

# Foulford PS

## School Travel Plan

### 2023/24



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## **1.0 WHY HAVE A SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN**

School-related traffic congestion and the risks congestion poses to the safety of the pupils, teachers, parents, residents, and motorists in and around school locations is a significant problem in communities around Fife.

The most obvious cause of traffic congestion around our schools is vehicles, and the biggest source of those vehicles is parents' dropping off and picking up their children from school.

Statistics highlight that 1 in 4 cars during the hours of 8:30 to 9:15 and 2:30 to 3:15 is primary school traffic.

Our annual Hands Up Survey highlights that 23%, that's **5562** primary school children are driven to the school gate each day with a further 17% opting to Park and Stride. That is an additional **4111** pupils being driven in and around the school streets.

Fife Council's Road and Transportation Service are working with schools in Fife to develop School Travel Plans and support Junior Road Safety Officers to develop campaigns such as Walking Buses, Park n Stride sites, Parking Pledges, available routes to school maps, delivery of Bikeability as well as looking at any engineering works that may be required to make active travel to school your first choice of travel.

## **2.0 BENEFITS OF HAVING A SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN?**

The benefits of encouraging active travel are clear and a school travel plan can ensure that your school has a long-term vision with aid to support Junior Road Safety Officers with delivering campaigns to:-

- Improve health and well-being by reducing harmful emissions and increasing activity levels.
- Improve safety through engineering measures and increasing road safety education.
- Improve access and opportunity by developing pupils' skills for safe and independent travel.
- Improve the environment by reducing pollution and CO2 emissions.
- Gain school accreditations such as Fresh Air Frankie STP Awards, Active School Award Eco School Award, Cycle Friendly School Award
- Have access to additional funding and support.

**All work associated with School Travel Planning has been designed to fit into the Curriculum for Excellence.**

### 3.0 CURRENT TRAVEL HABITS

Each year all Fife schools undertake the Hands Up Survey which gives a true reflection of how pupils are travelling to school and the latest results show that 77% of pupils are actively travelling to school at Commercial.

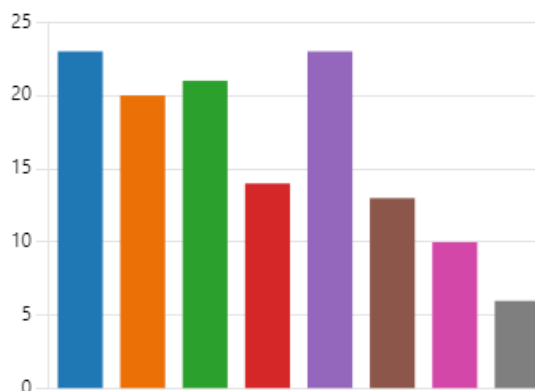
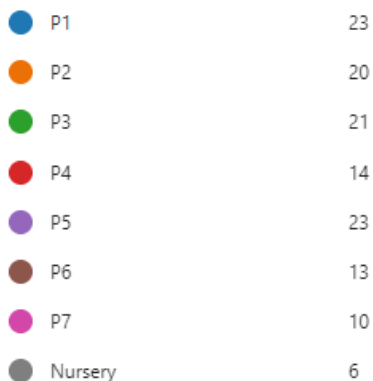
Table 1. Foulford Primary School preliminary results, 2023

	Walk	Cycle	Scooter / Skate	Park & Stride	Driven	Bus	Taxi	Other	Walk	Cycle	Scooter / Skate	Park & Stride	Driven	Bus	Taxi	Other
P 1-4	80	8	21	19	49	2	2	0	44%	4%	12%	10%	27%	1%	1%	0%
P 5-7	58	2	19	37	10	10	2	0	42%	1%	14%	27%	7%	7%	1%	0%
TOTAL	138	10	40	56	59	12	4	0	43%	3%	13%	18%	18%	4%	1%	0%

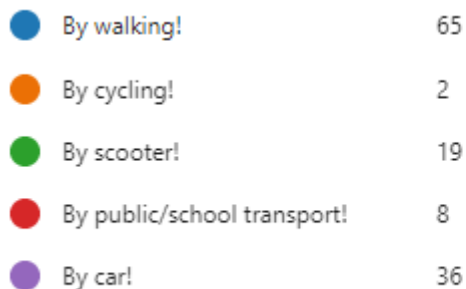
### 3.1 Family Questionnaire

67 families answered the school travel plan online questionnaire, and the results are detailed in the graphs and text below.

#### What school year is your child in?



#### How do you normally travel to and from school?



Those parents who are already actively travelling to school were asked if they would like to volunteer to help the school set up a **walking bus**; of the 130 parents who answered this question only 3 said yes.

