



Caldenwood Primary

Travel Plan

Created January 2026



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1. Introduction

This school Travel Plan documents the measures and initiatives that will be implemented by Calderwood Primary to try to reduce unnecessary car use, encourage healthy and sustainable travel options and increase safety for children getting to and from school.

2. School Description

Calderwood Primary is a new building, opened in 2021, purpose built to provide an educational setting for the families of Calderwood and the surrounding areas. Our current school roll is approximately 574 pupils plus 147 pupils in the nursery. There are currently 23 classes in the school and a large ELC setting.

The school is located on Nethershiel Road, with the car park being located right next to the school/nursery. Pedestrian entrances are on Nethershiel Road (Glenshee Gate) and at the Glencoe Gate from the Beech Path part of Calderwood, where there are parking bays that we recommend parents to use, saving congestion at the front of the school. The school day starts at 8.40am for P1 and P2 and 8.45am for P3-7. The school day finishes at 3.10pm for P1 and P2 and 3.15pm for P3-7.

3. General School Information

Address:

Calderwood Primary
1 Nethershiel Road
Calderwood
East Calder
EH54 0GU
Tel: 01506 280060

Email: wcalderwood-ps@westlothian.org.uk

Web: <https://calderwoodprimary.westlothian.org.uk/> and
<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/wl/calderwood/>

Main Entrance

- Shared entrance for staff, parents/carers, access to school office

Nursery Entrance

- Shared entrance for staff, children and parents/carers

Nethershiel Road Door

- Access to Breakfast Club in the morning

Glencoe Gate

- Entrance to bike rack and scooter area
- Access for P1-4 pupils to the playground in the morning
- Mull, Orkney, Shetland, Skye, Bluebell, Bramble, Thistle, Balmoral, Blair, Doune and Drummond pupils enter their classrooms via the cloakroom doors next to their classroom
- Ness, Linlithgow, Leven and Rannoch pupils enter via a stairwell door and go upstairs to their classroom
- Tay and Tummel pupils enter via the STEM Studio door and go up the main wooden steps area to their classroom

Glenshee Gate

- Entrance to bike rack and scooter area
- Access for P5-7 pupils to the playground in the morning
- Ben Lawers, Ben Lomond and Schiehallion pupils enter via a stairwell door and go upstairs to their classroom
- Baird, Burns, Mackintosh and Muir enter via the door at the end of the new extension and go upstairs to their classroom

Car Park Entrance

- Entry for staff parking
- Entry for visitor parking
- Kitchen deliveries and school deliveries are accessed for this entrance also

Breakfast Club operates daily in the building from 8.05am. There are after school extracurricular activities on various days of the week and Jets Activity Club uses the building on Tuesday-Thursday after school.

4. Present Travel Patterns

Arrival

- Wet clothes e.g. jackets, bags and shoes can be left to dry in cloakrooms
- Children can put bikes helmet on their peg or on the shelf above their peg. Some children choose to leave their helmet with their bike

Car parking

- Sufficient car-parking spaces are available in the school car park for infrequent use.
- Parents are allowed to park nearby
- Parents should avoid using the car where possible. We encourage “Walk to School” or “Park and Stride” for parents/carers and pupils

Access by foot

- We take part in the Big Pedal, Hands Up Surveys and walk to school weeks.

Cycling/Scooting Access

- Cycling is allowed and actively encouraged, along with scooting.
- We have 3 areas for bike/scooter storage – Glencoe gate, Glenshee Gate, and racks by the MUGA

Road Safety Education

- Road safety is currently taught, across the school from Primary 1-7.

