



**BEANSTALK FAMILY NURTURE
CENTRE**



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EDUCATION SERVICE

Beanstalk Family Nurture Centre Travel Plan



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1. Introduction

Welcome to the Travel Plan for Beanstalk Family Nurture Centre. This plan sets out how the centre aims to encourage staff, children and families to travel more sustainably and safely to and from the centre. This plan will give some background information on the centre, consider the policies and objectives relevant to the Travel Plan (TP), look at initiatives proposed and use these to underpin a comprehensive action plan to deliver the objectives of the TP.

The success of the TP will be monitored and evaluated fully to demonstrate progress and, if required, allow future changes to the action plan and its targets.

1.1. School Background

Beanstalk Family Nurture Centre is a custom-built standalone Family Centre. It opened in 1975 and was one of the first Family Nurture Centres in Fife. The Nurture Centre is located in the Abbeyview area of Dunfermline with Commercial Primary School and Canmore Primary school the main feeder schools.

The Centre is able to accommodate 100 children at any one time. The centre management team is made up of the Head Teacher, Depute Head of Centre, Principal Teacher, 0.5 Nursery teacher and 3 Senior Early Years Officers. The centre currently has thirty members of staff including PSA, office and janitorial.

Children attend either five mornings or five afternoons, a handful attend full days. The roll of the Nurture Centre increases over the year as the non-priority children join the centre in January and April, according to the Fife Council Early Learning and childcare Admission Policy.

Beanstalk Family Nurture Centre is the neighbourhood catchment nursery for 3-5-year olds and also has provision for younger children 2- 3 years from throughout the wider Dunfermline area. Therefore, the distance children travel to the nurture centre is very varied.

Some priority children come in on special needs transport in the form of a minibus that brings children at the beginning of the morning session and drop of children at the end of the afternoon session. There are strict criteria about which families receive this support, but generally it is only available to families which would not be able to access the Nurture Centre otherwise.

1.2. Location - Map



Figure 1

2. Site Audit

The nurture centre is situated off Blacklaw Road within a small cul-de-sac, Fergus Place. Blacklaw Road forms part of a 20mph zone. There is a small parking area, for parents and visitors, to pass through in Fergus Place before entering the nurture centre grounds.



The nurture centre grounds has two speed bumps at road entrance and parking spaces for staff/disabled parking as well acting as the main entrance for delivery and rubbish collection lorries. This parking area has a "staff only" sign so should only be accessed by staff unless parents can present a blue badge to access the disabled parking space.



2.1. Pedestrian Access

Access for pedestrians are currently only through Fergus Place to the two main Centre entrances. (See pictures above)

Raised pavement for pedestrians is available along one side of Fergus place, however no clear markings are available to identify where to cross over to the side of the nurture centre building.

Currently an "overhang of the roof area" is used for cycles/prams for parking at Nurture Centre.

2.2. Parking Provision

Staff parking is situated at the end of Fergus Place straight outside the Nurture Centre building - access road is marked with a "staff only" sign. It is mainly used by staff, disabled users, and delivery drivers. (See pictures above)

Parking is available for parents outside the restricted area on Fergus place however no parking bays are identified and there is no safe raised pavement for children to access nursery from parking area.

Most parents use the car park available or surrounding areas to park and access the nursery by foot, however a few drivers use the staff car park which is strictly prohibited and causes safety concerns.

3. Aim and Objectives

As a nurture centre, we are aware of the increasing numbers of children being transported to the nurture centre by car.

