

All Hampstead Hill School Policies are always to be read and considered in conjunction with Equal Opportunities, Race Equality and Inclusion Policies. This Policy of Hampstead Hill School applies to all sections of the school including the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Hampstead Hill School



School Travel Policy

Introduction

The school supports the Camden Schools Travel Plan initiative which encourages families to develop environmentally friendly journeys to school. This not only increases the fitness of our pupils but also improves the local environment. Children are encouraged, where possible, to walk, scooter or cycle to school. There is provision at school for bicycles, buggies and scooters. For those living further a field car sharing and the use of public transport is promoted.

The school has had an active School Travel Plan since 2005 and is delighted that working together we have had a very real impact on improving our local environment and the safety around the school by decreasing our car usage by 40%.

Aims and Objectives

Overall

- All local school trips are made by public transport where possible, or on foot if the destination is close by. The pupils will be taught how to behave when using public transport and of the need for politeness and thoughtfulness for others.
- We let all new pupils and their parents/carers know that we are active travel school before the child starts at our school
- We ask families driving to school and parking or stopping and dropping in the near vicinity to do so legally, safely and with respect for our neighbours and local residents
- It is not acceptable to park or wait on double yellow lines, on the school zigzags or across residential driveways for any length of time

The school aims to increase the proportion of pupils travelling sustainably to school through a series of programmes including:

Walk to school events

At Hampstead Hill School we promote walking by taking part in national Walk to School Week when parents are encouraged to accompany their children on foot. Badges, stickers and other materials are displayed in the run up to this important week. In addition to the National Walk to School Week, we engage in several other Walk to School and Walk to Work initiatives throughout the year, please watch the School website for details. We also support Walk once A week and ask that you try to support this initiative and join us in encouraging the habit of walking for all our pupils at least once a week.

Pedestrian training

The school will provide practical pedestrian training for children as part of Personal, Social and Health Education in KS1 and in the PSED curriculum for Early Years. Staff will be briefed and trained as necessary to deliver this programme.

Effective training involves sessions at the roadside, rather than being purely classroom based. It's important to convey to parents that children who have completed series of sessions are not automatically 'roadworthy'. Pedestrian training should be a long term process with frequent, short sessions at different ages.

Traffic-free entrances

Children need to be able to walk safely into school without having to weave between vehicles coming in or out. All pedestrian and bicycle traffic should use the main school gate, and should not attempt to use the school driveway which is for motor vehicles only.

Car Free Days

In line with our support for Walk Once a Week we also strongly support the improvement to the environment that we experience in the Car Free days that take place in Walk to School Week. We hope that you will join us in appreciating the difference that we can make if we all act together.

Scooter Training

We offer scooter Training for all pupils as they progress up the school. Pupils will also have scooters, bikes and balance bikes made available during play time so they can practice their skills.

Green Zone

We are dedicated to setting up a green zone around our School. A Green Zone is an area around the school where we can have a positive impact on the environment and reduce emissions. In order to help us increase the quality of air in and around our School we ask that parents do not park on Pond Street or Hampstead Hill Gardens.

Park and walk

Where a car must be used we ask all parents to drive only part of the way, park away from the school and walk the rest of the way ('park and walk'). This helps build exercise into daily routines and contributes to the children's hour a day of physical exercise.

Walk Once A Week

We also ask that parents try to walk the whole journey to school or parking away from the school and walking as far as possible once a week.

Keep the area outside the school clear

We ask that parents do not stop and drop off pupils outside the school as this reduces congestion, improves local air quality and keeps the area safe for pedestrians. It also means that it is safer for our Lollipop lady to work with clearer sight lines.

Lollipop Lady

The school pays Camden to employ a Lollipop Lady on our behalf as we are concerned about pupils' safety on Pond Street. The school has clearly communicated their concerns about the position of the bus route of Camden Council as it hampers safe usage of the pedestrian crossing outside the school.

Parents

The school will seek to inform parents and to involve them in the STP work by updating the Green Handbook and the School Travel Pack and also inviting them to Coffee Mornings and other events that can ensure they are included in this initiative. New parents will be given the Parent Handbook and will be told about the school's initiative and encouraged to read the Green Handbook and the School Travel Pack. The school will regularly consult with parents to ensure that their views about travel are captured and that the school can understand the barriers to sustainable travel and to understand what the school can do to remove those barriers.

Parents will also be given Eco Advice on how to drive in a greener manner in the School Travel Pack. Full details of public transport will be provided and promoted along with the private school bus.

Whilst unfortunately the school cannot provide cycle training for adults it will do the best it can to ensure that parents are fully informed of the opportunities for them to take up cycling or to feel more confident to cycle in London by signposting Camden's cycle training for adults and families.

Safety gear and advice

Children walking/scooting/cycling to school are safer if they are more visible. Please use your School Coat which has reflective patches on it for high visibility. Children are advised to wear helmets as they can reduce the severity of head injuries in accidents (though their effectiveness diminishes with speed). Helmets should be properly fitted, have a 'CE' mark and should meet either the European standard BS EN1078:1997, or the American standard SNELL B95.

Sharing the ride

Car journeys to Hampstead Hill School have reduced by 40% thanks to car sharing, minibuses and greater use of public transport.

At Hampstead Hill, we actively encourage parents who insist on driving to school, to participate in car sharing to reduce the impact on the environment and on parking around the School area. Families often make their own car sharing arrangements informally, but the school set up an online Journey Share for parents who wish to find other parents who are interested in sharing the school run with others living nearby.

Date adopted: September 2016

Updated September 2016

Name: Andrea Taylor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A".

Signed: