

St Pauls R C PS

School Travel Plan



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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 28% of pupils are actively travelling to school at St Pauls RC PS.

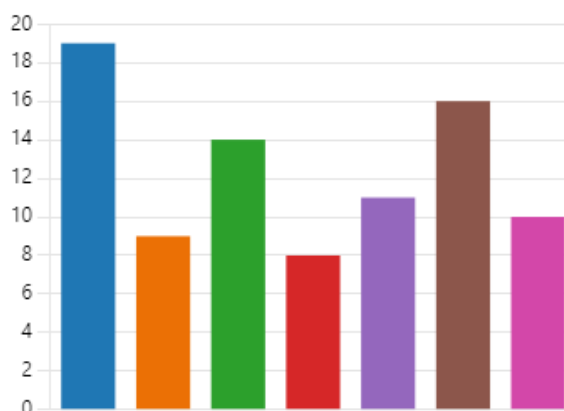
	Walk	Cycle	Scooter / Skate	Park & Stride	Driven	Bus	Taxi	Other	Walk	Cycle	Scooter / Skate	Park & Stride	Driven	Bus	Taxi	Other
P 1-4	16	1	0	18	26	49	2	0	14%	1%	0%	16%	23%	44%	2%	0%
P 5-7	14	1	0	11	16	63	0	0	13%	1%	0%	10%	15%	60%	0%	0%
TOTAL	30	2	0	29	42	112	2	0	14%	1%	0%	13%	19%	52%	1%	0%

3.1 Family Questionnaire

87 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?

P1	19
P2	9
P3	14
P4	8
P5	11
P6	16
P7	10



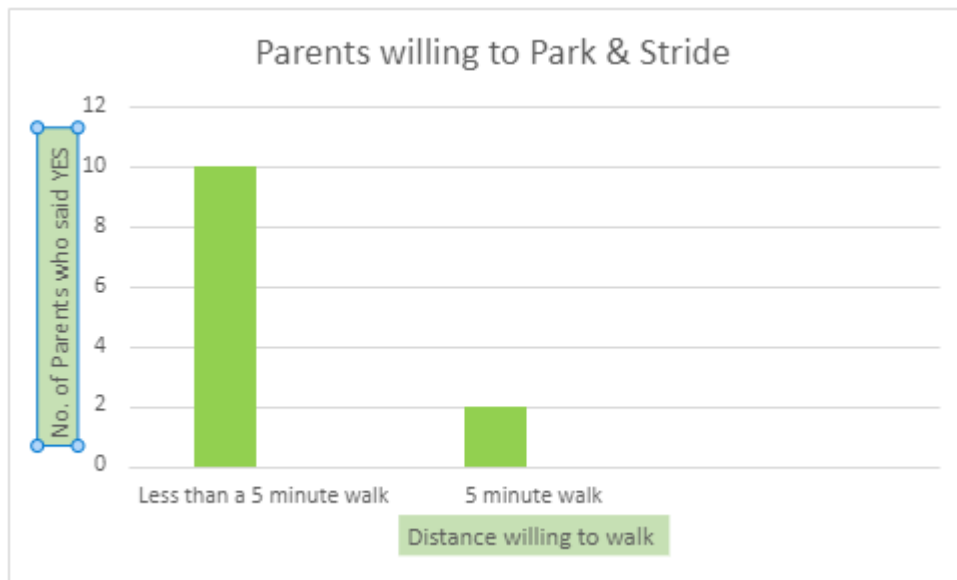
How do you normally travel to and from school?

By walking!	12
By cycling!	0
By scooter!	0
By public/school transport!	60
By car!	15



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 12 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?

- Park on another street away from the gates
- Need more spaces for cars
- Check into cost for a parking attendant at appropriate times.
- I try to park away from school and walk even though it a trek
- A no parking zone with a wider perimeter.
- Park in the allocated parking
- Make sure people are parking in appropriate spaces
- Have a main drop off point or have someone from the school to police the area and help kids get off the buses
- Dont let cars park around the school gates.