**All parents who stated that they drive to school were asked if they would consider using a Park and Stride Site away from the school gate to help with congestion.**



**Those parents were then asked what could they do to help with safety concerns with regards to parking around the school gate?**

- Paint double yellow lines
- We go to breakfast club so don't see congestion sorry
- More parking on Leuchatsbeath Drive
- School bus in my area
- Install a crossing at the bottom of the hill on Foulford Rd countless amounts of speeding motorists
- Continue to park away from the school
- We park at our aunties house in Johnston park
- Ban them
- Placing coned areas around school site
- You can't park near the gate so it doesn't cause issues
- Park away from the school and let children walk the last few hundred yards
- Nothing my child has additional support needs and has no sense of danger and needs to be dropped off as close to school as he can
- I park away from the school and walk

- We park at a nearby street
- The lollipop men are fantastic but we normally drive the children in the morning due to work commitments or the children attend school clubs in the morning. We park behind the school in the residential area and the children walk from there.
- We wouldn't park around school gates. We park in housing estate and walk to school or child is dropped at drop off zone and will walk up to the school gates independently.
- I think a drop of point would just be great like a roundabout staffed for younger kids to be walked in keeps traffic flowing
- I am unsure as I drop to school then commute to work. I park as far away as I can as I am aware congestion is an issue.
- Nothing. I use the school car park at the bottom of the hill.
- I drive carefully. Don't park in areas I shouldn't park
- I park in a designated parking area, further from the school
- My child is in nursery I don't have any issues during these times for the morning session
- Drop off away from school gates
- I don't park at the school gate.
- Park in a safe place
- Park further away. Make sure noone parks at garages at school, bus stop or pavements
- Slow down and don't park on pavements
- Park further away and walk child up to school.

**All parents were then asked if they wanted to add anything else about their journey to school.**

- We rely on using the car as we are a 15 drive away
- Kids go to afterschool unless daddy walks to collect
- Cars parking on pavements making it difficult to pass
- We walk when the weather is fair and take the car on rainy days
- Happy with the new rerouting of FF1
- I would love my child to walk/scoot to school every day. Foulford Road (near the high school) causes a HUGE safety concern. It is a very busy road and there is no crossing, lollipop patrol etc. If there was something in place on this road, I think a lot more people would be willing to let their kids walk/scoot/cycle to school.
- Tom the lollypop man is brilliant with the kids and parents nice and friendly 😊
- Very good. Two lollipop men on our route
- We sometimes bring the car depending on whether I need to go straight to work otherwise it's walking or the bus
- We walk on days I do not work, and drive on days where I am working after drop off and before pick up

- A zebra crossing at beath high school they poor children have to run to get across that road when lights or a zebra crossing is enough
- It's not safe enough to allow my child to walk to school alone re crossing the roads
- My children are too young to navigate the high street and this is why we use the car
- I love that there's lots of other places to park that allow you to still enjoy a walk to the school with your child
- Path between school and Craig Beath court is too narrow, bus stop has no markings nor any railings or bollards which should be all the way around on corner, school yellow markings need repainted and should continue out to main road or into garage area
- My child has lots of after school activities that start straight after school. If I don't bring car then they won't make it in time
- Too young to walk alone no crossing where we live
- Combination walking/scooter
- weather dependent, we walk, if its bad ill jump in the car and do the pick up - but we park round the street where there is a small lane to go through for safe parking / drop off. So far we haven't had a safety issue or concern yet.
- Crossing at Johnson park could be an issue during busy times.
- Since the bus route has become unacceptable for us to use as a mode of transport we now walk. This means we will be getting soaked during the winter. I urge anyone who has any power to do so to change it back. I waited with 3/4 other children who now also find the bus inaccessible to them. They now get driven, please change the route back
- Lucky that there aren't any major roads to travel on/along. Only road to cross is in front of the school itself and it's a manned traffic light.
- Enjoyable walk majority of days, however on the frustratingly common occasions where people 'abandon' cars parked half on/off pavements, at the opening of a junction (car park down from the school gates) blocking a clear view of the live traffic for safe crossings.
- My main issue is time, if we have time, we walk, if not, we drive. Parking safely is the responsibility of the driver and you should target those particular people. This is a minority of parents who park irresponsibly, who could be easily targeted, by approaching them while they are do it.
- The speed of the cars on the road past the school is a worry, there are not enough safety measures in place.
- More available parking would help
- Cars parking on pavements, bus stop, garages is a real concern, as there so eager to get away after pick up and don't think about kids being able to see properly, cross etc. I think something needs to be done to stop cars from parking in these areas, especially when bad weather.
- The bus route could be enhanced further
- I don't have bus info

### 3.2 Staff Questionnaire

How far do you travel to work?