3.1. Aims

The overall aims of our TP are to:

- Increase the number of children, parents and staff travelling sustainably and actively to our centre.
- Improve road safety and health for all
- Decrease and ultimately eliminate traffic and parking problems outside the centre and promote better traffic awareness in pupils, parents, staff and local community.
- Continue to develop improved fitness in children
- Reduce the consumption of fossil fuels, saving energy and reducing pollution
- Demonstrate a commitment to the local community by improving the local environment

3.2. Objectives

The objectives of our TP are to:

- Increase year on year the number of children, parents and staff walking, cycling, using public transport or car sharing to our centre, at the expense of single occupancy (or parent and child) car use.
- Address road safety and personal safety concerns to encourage greater use of walking, cycling and public transport use.
- Continue to raise awareness, through partnership with parents/carers
- Improve fitness and health of all through walking to/from centre, resulting in increased alertness
- Eliminate parking problems at inappropriate areas

3.3. Benefits

In achieving the above objectives, we will significantly increase health and safety awareness within the whole community.

- Improve personal safety by increasing use of safer walking routes, in turn help reducing safety concerns
- Reduced parking problems within/out-with centre grounds which will help to reduce traffic in inappropriate areas.
- Reduce pollution and emissions and increase awareness of environmental issues, national walk to centre week, traffic safety weeks.
- Improve relationships with our neighbours and work with the council with regards to raising awareness of the 20mph e.g. more visible signs and road surface indicators
- Expanding citizenship opportunities e.g. eco-school programme participation
- Improve fitness through increased walking and cycling etc. (bicycle racks etc.)
- Increased parents and child contact time going to/from our centre as well as interaction between parents on journey to our centre

4. Current Travel Pattern - Questionnaire survey

Families and staff were questioned about travel to our centre in March 2017. Below are the highlights from the various questionnaires.

4.1. Family Survey

A family survey was completed by 62 families. Figure 1 show how families are currently travelling to nursery.

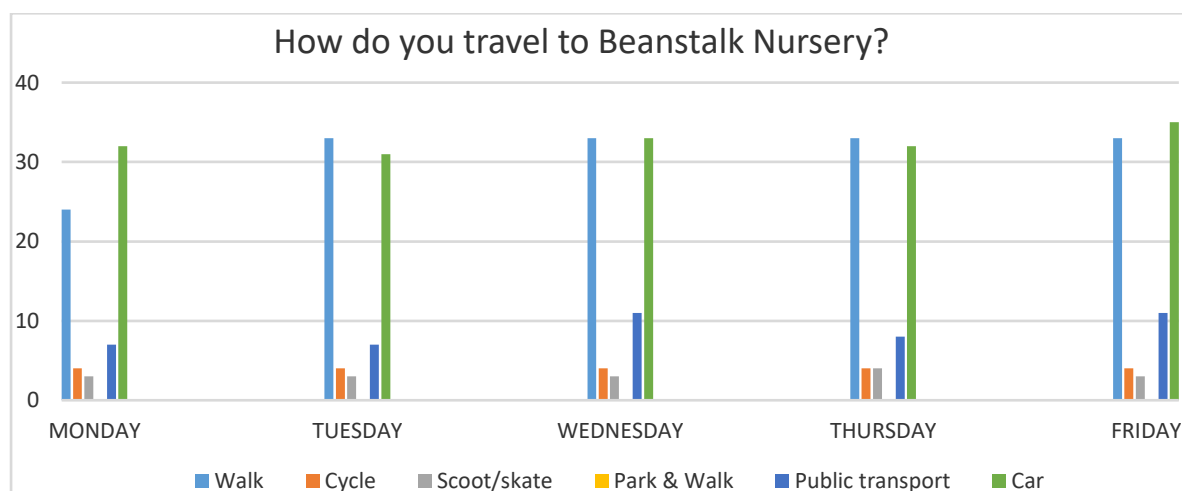


Figure 2

Most local families walk to the Nurture Centre. Main reason for those parents/carers who currently travel by car:

- Distance
- Health
- Lack of cycle/pram storage
- Convenience (time, weather)
- Safety.

Looking further at the result of the survey it indicated very clearly that most parents/carers would prefer their children to travel actively to the centre.