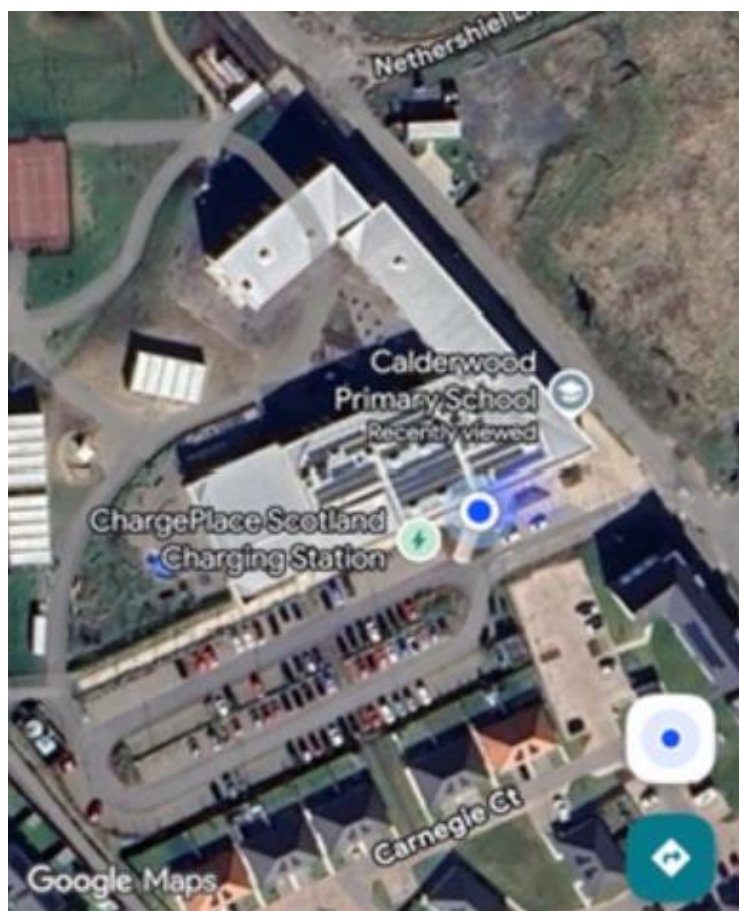
School Crossing Patrol

- The school does not currently have a crossing patrol but West Lothian Council are recruiting for this position.

Travel Information

- Our School Travel Plan is new for session 2025/2026 and is available on our school website and blog.

5. Map of the School Site



6. Survey Data Analysis

Staff Travel Survey - 27 responses

Out of the staff who responded, 93% of staff currently drive to school with 3.5% being a car passenger. 3.5% live locally and walk to school. No staff who responded reported using public transport.

The main reasons stated for car travel were:

- Activities after work
- Convenience
- Reliability

Of those staff who drive, 15% were interested in a car sharing scheme with a further 30% unsure but interested in finding out more. Staff should be made aware of Tripshare West Lothian – the Council's Car Share scheme – available on the intranet.

Parent Travel Survey – 354 responses

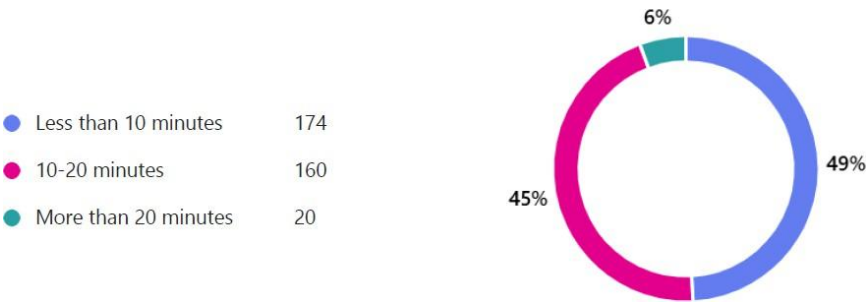
354 parent/carer questionnaires were analysed – these will be used as representative of parental views (please note that this survey does not reflect whether this was completed as a family or if individual responses were submitted for families with more than one child). When questioned about how they currently travel to school, answers showed the following:

How far do you live from the school?