- I park on Broom Road, use the side gate entrance and don't need to cross any roads to get into school. I don't trust my 5yr old on the bus at the moment, but if she was a little older and more responsible I would definitely consider the bus. I would need to find out details for the bus service, times, stops, and who is on the bus with them.
- We park at the parking place not too far from the school side gate and there isn't any congestions.
- Further enforcement of cars who park at the "please do not park here signs"!!!
- Staff guidance with traffic

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

- Both my children seem happy with their trip to school on the bus.
- It is good but the bus is often late both in the morning and afternoon
- The bus is our only option as it is a bit too far for walking
- The time of the bus coming to school could maybe change as the bus is sometimes if not most of the time late to school
- We have a 20 minute walk to the nearest bus stop which isn't great for younger children
- School bus is very helpful for parents and children,
- Bus turning up on time
- Have a 20 minute walk over busy dual carriageway to get to nearest bus stop
- Sometimes get the car or walk if she's at her grans
- Kid's behaviour on the bus. Walk all around in the bus don't listen to driver
- Information can be provided regarding problems and delays in school buses.
- 2 miles may not seem like much, but for a child it's about a 25-minute walk. It is very uncomfortable, especially during bad weather.so school bus -transportation is the best option for your child's safety
- Sometimes we travel by car & sometimes school bus due to parents work
- Sometimes both car & bus due to parents work
- Some adult should be in the bus to keep an eye on kids
- Bus time in the morning could be more accurate, as some times it arrive at 8:35 sometimes 8:50

- a bus is needed due to the roads
- my children have additional needs factor this into the distance and or a safe route eg less traffic and id happily park anywhere that's not in direct traffic route etc
- I would prefer walking but is too far, so I chose by car
- Too many children getting on SP3 to go to childminders and not enough space in bus for children that stay in that area
- We plan to use public transport once more settled.
- Designated bus buddy - especially for p1s
- More disabled parking.
- Good service supplied by bus company
- Journey by car takes 6 minutes but school bus takes 40 minutes.
- No adults in the bus
- I, myself, am disabled and have on the odd occasion had to use the staff car park as a drop off for my 5yr old. I do hold a disabled parking permit and don't normally have to get out of the car. This is ONLY on extremely bad days and I try to park on Broom Road every other day. The congestion just inside the school gate with pupils standing about is a concern to me. I would rather see the kids off the bus and straight into their own playground area. It's just to close to the street congregating at the gate, and the possibility of a child escaping is a risk I am not willing to take.
- Sometimes the bus no coming, but we don't know and waiting. You can let us know any problem about the bus.
- Strategies that may prevent an influx of cars at the same time ?

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.

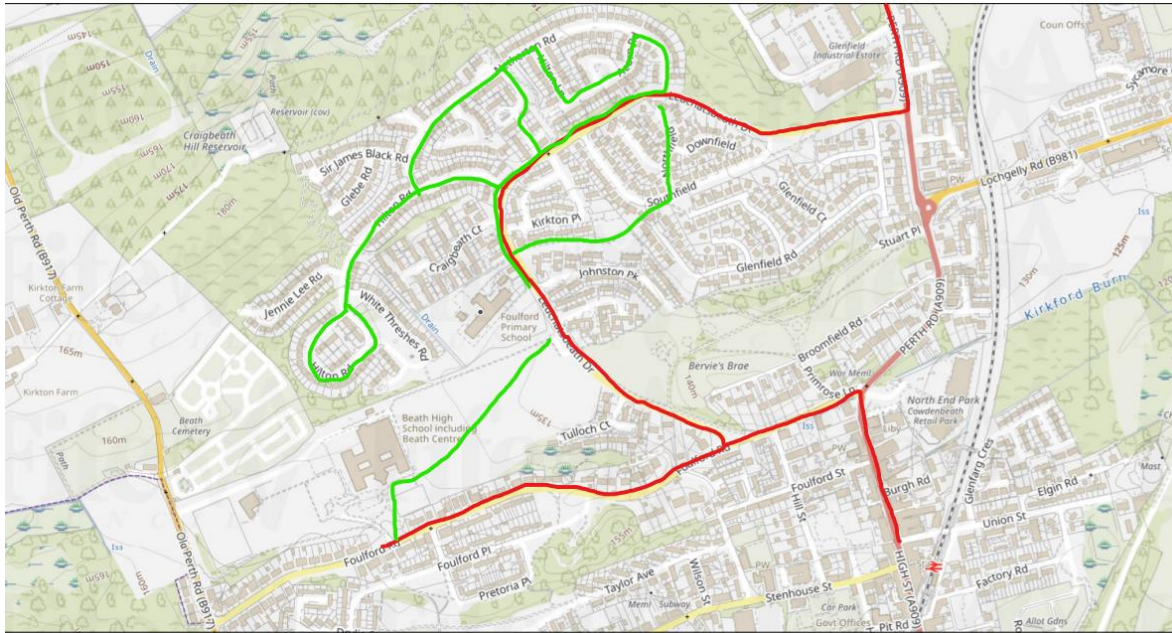
- I am tied to getting home for my dog so would be inflexible when it came to car sharing.
- In the summer time maybe cycle to work if the weather was good.
- Safer routes
- Yes, but not feasible as travelling from Edinburgh.
- Having more time
- Better Cycle Paths
- If it was a shorter journey
- Bus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

