



Riverside Primary School

Travel Plan

2017-2018

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1. Introduction

1.1 What is a school travel plan?

A School Travel Plan looks at how students, teachers, parents/carers and other members of staff travel to and from the school. A School Travel Plan aims to encourage a more environmentally friendly & safe school journey. In addition, some of the other key objectives are:

- Reducing the number of vehicles on the school run
- Promoting student's health & fitness through walking or cycling
- Equipping the students on road awareness

1.2 Introducing our school

School Address: Riverside Primary School,
St Edmund's Way,
Rainham,
Kent.
ME8 8ET

Type of school: Academy

Telephone Number: 01634 338700 Fax: 01634 267295

Email Address: office@riverside.medway.sch.uk

Website: www.riverside.medway.sch.uk/

DFES number: 887 3757

1.3 Introducing our pupils and staff

1.3.1 Pupils

The school has approximately 221 children from nursery to year 6, pupils ranging from age 3 to 11 years. The school has provision for pupils with ASD and pupils with VI; currently there are 57 children on the whole-school SEND register (50 discounting Nursery). 17 of these have EHCPs, with 13 in the ASD provision, 1 in the VI provision and 3 who are mainstream.

1.3.2 Staff

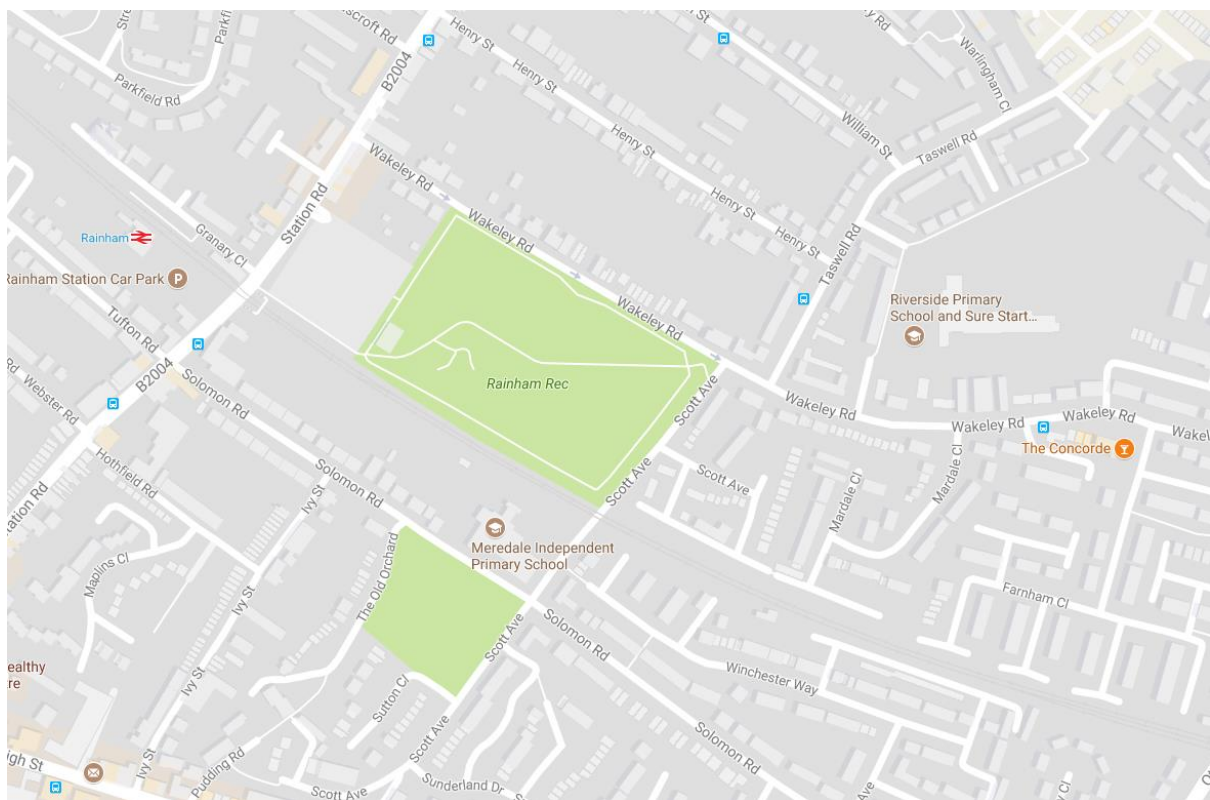
39 members of staff currently work at Riverside Primary School.
-11 make up the senior leadership team and teaching staff
-28 non-teaching staff of which 10 are part time