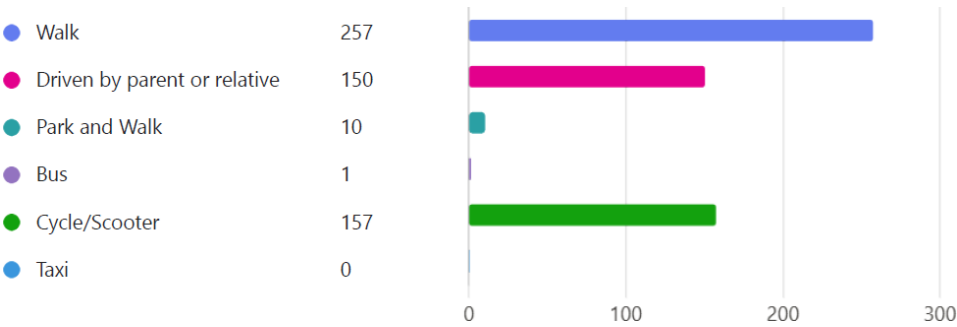
A large number of pupils - 84% of pupils live under 1 mile from school. A further 14% live under 2 miles, within acceptable walking/cycling distance. Only 2% of our pupils live over 2 miles from school.

How long does the walking journey to school take your children?



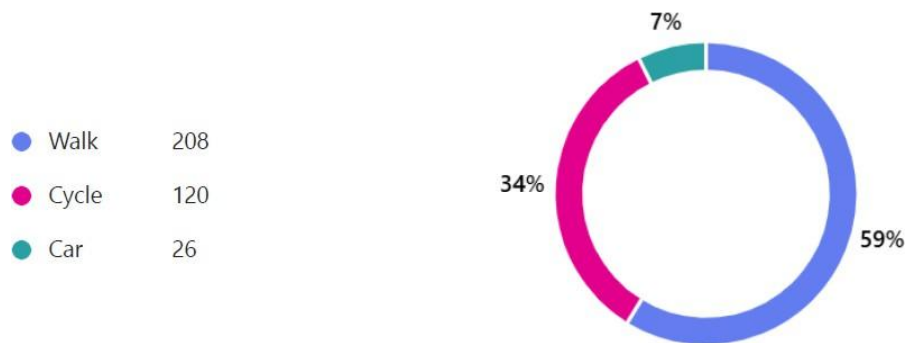
49% of pupils have a walking journey time of under 10 minutes, with a further 45% having a journey time under 20 minutes. Only 6% have a walking journey of more than 20 minutes.

How Does Your Child Travel to & From School?



In this question, some parents had asked to be able to choose multiple answers. 72.5% of children walk to school for some of the week with 44% cycling or bringing their scooter (which we are really pleased with). 3% of pupils use a Park & Walk scheme whilst 42% travel all the way to school by car.

If you could choose, how would parents prefer their child to travel to school?



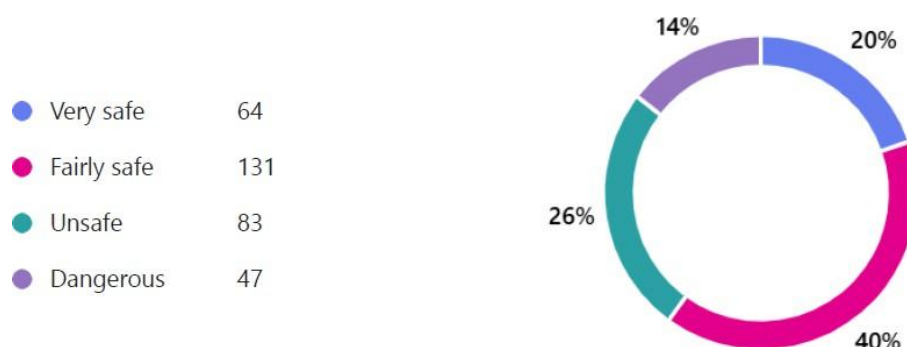
This shows that 59% of parents would rather their child walked to school, with 34% of parents preferring their child to cycle. Only 7% of parents prefer their child to travel to school by car, mainly due to work commitments or location.

For car users only

Of those parents who currently take children to school by car, 32% make a specific journey with 68% combining the journey with a journey to work, nursery, etc.

For parents whose children walk/cycle to school only

How Safe Do You Consider Your Route To Be?