The vehicular entrance to the school is off Rimpleton Ave.

5.0 ACTION PLAN

Action	Solution	Action Owner
Promote School Travel Plan	• Upload plan to website and social media pages • Create a JRSO notice board or story board • Create articles for school newsletters, social media, and assemblies, • Keep the school travel plan team updated on all work carried out to include in the Fresh Air Frankie termly newsletter.	School
Travel Tracker	• Update the travel tracker every day	School
Local and National Campaigns	Term 1 Week 1 11th Sept Hands up Survey Active Travel Week 2 18th Sept Cycling Competition Week 3 25th Sept Bike Week Week 4 2nd Oct Interschool Active Travel Challenge International Walk to School Month Term 2 Week 16th Nov Launch #dontparkhere Campaign Week 2 13th Nov Parking Letter to Parents Week 3 20th Nov Road Safety Week Week 4 27th Nov Be Bright Be Seen Competition Term 3 Create an active travel leaflet for the new starts that can be included in the school induction pack. Term 4 Week 1 8th May Walk to School Week Week 2 15th May Scoot to School Week Week 3 22nd May Active Travel Treasure Hunt Week 4 29th May Bike to School Week	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 walking and cycling routes to the school was then carried out in November 2023. The route audit was attended by:

- C Molloy (Principal Teacher)
- 4 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:

Caskieberran Drive
Broom Road
Laxford Road
Rimbleton Avenue

4. STREET SAFETY AUDIT

Caskieberran Drive

This is a main distributor road around the town of Glenrothes and has a 30 mph speed limit and at times is extremely busy and the JRSO's stated that it feels like cars do not obey this speed limit. There has been extensive road engineering carried out on this road since the last school travel plan to try and combat the perception of speed, however it was noted that pupils did not feel that this was working and will be doing a speed watch with the local community police. School Travel plan team will also make enquiries with regards to when the last speed survey was carried out.

Rimbleton Ave

Rimbleton Ave is within the mandatory 20 mph speed zone and at times is very busy with parents who drop off pupils as well as school buses. At the time of the audit the JRSO's pointed out that parent's park in the dedicated school bus zone and turning circle and this causes issues as the buses must wait on the street causing further congestion. The bus zone markings need a refresh. To combat the issues in this area the school should promote other park and walk sites away from the vehicle gate and bus zone.



Broom Road/Laxford Road and surrounding streets



The streets within the 20 mph zone around the school are very quiet and although have lots of residential parking in the area the majority of this is off street within drives. However, due to the lack of parking within the school, some teachers do tend to park on Broom Road causing congestion for those pupils who wish to cross the road to school.

There is a dedicated park and stride site in Bevan Court just off Broom Road that has adequate parking for both parent and teachers. This area is also a great drop off point as it leads directly onto the core path network at the West Gate.

There is also the possibility of using the overflow car park at Warburton stadium as an additional park and stride site. The route is around 500 m long and would involve crossing two main roads rather than a traffic free route at Bevan Court, but still forms an alternative.

5.0 SUMMARY

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. The area immediately outside the vehicle entrance on Rimbleton Avenue is the main area where improvements can be made.