1.4 Location of the school

Riverside Primary School is situated at the end of a cul-de-sac in a residential area of Rainham. The school is located within a 10 minute walking distance to a railway station. Bus stops connecting to local bus routes are situated within a 5 minute to 20 minute walk.

The school is set in attractive grounds overlooked by residential housing. There are outside areas to the side and a tarmacked playground and a large field to the rear of the building.

Figure 1.1 Riverside Primary School location map



1.4.1 School access points

The school carpark has one double gated vehicle entrance and exit and one footpath entrance. There is a separate double gated vehicle entrance to the playground from the carpark. A public footpath runs alongside the outside of the carpark and playground and leads to a separate single gated entrance and exit onto the playground.



Vehicle and pedestrian entrance to carpark, showing public footpath to the left



Carpark exit showing public footpath



Public footpath with pedestrian entrance and exit to playground

1.5 School opening and closing times

- Breakfast and after school club times are 7.30am to 8.45am and 3.15pm to 5.30pm
- School gates open for nursery children at 8.30am
- The school day finishes at 3.10pm for KS1 and 3.15pm for KS2
- Community use of the building takes place Monday-Thursday from 4.00pm. The latest finish time being 8.30pm

1.6 Our school catchment

The children come from a wide catchment area though most families live within 1 mile. Children that are part of the provision come from a wider catchment and arrive and leave school in a taxi.

1.7 Car parking and cycle storage

There are 26 car parking spaces which includes 1 disabled space. The carpark has a separate drop off lane which is mainly used by taxis. A shelter for pushchairs and prams is located in the carpark near to the main door. The carpark is also used by the on sight Children's Centre which includes the Midwifery team and therefore the

amount of car parking spaces does not always meet demand. The carpark itself is bordered on one side by a wide grass verge and on another side by an area of lawn approximately 14m by 23m.

1.8 School Ethos - Message from the Headteacher

Headteacher: Kim Williams

“At Riverside Primary School we are fully committed to working with both our parents and local community to ensure safe parking and safe traveling to and from our school. We acknowledge any concerns residents share with us and make every effort to address those concerns. We regularly encourage responsible parking and travel to and from school via weekly newsletters and on the school website. We promote healthy lifestyles through themed weeks, bike-ability and a rich and varied PE curriculum.”

1.8.1 Health and Safety Policy

The school Health and Safety policy aims to:

- provide a safe, healthy environment for pupils, staff and visitors and to conduct its activities to prevent adverse effects on the environment and the Health, Safety and Welfare of staff, children and others as far as reasonably practicable
- maintain the school in a condition that is safe and without risk to health, with safe means of access and egress
- provide staff and children with information, training and supervision as is necessary to promote health and safety

1.9 School Travel Related Activities

1.9.1 Healthy Lifestyles

The school strongly promotes healthy lifestyle choices though:

- A fun and inclusive PE curriculum with opportunities to join sports clubs, be part of Change for Life and attend workshops from visiting professionals.
- Partnerships with local secondary schools develop knowledge and skills for both staff and pupil in relation to PE.
- A range of resources to promote physical exercise during break times, including Play Leaders and the Daily Mile.
- Cooking is built into the curriculum and takes place in our purpose built kitchen.
- The kitchen is also used by community groups such as MEND and our PTA.
- Themed weeks as well as ongoing learning which aims to promote healthy lifestyle choices.
- Children take part in an online exercise programme called 5-a-day.
- Whole school warm ups/aerobic activities take place weekly on the playground.