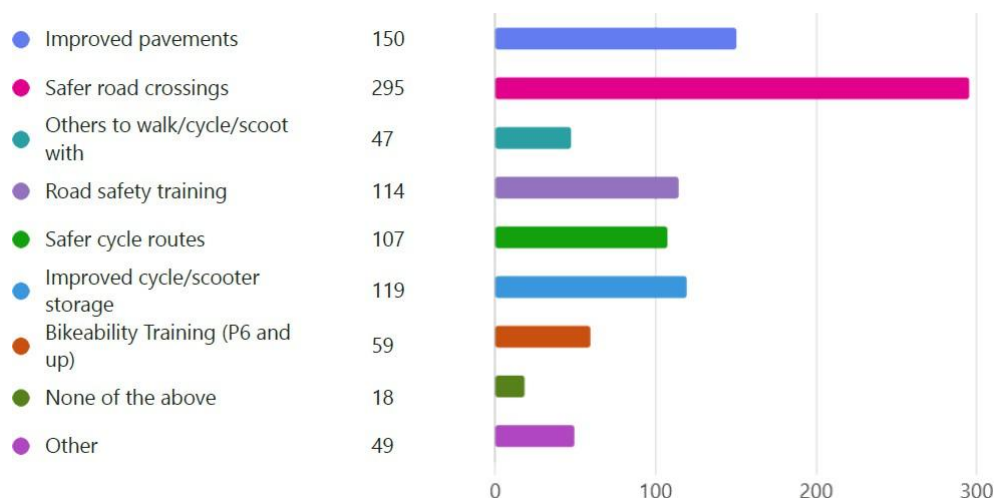
60% of parents consider their child's journey to school to be fairly safe or very safe. 26% of parents feel their child's journey is potentially unsafe with 14% considering it to be actually dangerous (a total of 40% in total)

Improvements parents recommended to make walking/cycling to school safer (Noted where reported from more than 1 respondent)

185 respondents (52%) highlighted concerns about the roads directly outside the school.

- 152 parents/carers expressed concern about their child crossing the road directly outside the school and felt a crossing patrol e.g. lollipop person was required.
- 147 parents/carers requested a pelican or zebra crossing directly outside the school.
- 90 parents/carers expressed concern about the parking in the surrounding areas, particularly outside the flats on Nethershiel Road and down the side of the school towards the farm. Requests for no parking/cars in the surrounding areas as well as the introduction of yellow lines was requested.
- 25 parents/carers highlighted the need for the paths to be improved, including the completion of the path opposite the school on Nethershiel Road
- 21 parents/carers expressed concern about the construction traffic passing the school during drop off and pick up times and felt this should be restricted.
- 21 parents/carers expressed concern about the junction outside the school in general and the need for this to be improved.
- 17 people felt that dedicated cycle paths/lanes in Calderwood would help improve the safety of their child's journey to/from school.
- 12 requests for signage on approach to the school including "children crossing" or warning of approaching a school.
- 8 suggestions for more bike/scooter storage.
- 7 people felt that more car parking would be beneficial.
- 7 parents/carers felt that a regular police presence would help with people parking unsafely or using disabled bays when they shouldn't be.
- 6 people highlighted an issue with dog fouling/dogs off leads on their journey to school.
- 6 parents/carers felt that the introduction of Zig Zag lines outside the school would help.
- 5 parents/carers felt that there should be restricted access to the car park e.g. for staff/disabled only.
- 5 requests were for a crossing point further on Calderwood Road to enable pupils to cross safely.
- 3 suggestions for more of a staggered start/finish time at the end of the day.
- 2 people raised concerns about electric scooters and the speed of these.
- 2 suggestions of dedicated drop off/pick up lanes at the side of the school on Nethershiel Road.
- 2 people felt there was an issue with ungritted paths in the Calderwood estate in the colder months.

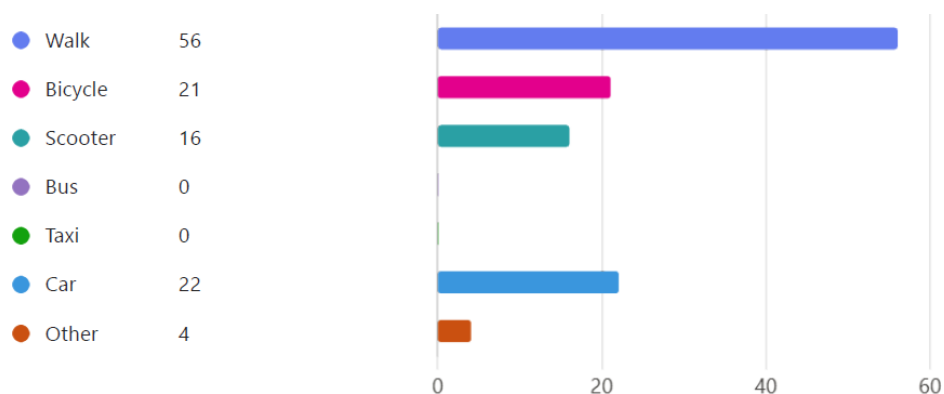
What would make walking or cycling/scooting to school a more attractive travel option for you/your child/children?



