



Woodfield Infant School & St George's Junior School Travel Plan Newsletter November 2016



What is the Travel Plan?

A warm welcome to all (nearly) new parents: the Travel Plan is a collection of schemes that aim to **reduce traffic congestion** around school, **make travel to and from school safer and more enjoyable**, and **encourage a healthy and active start to the day**. The Plan includes walking buses, cycling with bike trailers and tag-along bikes, Park and Stride, scooting and the 'WOW, Not in a Car!' badge scheme. The schemes are run by Woodfield and St George's schools, Shropshire Council and parent volunteers, all of whom are crucial to the success of the Travel Plan.

Winter safety

The cold weather and darker evenings are fast approaching, so more people are likely to travel to school by car. Please be extra vigilant about safety around the school and remember to park **away** from the area around the school (from the mini roundabout and the Woodfield Road/Ave junction) and walk in. See the attached guide to safe parking for the school run for more information.

Please note: in school, the main path only is gritted in icy conditions.

Car parks

A reminder that car parks are for **staff only**. Please keep safe and don't walk across the car parks.

Scooter code

Please ensure your children follow the **scooter code** and **walk** with scooters whilst they are on school premises. Our entrance/exits are quite narrow and speeding scooters can cause a nuisance and potential risk to other users.

Calling walkers and bikers!

There are currently only two parent members of the travel plan group (and none from Woodfield), and we would love to have more parents taking part. The group meets just twice a year (next meeting Tuesday, 28th March 2017, 9.15am at The Darwin Teaching School, Woodfield Infant School). If you are interested, just come along or ask at your school office.

If meetings aren't your thing, there are other things you can do to promote walking, cycling and scooting to school, including getting involved in the schemes mentioned overleaf. We are particularly looking for anyone able to help with the trailer/tag scheme. For more information, please call Emily or Julie (numbers below) or talk to the staff in either school office.

Regular travel safe schemes:

'Golden Lock' scheme



St George's children who cycle or scoot to school can have a safety check done by the Bike-it crew which covers the condition of their bike, helmet and examples of safe riding to school. A golden lock is put on one bike each week – if you are lucky and your bike gets the lock you can collect an award from the school office. The golden lock scheme has resulted in an increase in cycling.

WOW Badge Scheme

The WOW badge scheme at Woodfield School continues to run half termly and is well supported. Well done to all our regular walkers.

Tag-alongs and trailers

Parents can hire Burley Cub bike trailers and tag-along bikes for the very reasonable rate of just £10 a year! (plus a £20 returnable deposit). Unfortunately we can't issue equipment at the moment due to accommodation problems (hopefully not for long), but if you have a tag along or trailer to return please let us know. Contact Emily Fay: 01743 588854 or Julie Howe: 07535 073 930 for more details.

Walking Buses

These are a great way of getting your children to school with their friends and meeting other parents/carers. Walking buses are run by trained and DBS checked parent/carer volunteers. In the past we've had walking buses along Richmond Drive, Pengwern Road and from Oakfield Road; these can be restarted if there is interest and volunteers. If you would like to start a bus from your area, we can help. You will get free training, a DBS check and be fully covered by our insurance.

School Rules and Safety reminders: for all our children's safety

- Please put your children's safety first and don't walk across St George's car park as a short cut.
- Please make sure that your children (including pre-schoolers) **do not** ride bikes or scooters within the school grounds. The pathways are not wide enough to allow this safely, when pedestrians are using the paths as well.
- Please **avoid walking, driving or cycling** down Kelsalls Lane, to drop off/collect your child at peak times; pedestrians with children should always follow the safe yellow footprint routes. If you come by bike, it's advisable to dismount and walk in on the yellow footprints.
- **High visibility clothing of some sort is strongly recommended** for children cycling to school: if the children are visible they are less likely to be involved in an accident.
- **Parking or stopping to let out passengers on the white zigzag lines either side of the zebra crossing is a traffic offence and puts our children in danger but continues to happen. Civil Enforcement Officers regularly patrol here and will issue fixed penalty tickets for parking offences.**

Contact details

Trailer bikes: Emily Fay: 01743 588 854, Julie Howe: 07535 073 930

Active Travel and Road Safety Officer: Ray Hughes (contact via either school)

Travel Plan Newsletter Editor: Julie Howe: 07535 073 930