- Two year groups attend a 6 week block of swimming lessons at the local pool, Splashes.

1.9.2 Activities

- During Healthy Lifestyles week children are encouraged to walk to school.
- Special assemblies eg Walk to School Week / Road Safety.
- A large cycle storage unit is located on the playground just inside the school pedestrian entrance.
- Pupils in year 6 take part in Cycling Proficiency training.
- The curriculum includes topics and lessons based on transport and environmental themes.
- The local community and area is visited regularly to support children's learning and community projects such as Riverside Rangers. Children are able to walk to these destinations giving them the opportunity to practice road safety awareness e.g. when walking to swimming lessons at Splashes.
- Children and adults wear high visibility jackets during journeys to and from school trips.
- School trips throughout the year often make use of the school's closeness to the train station. Children are able to walk to the station within approximately 20 minutes.
- The school has a commitment to the local community to improve the local environment e.g. Riverside Rangers - litter picking / monitoring dog fouling
- In the past a walking bus has been organised as well as JSO (Junior Road Safety Officers).



Cycle & scooter storage for pupils and staff

1.10 Transport Links

The school is close to a number of transport links which are listed by mode below.

Bus – Buses from neighbouring towns stop in Rainham at the train station and at Rainham shops. These stops are approximately a 10 minute and a 20 minute walk from school respectively.

Train – Rainham is a busy commuter town and trains run regularly – connecting Rainham to other towns in Medway.

2 Survey Results

2.1 Who and how were people surveyed

Nursery children – staff completed for the cohort, asking children and clarifying with parents.

KS1 – a hands-up survey was taken by teachers

KS2 – children completed individual questionnaires

Staff – staff completed individual questionnaires

Parents/Carers – children took home questionnaires to be completed and returned to school

2.2 Pupil Results

A hands up survey was completed during the summer term 2017

Number of students questioned from Nursery to year 6: 213 (out of a possible 221)

Journey to school:

mode	Number of children
Walk	142
Cycle/scooter	14
Bus	1
Car	53
Train	3

Journey home

mode	Number of children
Walk	137
Cycle/scooter	18
Bus	3
Car	53
Train	2

Pupil's preferred mode of travel

mode	Number of children
Walk	109
Cycle/scooter	59
Bus	2
Car	42
Train	1

2.3 Staff Results

A survey was completed during the summer term 2017

Number of staff questioned: 29 (out of a possible 39)

Journey to school and from

mode	Number of staff
Walk	5
Cycle	1
Bus	1
Car	22
Train	0

Staff preferred mode of travel

mode	Number of staff
Walk	5
Cycle	2
Bus	0
Car	20
Car share	2
Train	0
Park and Ride	0
Other	0

2.4 Identified problems and issues

Children's reasons for not walking to school

Live too far away	35
Siblings being dropped at different school	10
Parent dropping off on way to work	6
Too tired to walk	8

Children's opinion on the safety of their journey:

206 thought that their journey to and from school was safe

Reasons given for an unsafe journey:

Uneven paths	8
Busy roads	10
Stranger Danger	4

Children's account of any accidents on their journey

Nature of accident	Number of children
Chased by a dog	1
Fast traffic	3
Tripped or fell on pavement	17
Fell off bike/scooter	5

Children's ideas on how to make their journey safer

What could be done	Number of children
Lolly-pop lady/man	10
Zebra crossing	1
Safety signs for drivers	2
Pavements fixed	8
Less crowding around school gate	5
School bus	3
Stop illegal parking	8

Additional issues/problems:

- There are too many cars parked outside school at the beginning and end of the school day, some of which are parked illegally on pavement or corners.
- Busy roads, speeding traffic and unsafe parking prevent many parents from allowing their children to walk or cycle to and from school.
- Taking older siblings to secondary school and/or getting to work on time prevents some parents from walking their child to school.
- Not living close to other families, no room in the car and having to get to work prevent some parents from car sharing.
- Some interest in a walking bus scheme was shown by parents however only 1 parent questioned was willing to volunteer.
- A number of parents would like a lolly-pop lady/man at the junction with Wakely Road and Scott Avenue.
- More visible speed restrictions and the enforcement of safer parking were issues also highlighted by parents.
- SEN children whose journey to and from school is by taxi do not have the opportunity to walk to school.
- School expansion – will increase demand on the staff carpark.
- School expansion – will increase the numbers of children travelling to and from school

3 Consultation and Involvement

3.1 Evidence

Evidence to demonstrate who has been consulted and how the opinions and ideas of all those affected by this Travel Plan:

- Senior Leadership Team & Governors – Due to upcoming expansion, discussions have taken place around issues of parking for staff. Additional parking has been planned as part of the expansion.
- Public Meeting – Through a Consultation Process a Public Meeting took place to discuss any concerns local residents may have regarding parking.
- Assemblies – Whole school assembly ‘Road Safety Awareness’ during Road Safety Week with follow up learning in class.
- Class discussion – Road safety is discussed prior to all school trips

4 Objectives and Targets

4.1 Objectives

- To reduce the number of cars parked close to the school gates.
- To improve the health of the school community by promoting walking, cycling and scootering.
- To reduce the risk of accidents from traffic leaving the school carpark.

4.2 Targets

- Reduce congestion of vehicles dropping off and picking up close to the school.
- To slow down traffic exiting the school carpark.
- Introduce whole school initiatives to encourage walking, cycling and scootering to and from school.

Introduce whole school initiatives to encourage walking, cycling and scootering to and from school.	Travel plan Action Plan to be shared with staff during staff meeting	Kim Williams (Headteacher)	By Term 3 2018
	Involve the school council in promoting use of alternatives to car journeys to and from school	Laura Tullet & Emily Bell (School Council)	By Term 4 2018
	Set up competitions / incorporate opportunities through maths / PE regarding alternative to car travel.	Harry Paterson (PE) Lorna Rimmer (Maths)	Healthy Living Week - Term 6 2018
	Organise visit from community police officer or similar to give whole school assembly about road safety	Laura Tullet (PSHE)	'Road Safety Week' Term 2 November 2017
	Cycle training for year 6 children	Year 6 Teacher	Term 6 2018
	Seat belt safety workshop for year 5 and 6 children	Miss Zeuli (Yr 5 teacher)	Term 6 2018

6 Monitoring

action	when
Monitoring of specific initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Walk / cycle / scoot to school weeks• Use of local pub carpark	Term 2 2017 & term 6 2018
Next whole school survey	Summer term 2018
Review of Travel Plan	Summer 2019
Feedback to Governors during first and last Resources Committee	Term 1 2017 & Term 5 2018

7 Appendix:



Parents & Carers Safer Parking Agreement

I hereby agree to abide by the guidelines outlined within the Safe Parking Agreement, which has been established by Riverside Primary School. This agreement has been developed to improve the safety of children and adults attending the school and improve the quality of life for those within the school environment.

By signing up to this charter you agree to:

- Drive safely, within the school area, adhering to the speed limits and driving in accordance with the Highway Code.
- Avoid parking in a way that would block or cause an obstruction to the school entrance/exit, residents' driveways and/or junctions.
- Never mount the pavement when stopping or parking, allowing pedestrians to be able to walk on pavements and space for prams to pass.
- Park so that your child is able to leave the vehicle on the pavement side away from any conflict with traffic.
- Pay particular attention to other children at the side and rear of the vehicle when parking.
- Avoid double parking, so as not to adversely affect the flow of traffic or access for emergency vehicles.
- Never park in a any designated disabled/private parking bays.
- Respect local residents by not parking in a way that blocks access to their homes.
- Forward any concerns regarding dangerous parking and road safety in the school vicinity to the Headteacher or Site Manager who can then take appropriate action.
- Ensure the safety of your child/ren by making sure they always walk into and out of school accompanied by an adult.

Name of Child/ren _____

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