P4-7 Pupil Travel Survey Results – 119 respondents

119 pupil questionnaires were analysed – these will be used as representative of learners' views. When questioned about how they currently travel to school, answers showed the following:

How Do You Usually Travel to & From School?



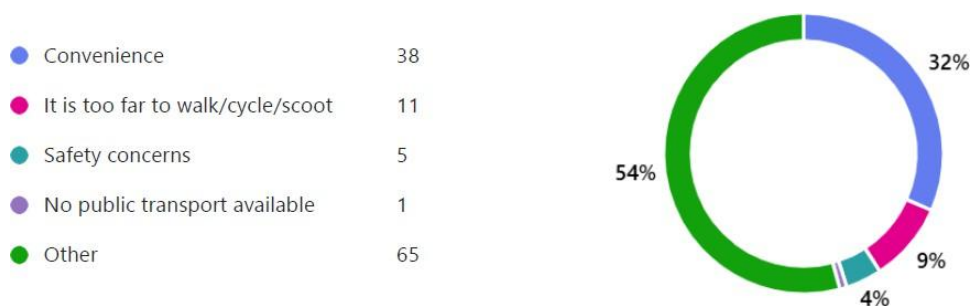
44% of P4-7 children walk to school with 31% cycling or bringing their scooter. 3% of pupils use another mode of transport (e.g. park and walk) whilst 18% told us that they travel all the way to school by car.

How Long Does It Take You To Travel To School?



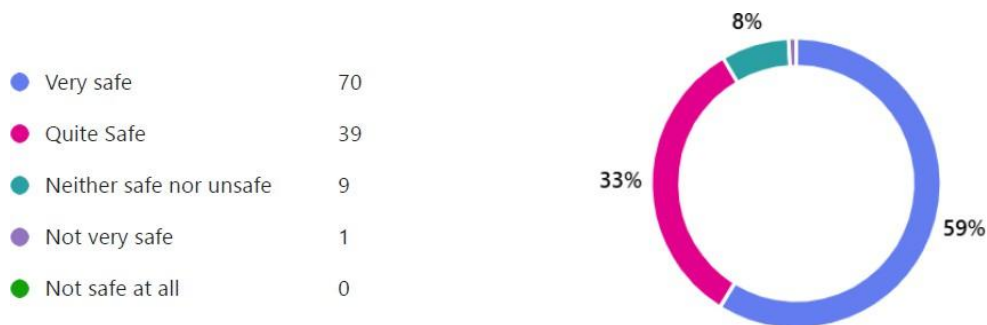
70% of P4-7 pupils have a journey time of under 10 minutes, with a further 29% having a journey time under 20 minutes. Only 2% have a journey of more than 20 minutes.

If you travel to school by car, why do you or your family choose this option?



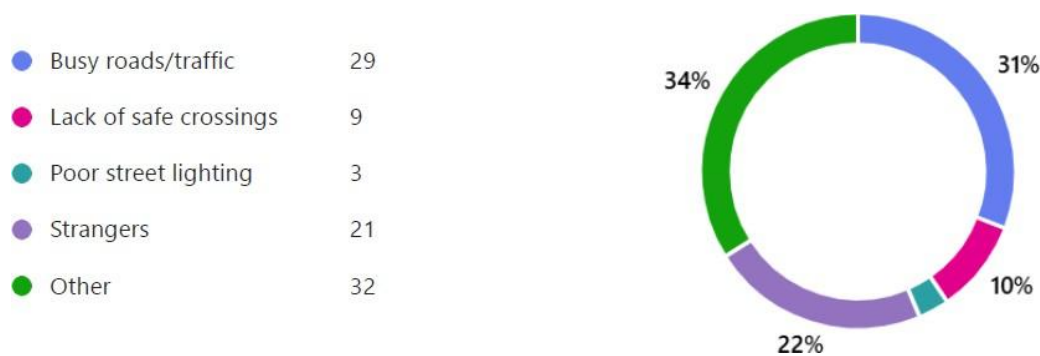
P4-7 children were able to choose more than one reason for this question. Main reasons children felt they travelled to school by car were convenience and other reasons (86%). 4% of children expressed safety concerns.