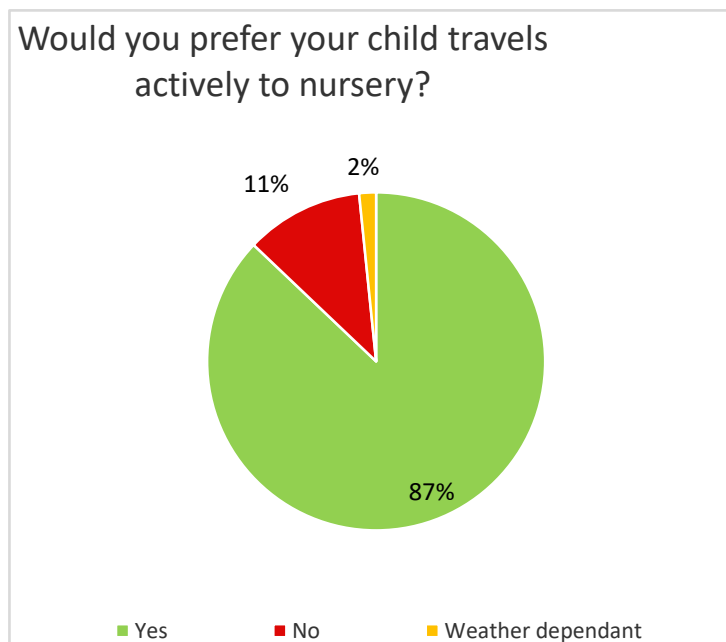


Figure 3

4.1.1 Key information and suggestions from parent/carers of how to make the travel to and from the Nurture Centre better for all.

- The car park could be made bigger and have clearly indicated white lines to mark bays.
- Better safety on a busy main road indicate that there is a nursery nearby.
- Add a crossing on Aberdour Road for families crossing towards Canmore Primary school.
- To have a drop off point for the kids.
- A nursery bus pass.
- More road safety awareness education for the children
- The only obstacle for our family when walking is trying to get a double pram passed cars parked on the pavement
- Stop people from speeding into the car park.

4.2. Staff Survey

A staff survey was completed by 28 staff members. Staff travel to work from the whole of Dunfermline some from further a field. The result shows that the majority of staff surveyed will use the car to come to work and only a 1 or 2 depending on day of the week will use public transport and 1 staff member indicated that they car share to work. The figure below show that staff would consider care sharing.

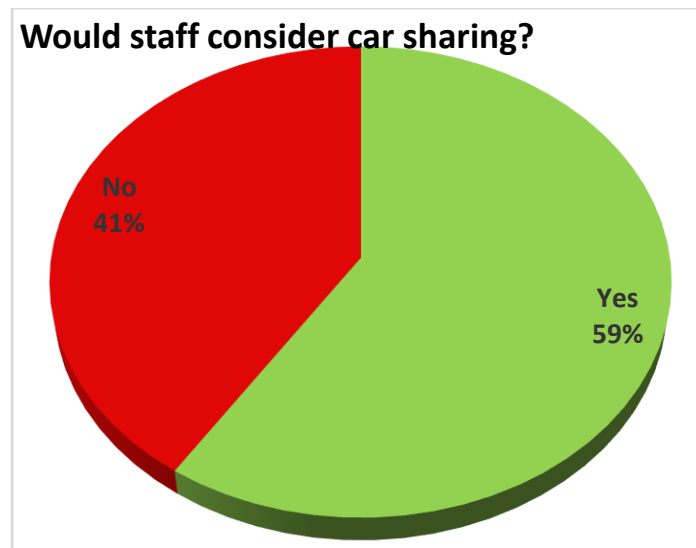


Figure 4

4.2.1. Key information and suggestions from staff on how to make the travel to and from the Nurture Centre better for all.

- Staff indicated that to encourage them to move to another mode of travel would require them to live closer to the Nurture Centre.
- Staff survey results displayed the staff car park and parent/carer car park are both areas of concern especially with regards to children's safety. Both car parks are very busy at times when used by staff, parents, visitors and delivery drivers, making it congested especially during peak drop off and pick up times.
- Staff raised concerns for the children's safety, as not all children are closely supervised when entering or leaving the car park area.

