

School Travel Plan 2018-2019

Easthampstead Park Community School



DfES Unique School Reference Number
867/4061

Contents.

- 1 - About our school
- 2 - Why we are implementing a School Travel Plan
- 3 - Survey Results
- 4 - School Travel Plan Objectives
- 5 - School Travel Plan Targets
- 6 - The Action Plan
- 7 - Our Travel to School Policy
- 8 - Consultation
- 9 - Monitoring and Review
- 10 - Sign off

1.About our school

Easthampstead Park Community School is a co-educational state secondary school for students aged 11-19 in Ringmead, Bracknell, Berkshire. The school currently has 830 students on roll.

The school day operates from 8.00am when a Breakfast Club starts. School starts at 8.40am and ends at 3.10pm. The school does not allow students to go home during the lunch break.

The school is located on a single site accessed by way of a long drive and largely surrounded by green fields. There is a public right of way running across the front of the school grounds. The school serves the southern section of Bracknell. Local land use is primarily residential. There is a range of shops and other local services a short walk from the school.

The school has three entrances. The main entrance is a shared vehicle/pedestrian entrance and there are a further two pedestrian entrances. The main entrance leads into the long driveway up to the school bringing vehicles to a roundabout in front of the school. The roundabout offers a choice of three exits offering parking options. There are four parking areas within the school grounds providing ninety car parking spaces. Two disabled spaces are also marked to accommodate staff and visitor access needs.

Some vehicles use the roadway for parking. There is a drop off point adjacent to the main drive access to encourage cars to drop off earlier.

There is a small park located at the entrance to the school with provision of play equipment for primary and pre-school age children.

The public footpath is regularly used by the public, primarily for dog walking, before, during and after the school sessions. The number of joggers has also increased recently.

The school has good facilities for sport and drama. These facilities are regularly used in the evening by a range of organisations including community football clubs, cheerleaders and a drama group.

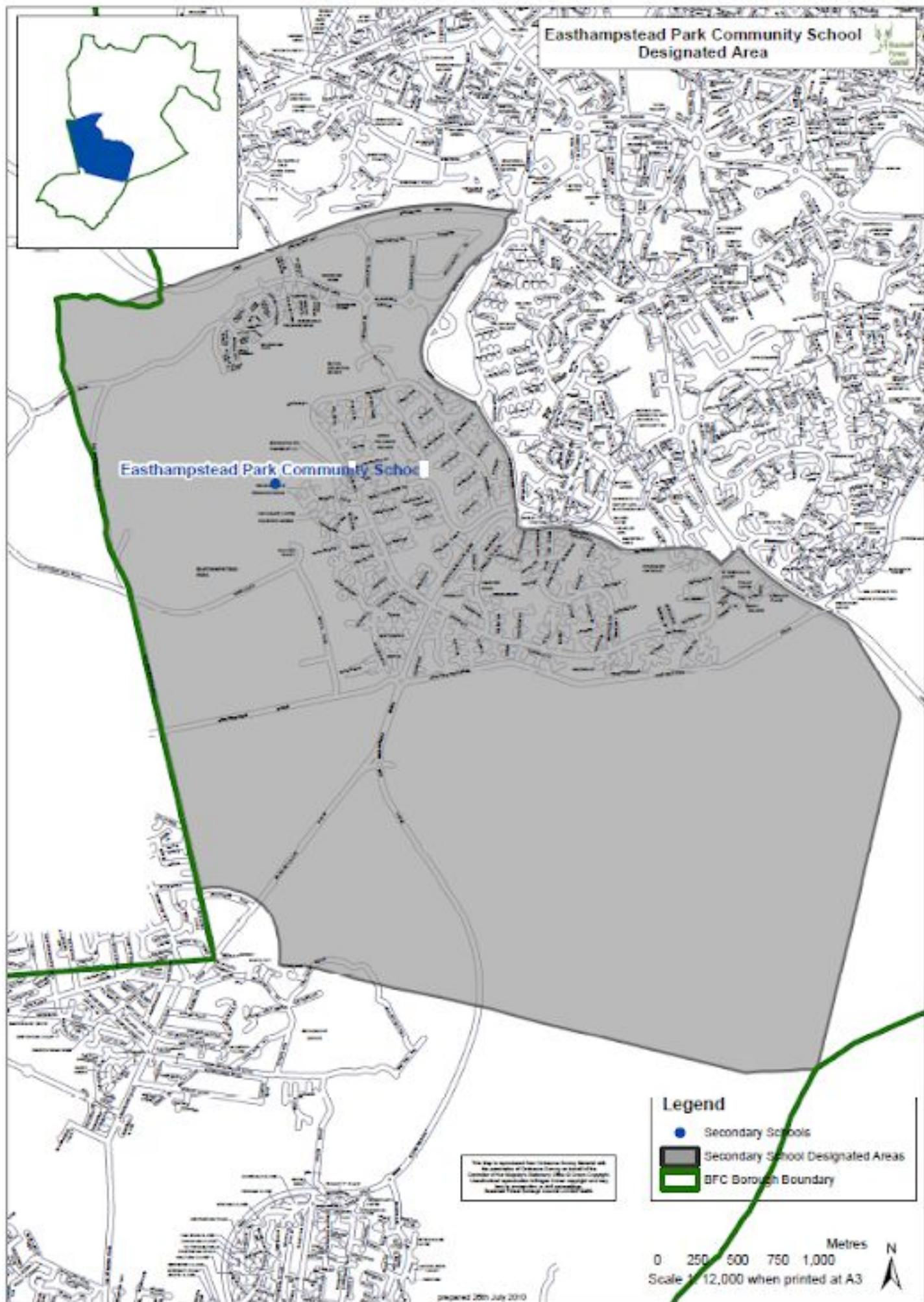
The school also receives regular delivery traffic to the site including regular deliveries to the school catering staff, before school starts.