How Safe Do You Feel Travelling To/From School?



92% of P4-7 children felt either quite or very safe travelling to and from school. 8% were neutral to feeling neither safe nor unsafe and 1 child expressed that they do not feel very safe travelling to and from school.

If you do not feel safe, what are the main concerns?



P4-7 children were able to choose multiple options for this question. Main concerns around safety were busy roads/traffic/lack of safe crossings (41%). 22% of children felt unsafe due to strangers and 34% had other reasons for feeling unsafe.

Are there any areas on your route where you feel particularly unsafe? (Noted where reported from more than 1 respondent)

- 9 children expressed concern about crossing the road directly outside the school.
- 7 children highlighted that they feel unsafe crossing busy roads in general.
- 3 children expressed that there are not enough crossings in Calderwood estate.
- 3 children expressed concern about construction traffic going past the school.

- 3 children raised that the crowds of people gathered at the gates in the mornings makes them feel unsafe.
- 2 children highlighted their concern about how busy Nethershiel Road is.
- 2 children expressed that they are frightened when walking past dogs on their route to school.

What would make your journey to school safer?

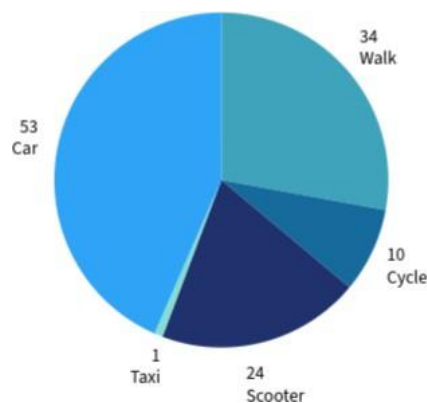


50% of P4-7 children expressed that more crossings or a crossing patrol would make them feel safer on their journey to school.

P1-3 Pupil Travel Survey Results – 121 respondents

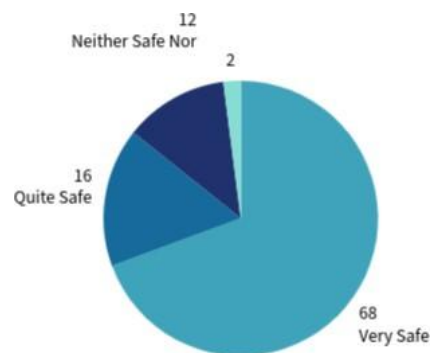
This was done as a “hands up” survey. 121 pupil answers were analysed – these will be used as representative of learners’ views. When questioned about how they currently travel to school, answers showed the following:

How Do You Usually Travel to & From School?



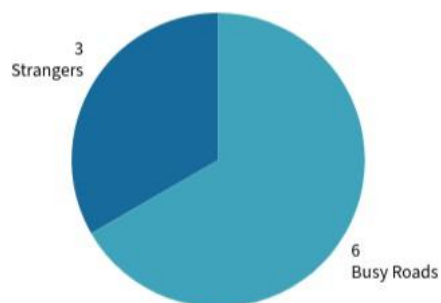
28% of P1-3 children walk to school with 28% cycling or bringing their scooter. 44% told us that they travel all the way to school by car.

How Safe Do You Feel When Travelling To & From School?