4.3 Are we moving in the right direction?

In October 2018 we did a survey with the children asking how they travel to the nurture centre that day. Please see results below:

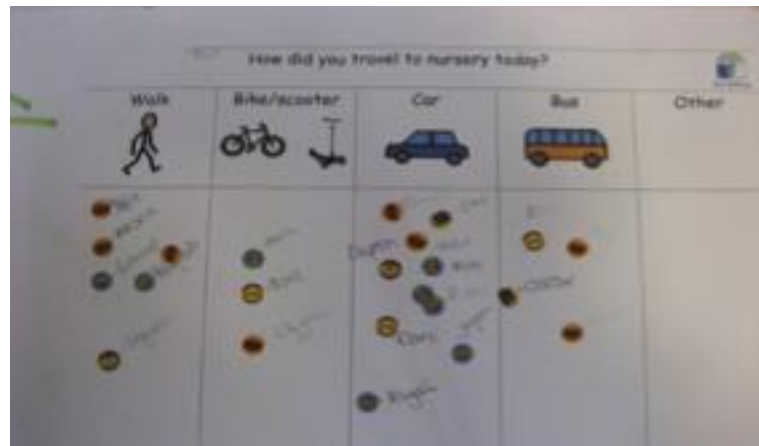


Figure 5



Figure 6

When analysing the results, we had fewer participating the survey however the rough results show that to get to the nurture centre:

- 20% walk
- 9% cycle/scoot
- 39% by car
- 18 % by bus
- 9% other way (take taxi or Nursery bus)

If we compare the result percentage wise with previous survey the result indicates that less families travel by active travel, at the same time we are seeing less families travelling by car. We are noticing an increase in the use of public transport being use to travel to the nurture centre.

5. Mapping work

In March 2017 with help of the school travel plan coordinator, our children and their parents marked their route to and from nursery on a large map of the surrounding area.



Figure 7

By completing the mapping exercise, we were able to identify the key routes families used when travelling to and from nursery. Parents/carers were also able to highlight concerns.

6. Route Audit of Key Routes to the Nurture Centre

The mapping work enabled an easy way to pick out the network of streets used to travel to the nurture centre. A strategic route audit of walking routes to the nurture centre was carried out 16th June 2017. The route audit was attended by:

- Birgitta Macdonald- Eco-Coordinator, Nursery Teacher,
- Gina Healy - Early Years Officer
- Sally Kelly - Early Years Officer
- Scott Blyth - Technician Engineer, Road Safety and Traffic Management Fife

The issues that were highlighted were:

Issue:	Possible solution:
Make routes more attractive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Overgrowing hedges should be cut back
Encourage sustainable travel, encourage families to use the safest route to the nurture centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introducing Thermoplastic mats ● Safe route maps for families should be created
Make Nurture Centre more visible to the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Install a directional sign.
Make parking arrangement safer for families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Changes to the parking arrangements



Figure 8

7. Key Issues and barriers

Through the mapping work, route audit, questionnaires with both families and staff valuable information has been highlighted to help us create the travel plan. Main areas that needs investigated further are:

- Car parking facilities for parents - safety for children in car parking area
- Safety for families walking to the nurture centre - Families are not aware of safest route
- Road safety programme within the curriculum - No clear guidance is in place.

Barriers to investigate these areas further are funding and staff time.

8. Action Plan

Issue	Solution	Who	Target	Timescale	Review of Action plan November 2019
<p>Numbers of cars bringing in children to Nurture Centre</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage families to walk through "walk to nurture centre day" throughout the year 2. Encourage families to scoot or cycle to the Nurture Centre though providing safe storage facilities 3. Promote safe walk and cycle paths via our Route maps booklet to parents 	<p>Nurture Centre Staff</p> <p>Nurture Centre Staff</p> <p>Nurture Centre Staff</p>	<p>Reduce number of catchment area families brining cars</p> <p>Increase of bike and scooter use.</p> <p>Increase awareness of safest route to nurture centre</p>	<p>Ongoing after launch of plan</p> <p>January 2018</p> <p>Ongoing after launch of plan</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Active travel" to the nurture centre days have been held once per term along with Road Safety awareness days for the children. 2. Due to insufficient funds this solution has not been carried out, however the nurture centre is providing designated area to park active travel equipment outside the front entrance. 3. The Nurture Centre has created Safest Route to nursery booklet that all parents get at enrolment chat.

