



## A message from the Headteacher

Making a commitment to provide safer routes to school is not "A short term fix". There needs to be a concerted and sustained effort by all of us to ensure that our children's safety is paramount. We also need to make life decisions which will give our children regular exercise and which will help to create a positive attitude to both the health and environmental aspects of their lives.

### Road safety

We regularly teach road safety skills, however it is important that all families take time to ensure that children are aware of road safety and particularly aware of how to get to and from school.

### Clothing

If children and adults are wearing bright clothes, particularly items of a reflective nature, they are more likely to be seen by motorists. Children can purchase reflectors from the uniform shop online. These can be tied onto bags or the backs of coats. WE STRONGLY ADVISE that children who cycle to school wear some appropriate reflective item for daytime or night-time and wear a cycle helmet. It is a legal requirement for cycle lights to be used if children are going to be cycling on gloomy evenings in the winter. Generally it is important to ensure that children are not travelling to and from school in very dark clothes.

### Safer Routes to School initiative

The school recognises the need for parents and children to be able to come to school via safe and pleasant walkways. To this end a crossing point has been provided on The Green as well as the upgrading of several pathways around the school. We will continue to inform you of any further progress we make with the travel initiatives .

Please note that children are influenced by the example of parents and older children.

Brampton Village Primary School  
The Green  
Brampton  
Huntingdon  
Cambridgeshire PE28  
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Brampton Village  
Primary School

## Travel Plan

Travelling to  
school safely



# Introduction

Our school has been looking at ways of providing safer routes for our school children and parents. The aim of this project is not only to ensure that children and adults have safer routes to and from school but also promote ways of travelling to school, which are healthy for children and parents, and are better for the environment.

Every year in Cambridgeshire around 300 children are killed or injured on the roads. Parents taking their children to school have been found to make up to 20% of peak time traffic. At our school 83% of the children have expressed a preference to travel to school daily on foot or by bicycle. However, 45% of the children currently travel to and from school by car. We aim to reduce this figure and to promote the benefits of looking at the other ways of travelling. These benefits include:

- Improved health
- Increased social and life skills
- Reduced pollution
- Raised awareness of environmental issues
- A reduction of the number of cars parked immediately outside the school grounds which are a danger to our children.



**Let's not add to the statistics. Walk or cycle to school**

## Why walk or cycle?

There have been many concerns raised recently about the lack of fitness of young children and indeed the increase of obesity amongst primary school children. We need to take every opportunity we can to encourage children to have regular exercise and walking or cycling to school is an excellent way of ensuring this happens each day. Not only can walking to school provide good exercise but it can be fun; young children will hop and skip as well as walk and older children will want to talk to you about a variety of issues. A short walk every day is also beneficial to adults.

**Walking encourages social skills and opportunities to talk to your children**



Walking provides many social opportunities as well, particularly for friends and parents to talk to each other. You are also able to teach your children important safety skills, such as how to cross the road and raise their general awareness of the dangers of traffic as well as supporting the work which is being done in school. Finally, if you are walking it means there is one less car on the road.

## School Policy

The policy of the Governing Body is:-

To actively promote cycling and walking to our school in order to improve health, fitness and the traffic awareness of our children. To reduce congestion and pollution in our local environment;

The safety and well-being of our children is our priority.



**Cycling to school is fun.**

We also actively encourage children to cycle to school. The school advice is that children under 10 should be accompanied by an adult, and that all children must have their parent's permission to cycle to school on their own if they use the village roads. When cycling to school, parents will need to consider, together with the school, the safest route and to ensure that their children are aware of road safety. It is the school's aim to begin to encourage "Pedal Power" for younger cyclists and continue to provide "Safer Cycling" and "Bikeability" courses for children who are old enough. We strongly advise parents to provide their children with suitable cycle helmets. Safe storage for cycles has been provided at school on the edge of the KS2 playground, behind locked gates.

**Driving and parking safely:** Some parents will not be able to walk or cycle to school for a variety of reasons. However, if you are driving you

**A message from Cambridgeshire Police:** Our number one concern is the safety of your children. When parking please do not park on the double yellow lines opposite the school entrance, or the zigzag lines or block entrances and drive ways. Parking safely may mean that you will have to walk a little further, but it is worth it in order to create a safe environment for the children walking or cycling as they arrive or leave school.

must be aware of the need to drive slowly near the school. You need to allow extra time so that you can park in a safe place. Parking is not allowed on the double yellow lines around the Green; on the zigzag yellow lines or in the school entrance or car parks. We encourage parents to drop off or collect children in the layby outside the front entrance, but, **PARKING** is **NOT** allowed there between 8.30—9.20 am and 2.45—3.45 pm. Our priority is to ensure that our children arrive and leave school safely and do not have to cross roads between any illegally parked cars. We encourage you to park your car at a distance away from the school, as the road leading into the school becomes very congested in the morning and afternoon periods. We regularly have visits from our local police officer to issue tickets to cars which have parked irresponsibly.

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