● Under 2 miles	2
● 2 - 5 miles	1
● 6 - 10 miles	6
● 11+ miles	4



What mode of transport do you take to work?

● Walk	0
● Cycle	0
● Bus	0
● Car Share	0
● Car	13



Those that drive to school were asked where they parked, and all but two staff stated that they park within the school car park. They were also asked if they would consider Car Sharing, 4 replied yes.

Staff were also asked if they would like to undertake Bikeability training to deliver cycling in school. 1 said yes.

**When asked what would encourage them to consider an alternative mode of transport to work they replied.**

- I am tied to getting home for my dog so would be inflexible when it came to car sharing.
- In the summer time maybe cycle to work if the weather was good.
- Safer routes
- Yes, but not feasible as travelling from Edinburgh.
- Having more time
- Better Cycle Paths
- If it was a shorter journey
- Bus



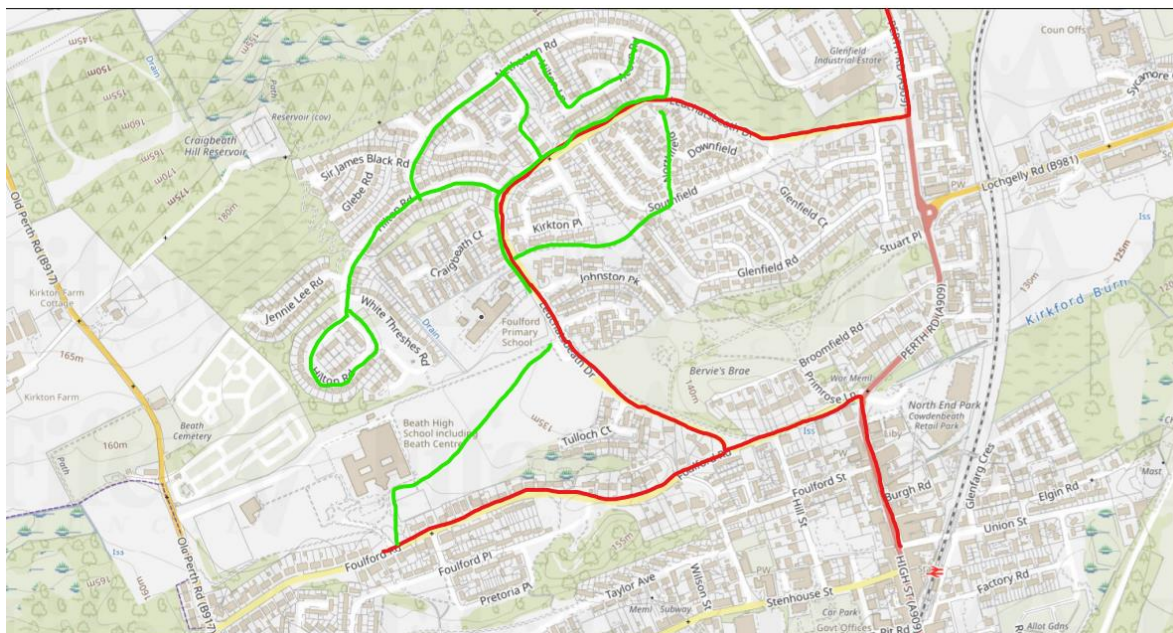
- If I worked at a school near enough to walk to or there was a very frequent, near to both house and work, reliable and reasonably priced bus service.
- hours I work dictate own car
- Travelling by bike could be a possibility but I would need to own one.

**Finally, when asked are there any improvements you could make to your journey to ensure the routes to school are less congested?**

- Avoid rush hour traffic when approaching Edinburgh
- A road crossing or lollipop person at the high school as the traffic is very busy
- No. But I've been arriving earlier since my son left school and it is quieter.
- To leave my home at a time when the roads are less busy.

#### 4.0 MAPPING WORK AND ROUTE AUDIT

A mapping exercise was carried out within the school to identify the routes pupils travelled. These were then analysed and categorised into active travel routes (green) and vehicle routes (red).



#### 4.1 Access Arrangements

The school has two pedestrian entrances on Leuchatsbeath Drive and a further one that lead through the staff car park onto Craighall Court.

The vehicular entrance to the school is a side road from Leuchatsbeath Drive and there are enforceable school keep clear markings.