Issue	Solution	Who	Target	Timescale	Review of Action plan November 2019
Numbers of cars bringing in children to Nurture Centre (Cont.)	4. Transportation to issue a work order for thermoplastic "route to centre" mats along links	Fife Council - Transportation	Increase awareness of safest route to nurture centre	August 2019	4. Thermoplastic "route to centre" maps have been put down to support active and safe travel to the nursery.
	1. Investigate possibility of clearing route behind nursery	Nurture Centre Management	Increase alternative/safer routes to nursery	December 2017	1. Due to other priorities taking time this solution has not been looked at so far.
Number of cars bringing in staff to work	1. Encourage staff to car share during launch and review of TP 2. Encourage staff to use alternative methods of transport when appropriate	Nurture Centre Management Nurture Centre Staff	10 % increase in car sharing 10 % increase in using alternative modes of transport	September 2018	1. and 2. We are not seeing an increase in car sharing, due to shift pattern, personal circumstances and staff traveling from a wide part of Fife Council to work.
Danger at car parks outside Nurture Centre	1. Create a safer parents carpark with clear markings	Transportation services	Safer car parking facilities	August 2019	1. The carpark has been lined with allocated parking spaces. A path has been created to allow for safer route from carpark to nursery entrance.

Issue	Solution	Who	Target	Timescale	Review of Action plan November 2019
<p>Danger at nearby roads</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make safest route more visible to families- add thermoplastic "route to centre" mats along links 2. Make the Nurture Centre more visible for drivers - erecting signs 3. Request that properties with overgrown hedges are issued with letters to request they are cut back. 4. Road safety programme to be embedded within the Nurture Centre curriculum work 	<p>Transportation service</p> <p>Transportation services</p> <p>Transportation services</p> <p>All Nurture Centre Staff</p>	<p>Safer routes available to the Nurture Centre</p> <p>Make Nature Centre more visible to neighbourhood</p> <p>Safer routes available to the Nurture Centre</p> <p>Raise awareness of Road safety</p>	<p>August 2019</p> <p>August 2019</p> <p>October 2018</p> <p>At launch then ongoing</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thermoplastic "route to centre" maps have been put down to support active and safe travel to the nursery. 2. A "Nursery" sign has been erected at the main turn of road to alert driver of nursery nearby. 3. Complete Nurture Centre to monitor. 4. Road Safety program has been established within long term planning and events are taking place every term to raise awareness of road safety

Issue	Solution	Who	Target	Timescale	Review of Action plan November 2019
Danger at nearby roads (Cont.)	5. Safest Road to Nurture Centre to be shared in form of a booklet with all existing and new parents	Nurture Centre Management	Increase awareness of safest route to nurture centre	At launch then ongoing	5. The Nurture Centre has created Safest Route to nursery booklet that all parents get at enrolment chat.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

This TP will be monitored by the eco committee at the start of autumn term and spring term an updated appropriately. The nurture centre will communicate with families regarding any updates via the newsletter, website and Facebook.

They will discuss any future actions and new issues as these arise and respond appropriately.

Due to new session times with children arriving from a variety of places in Dunfermline along with staff changes due to change, a new survey will be conducted and new travelplan will be created Term 1 2020 by the Eco-school team.

10. Distribution

The following bodies will receive a copy of the School Travel Plan

- Fife Council Assets, transport and Environment via the Travel Plan Team
- Fife Council Education Service via the School
- Fife Council Education Service Directorate Operations Team
- Parent Council
- Active Schools
- Copies will also be made available to the parents from the school office and via the school website.