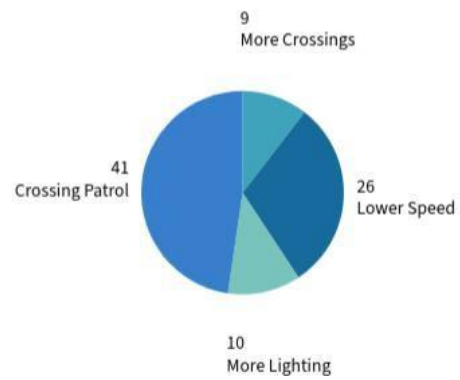
69% of P1-3 children felt either quite or very safe travelling to and from school. 10% were neutral to feeling neither safe nor unsafe and 2 children expressed that they do not feel very safe travelling to and from school.

If you do not feel safe, what are the main concerns?



Main concerns around safety were busy roads/traffic (5%). 2.5% of children felt unsafe due to strangers.

What would make your journey to school safer?



41% of P1-3 children surveyed expressed that more crossings or a crossing patrol would make them feel safer on their journey to school.

7. Aims and Objectives

As with most schools in West Lothian, parking in and around the school at peak times is a problem at Calderwood Primary. It is considered that the level of congestion caused by unnecessary car use and turning manoeuvres due to rushed parking presents a significant risk to the health and safety of our pupils. It is our aim to increase the number of children using sustainable and healthy modes of transport and to reduce the number of parents who park too close to the school gates or within the school carpark which is intended for infrequent or visitor use. Our school's aim is to decrease our car travel figure and would like to see the number of pupils travelling all the way to the school gate by car reduced by our next travel survey. We would prefer that, if it is absolutely necessary to travel by car, parents/carers park a little way away and allow their children the opportunity to walk at least some of the way to school.

Our main aims are

To encourage sustainable travel:

- Walk to School events
- Installation of more cycle/scooter racks
- Continue to investigate the possibility of a crossing patrol with the council

To promote road safety:

- Use road safety materials to raise awareness with all pupils
- Support JRSO activity in school

To raise awareness:

- Publish the Travel Plan on the school website, blog and link to it in our school handbook
- Have a JRSO/Road Safety noticeboard
- Continue to discuss school travel at our Parent Council meetings

8. Programme of Events/Initiatives selected

Please see our planned activity below. However, it is recognised that, as the areas around the school are still under construction, we may engage/consult with the school community more regularly or around specific issues where required.

Aim	Action	Undertaken by	Timescale
Increase Travel Awareness	Write a school travel plan and make it available to all staff, pupils, parents and school community.	School Travel Co-ordinator	By December 2025, repeated every year
	JRSO/Road Safety Notice Board created	JRSOs	By December 2025
Encourage Walking to School	Promote Walk to school week twice a year	School and School Travel Co-ordinator	Annually (May & October)
	Look into Road Safety programme (e.g. Kerbcraft) for younger learners	School, parental volunteers	Programme to be undertaken Annually
	Road Safety Week	School	Annually (November)
	WOW Travel Tracker	School	March 2026
Encourage Cycling to School	Cycle training opportunity for P6 (Bikeability)	School	Annually
	Install more bike sheds	School	Funding bid submitted in Aug 2025
	WOW Travel Tracker	School	March 2026
Encourage Safe Parking, and less cars near the school car park/gates	Display of Park Smart Banners inside and at school events	School/School Travel Co-ordinator	Await Printing then ongoing
	Reminders in the Chronicle newsletter about safe parking	School	Ongoing
Education	Road Safety Awareness	School, JRSOs	Ongoing
	Health promotion	School (part of Health promoting project)	Ongoing
	Citizenship	School	Ongoing
Traffic management	Ask authority to look at key messages highlighted by parents	School Travel Co-ordinator, West Lothian Council	By June 2026
Promotional	Travel plan launch	School	
	Updating school handbook to inform parents of travel plan	School	
	Update of travel plan	School Travel Co-ordinator, Pupil Council, Parent Council/JRSOs and wider parent body	Next plan due, June 2026

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

The school will participate in year 1 of the 'Active and Sustainable Travel(AST)' initiative as part of WCHS cluster. This will include creating an AST focus group who will use the Place Standard tool to look at different themes including AST in the community.

Regular updates reported at Teaching Champ Meetings and Parent Council Meetings.

Further data concerning perceptions of safety about school travel to be collected from JRSO children and Pupil Council members.

School Travel Plan to be reviewed every second year – next due June 2026 including surveys of stakeholders.