## 5.0 ACTION PLAN

Action	Solution	Action Owner
Promote School Travel Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upload plan to website and social media pages</li> <li>• Create a JRSO notice board or story board</li> <li>• Create articles for school newsletters, social media, and assemblies,</li> <li>• Keep the school travel plan team updated on all work carried out to include in the Fresh Air Frankie termly newsletter.</li> </ul>	School
Travel Tracker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update the travel tracker every day</li> </ul>	School
Local and National Campaigns	<p><b>Term 1</b></p> <p>Week 1 11<sup>th</sup> Sept Hands up Survey Active Travel</p> <p>Week 2 18<sup>th</sup> Sept Cycling Competition</p> <p>Week 3 25<sup>th</sup> Sept Bike Week</p> <p>Week 4 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct Interschool Active Travel Challenge International Walk to School Month</p> <p><b>Term 2</b></p> <p>Week 16<sup>th</sup> Nov Launch #dontparkhere Campaign</p> <p>Week 2 13<sup>th</sup> Nov Parking Letter to Parents</p> <p>Week 3 20<sup>th</sup> Nov Road Safety Week</p> <p>Week 4 27<sup>th</sup> Nov Be Bright Be Seen Competition</p> <p><b>Term 3</b></p> <p>Create an active travel leaflet for the new starts that can be included in the school induction pack.</p> <p><b>Term 4</b></p> <p>Week 1 8<sup>th</sup> May Walk to School Week</p> <p>Week 2 15<sup>th</sup> May Scoot to School Week</p> <p>Week 3 22<sup>nd</sup> May Active Travel Treasure Hunt</p> <p>Week 4 29<sup>th</sup> May Bike to School Week</p>	School  School/Travel Plan Team
Reduce congestion	Develop the following:- Parking Pledge Park N Stride Site Walking Bus	School/Travel Plan Team
Bikeability	Set up cycling staff and deliver Bikeability	School/Bikeability Team
Awards	Work towards gaining the Fresh Air Frankie School Travel Plan and Active Schools Award	School/Travel Plan Team

## **6.0 MONITORING & EVALUATION**

The JRSO will continue to meet periodically to monitor progress.

Specific progress will be monitored by participation in the “Hands Up Travel Tally” each year.

The school’s ongoing commitment to travel planning will be publicised in the school handbook, the school newsletters, the Parent’s notice board and through assemblies.

## **7.0 DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN**

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

- Fife Council Roads and Transportation via the Travel Plan Team
- Fife Council Education Service
- Fife Council School Estates Team
- Parent Partnership
- Active Schools
- Copies will also be made available to the parents from the School Office and via the school information site.

## Route Audit

### 1. BACKGROUND

The mapping work enabled the JRSO's to pick out a core network of streets used to travel to school. A strategic route audit of active travel routes to the school was then carried out in October 2023. The route audit was attended by:

- S Clark (HT)
- 14 pupil members of our JRSO group
- M Ramage (School Travel Plan Team)
- T Brown (School Travel Plan Team)



The Audit involved walking along the core network of streets leading to the school and identifying any potential safety hazards or potential improvements.

### 2. CURRENT SITUATION

There are good opportunities for parking and walking a short distance from the school. The roads around the school generally seemed to be quite safe.

To pursue the recommendations included in this report they should be incorporated into the School Travel Plan.

Interventions should include Education, Engineering and Enforcement to improve safety around the school and to support a successful School Travel Plan.

Where engineering measures have been identified, these will only be implemented when the School Travel Plan has been approved and signed off.

This is not an exhaustive list of risks of issues on the streets audited. It identifies areas of concern with recommendations to reduce risks for users.

### **3. CORE NETWORK**

The strategic routes chosen for audit are:

Leuchatsbeath Drive  
Hilton Road  
Netherton Road  
Centenary Place  
Craigbeath Court

### **4. STREET SAFETY AUDIT**

#### **4.1 Leuchatsbeath Drive**

##### **School Keep Clear**

In the street safety audit children and HT advised that vehicles frequently park on the School Keep Clear marking at the entrance to the school during peak times. The markings were very faded. The Travel Plan Team will liaise with Traffic Management to see about getting these repainted.

##### **Bus Stop**

The bus for that children use to get to school is a Service Bus. Recently the timetable has changed which is causing safety and congestion problems outside the school gates. The bus stop is situated right at the entrance to the school car park, therefore causing obstruction issues. The Travel Plan Team will liaise with Transportation to discuss possible alternative bus stop locations.

##### **Park and Stride Site**

A suitable Park and Stride Site was located south of the school just off Leuchatsbeath Drive with ample parking for Parents to drop children off and walk a short distance to school.



**Hilton Road and Netherton Road**

The children found this network of path to be in good condition plenty of good crossing areas for them to observe the road in order to cross safely. They did observe that there are lots of cars parked in driveways and that they need to be vigilant when cars are reversing.

**Centenary Place**

A designated pathway away from the road connects Netherton Road to Leuchatsbeath Drive, which provides a good walking route for children.

**Craigbeath Court**

A suitable Park and Stride Site was located on Craigbeath Court with ample parking for Parents to drop children off and walk a short distance to school.

