Safety Officers to monitor with staff/Govs</td>
<td>NCC to install and enforce parking/access restrictions; NCC to take resp. for A Vale Playgroup parking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Minimise cars entering school site</td>
<td>AMEY, Caretaker, HT</td>
<td>On-going</td>
<td>Reduction in no. of parents using school car park</td>
<td>Blue badge holders and access only</td>
<td>Reinvigorate parking permit scheme in school; NCC to install appropriate signs on B’Water Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Continued promotion of Park along Park scheme</td>
<td>HT</td>
<td>On-going</td>
<td>Increase in no. parking away from school site</td>
<td>Observation and survey</td>
<td>Regular promotion in school newsletter, via School Council and assemblies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Regular surveys of parents to monitor car usage</td>
<td>HT/Prem C’ttee</td>
<td>On-going</td>
<td>Observations reported to Prem C’ttee</td>
<td>Prem C’ttee Agenda item</td>
<td>Q’re for parents and/or children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Continued involvement in Walk to School Weeks</td>
<td>HT</td>
<td>May &amp; Oct</td>
<td>Increased no. of children participating</td>
<td>Reports to Govs</td>
<td>Publicise in newsletter and via School Council and Jr Rd Safety Officers</td>
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# Bridgewater Primary School Travel Plan: Action Plan (cont.)

**Objective:** To improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, thereby increasing numbers of each.

**Target:** Implement at least one major improvement per annum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Responsible Person(s)</th>
<th>Timescale</th>
<th>Success Criteria</th>
<th>Monitoring and Evaluation</th>
<th>Resources Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Enforceable parking restrictions along access route, e.g. double yellow lines</td>
<td>NCC liaising with HT/ Prem C'tee</td>
<td>ASAP – URGENT</td>
<td>Enforceable parking restrictions installed and observed</td>
<td>Observation</td>
<td>Termly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HT/Chair of Prem C'tee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Marked cycle route on access road and school driveway for safe cycle access into school (for use by older children - KS2)</td>
<td>NCC, liaising with HT/Prem C'tee</td>
<td>ASAP</td>
<td>Cycle route in place. Increase in no. of cyclists</td>
<td>Cycle route in use, Survey data</td>
<td>Termly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HT/Chair of Prem C'tee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Access road unlit; too dangerous for children to walk/cycle home alone after c. 4pm in winter</td>
<td>NCC, liaising with HT/Prem C'tee</td>
<td>Autumn 2010</td>
<td>Lighting installed</td>
<td>Children able to walk /cycle home in winter</td>
<td>Autumn 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HT/Chair of Prem C'tee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ensure provision of sufficient cycle storage for full cohort of children.</td>
<td>NCC</td>
<td>Review as weather improves – more required during summer months.</td>
<td>Additional cycle storage in place</td>
<td>Prem C'ttee agenda item</td>
<td>Summer 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HT/Chair of Prem C'tee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Pedestrian crossing/s on access route</td>
<td>NCC liaising with HT/ Prem C'tee</td>
<td>Summer term 2010</td>
<td>Zebra crossing/s in place</td>
<td>Observation</td>
<td>Summer 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HT/Chair of Prem C'tee</td>
</tr>
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### Bridgewater Primary School Travel Plan: Action Plan (cont)

**Objective:** To educate children & parents about safe and considerate walking, cycling and driving

**Target:** All children to participate in School Travel Plan related event.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Responsible Person(s)</th>
<th>Timescale</th>
<th>Success Criteria</th>
<th>Monitoring and Evaluation</th>
<th>Resources Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Appointment of Y5 Junior Road Safety Officers</td>
<td>HT/KS2 Leader</td>
<td>March 2010</td>
<td>Appointments made. Successful promotion of activities.</td>
<td>Reports to School Council &amp; Gvs. Assemblies</td>
<td>Ongoing HT/KS2 Leader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Children (and staff) to monitor use of access road</td>
<td>HT/PSHCE Leader /SB</td>
<td>ASAP</td>
<td>Children able to convince parents to stay on main highway!</td>
<td>Observation and children’s reports</td>
<td>Termly HT/PSHCE Leader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Walk to School Week</td>
<td>HT/PSHCE Leader</td>
<td>May &amp; Oct</td>
<td>No of children participating.</td>
<td>Class records</td>
<td>Daily during W2SW</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Road Safety teaching during Child Safety week</td>
<td>PSHCE Leader</td>
<td>June 2010</td>
<td>Evidence of work carried out</td>
<td>Work scrutiny</td>
<td>Summer 2010 HT/PSHCE Leader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>School Council to discuss activities, including safe use of the car around schools</td>
<td>PSHCE Leader/SM Team</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Activities agreed</td>
<td>Minutes of meeting</td>
<td>Ongoing HT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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