

# St Francis' Catholic Primary School

## School Travel Policy

### 2023-26

#### Aims

We actively encourage our pupils and staff to walk, scoot or cycle to school as they are life skills that everyone should be able to benefit from to:

- keep us fit and healthy
- help our pupils develop road safety skills which will keep them safe as they travel further afield and become more independent
- to help keep our local air clean
- to help keep our streets and school site free from congestion

#### What we do

- We use Modeshift STARS to update and monitor our School Travel Plan
- We promote safe and active travel as much as possible by using our noticeboard, displays, newsletter and website (under the School Information tab) at [www.stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk)
- We encourage all members of our school community to walk, cycle or travel by public transport for the journey to school. To support this we provide:
  - Cycle training (Bikeability)
  - Cycle parking
  - Scooter parking
  - Public transport information
  - Two school cycles that can be loaned for Bikeability
- Local school trips are made by public transport where possible, or on foot if the destination is close by.

#### What we ask of parents.

- Please encourage your child(ren) to walk, scoot or cycle to school whenever possible
- Ensure your child(ren) walk or ride sensibly and safely on the way to and from school, and to push bikes and scooters on school grounds
- Ensure that bicycles and scooters are roadworthy and properly maintained. If in doubt consult a qualified mechanic
- Consider providing your child(ren) with a cycle helmet
- Ensure your child(ren) can be seen by fitting lights to their bike by supplying them with high-visibility clothing
- Make sure your child(ren) has a lock for their bike or scooter and that they know how to use it
- Ensure you have appropriate insurance cover for your child(ren)'s bicycle or scooter as the school is not liable for any loss or damage to cycles or scooters on the premises or being used on the way to or from school
- If you travel by bus, can you get off the bus at least two stops early and walk the last part of the journey?

We understand that sometimes there is no alternative to driving to school.

- Where a car must be used we ask parents to try and 'Park and Stride' - drive only part of the way, and drop their child(ren) off away from the school so that some of the journey can be walked or scooted (the Green by Salmonds Lane West, Essendene Road, Queens Park Road are all about a 10-15-minute walk away)
- If you do have to drive your child(ren) and stop in the near vicinity please do so legally, safely and with respect for our neighbours and local residents

### **Behaviour when parking, cycling, scooting, or walking on site**

- It is not acceptable to park or wait on double yellow lines, on the school zigzags, on the zebra crossing points or across residential driveways for any period of time.
- When parked, engines must be switched off – to reduce pollution on site from fumes. Please remember that many children and babies in buggies are closer to exhaust fumes.
- If you are not parked safely and you are asked to move, it is not acceptable to be verbally or physically abusive
- It is not acceptable for any site user to use bad language/swear

**NOTE: Please note that the decision on whether a child is competent to cycle or scoot to school is for the parent(s) or carer(s) to make. The school has no liability for any consequences arising from this decision.**

### **What we ask of pupils**

- Walk or ride sensibly, safely and courteously on the way to and from school
- Behave in a way that shows you and the school in the best light whether walking, scooting, cycling or using public transport
- Ask your parents if you can walk, scoot or cycle to or from school - with adult supervision. (At St Francis only Year 6 children only can travel from at the end of the day school and only with written permission.)
- Push bikes and scooters on school grounds
- Check with your parents that your bike or scooter is roadworthy and properly maintained
- Consider wearing a cycle helmet
- Make sure you can be seen by using lights in the dark or bad weather and by wearing high-visibility clothing
- Make sure you have a lock for your bike or scooter and that you use it