The main congestion times are at 2.50pm to 3.30pm, when the greatest number of pedestrians exit the site and vehicular traffic increases sharply, and from 7.45am to 9.00am when the greatest number of pedestrians enter the site and vehicular traffic increases.

Whole School On-Roll as at 13/06/18

Year	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Total	140	146	167	140	102	51	49
Girls	77	62	87	72	55	23	25
Boys	63	84	80	68	47	28	24
PP	47	57	65	52	26	3	1
SEN	110	58	133	124	30	20	14

Of our 795 students on roll. There are no students who have a statement of disability that would render them unable to walk, cycle or scoot from home to school on a daily basis.



2. Why we are implementing a School Travel Plan

There is no particular travel problem faced by the school, however, we have noticed that as our school cohort grows, we are seeing more and more cars attempting to pick up students at the end of the day. This could lead to problems, particularly as there is a roundabout at the end of the drive and parents have begun to park up on the roundabout, which could cause congestion and reduces staffs line of sight when supervising departing students.

The school would like an updated travel plan to show changes in the way students are travelling to the school site, as since the last plan was produced , Jennett's Park housing development and Primary School has been completed. We would like to target specific year groups, particularly our Y7 and Y8 cohorts as they are our largest groups, to ensure they learn early on of the cycle paths available to them. If we continue to increase our number on roll, we will need to establish clear links with Primary schools about our expectation of how students get to school – ensuring they consider biking, scooting or walking as a valid option for every day.

Our Bike It Crew have also identified some issues with storage of bikes on site which could currently be the reason many students don't bring their bikes in. After our Y7 Bike It day event, we discovered many students didn't feel that their bike was safe on site, or that they did not have a lock to keep it safe. As a result, the crew would like to look at monitoring the bike enclosures using a duty rota, selling locks and monitoring the use of the enclosure throughout the day. There is plenty of storage, not all the storage is used, but it is clear more students use the lower playground facility than the upper playground, so footfall is greater.

The effects of students travelling to school by car can have a range of damaging side effects including:

- Increased peak hour congestion
- Increased atmospheric pollution around the school
- Fewer opportunities for children to develop road and personal safety skills
- Lack of exercise with resulting impact on general health and well-being
- Reduction of children's independence and social interaction
- Establishing travel habits early in life, which are difficult to change

The School Travel Plans aim to make children's journeys to and from school safer and enable parents and children to choose walking, cycling and public transport as a safer, healthier alternative.

3. Survey Results

In January 2018, all students across all year groups took part in a hands up survey, using the Sustrans proforma.

	How do you get to school?						Do you own a bike?		What are your reasons for not cycling?																	
	car	walk	cycle	scoot	bus	other	Y	N	I don't know how to cycle	I have too much to carry	I don't have a bike	I'm not allowed	I'm worried my bike will get stolen	I'm worried that other students may use my bike	I don't like cycling on the roads	I feel too tired in the morning to cycle	My bike needs repairing	I prefer to come in the car	I prefer to walk	I prefer to come on the bus	Cycling messes up my hair & clothes	I'm worried people will make fun of me	I would like to cycle with others	I live too far away to cycle	I live too near to cycle	I don't have a lock
Totals	160	392	95	13	20	0	429	237	14	98	195	22	22	16	32	188	68	115	233	12	74	35	34	65	124	46

The total % of students who travel to school by the following means can be found below:

- Car - 24%
- Walking - 58%
- Cycling - 14%
- Scooting - 2%
- Bus - 3%
- Other - 0%

The same hands up survey was conducted previously in 2016:

- Car - 10%
- Walking - 41%
- Cycling - 6%
- Scooting - 1%
- Bus - 4%
- Other - 0%

And in 2005 a whole school hands-up survey revealed:

- Car - 25%
- Walking - 60%
- Cycling - 9%
- Scooting - 0%
- Bus - 6%
- Other - 0%

Since the implementation of a Bike It Crew in 2016 and the work that was completed to secure the Bronze Sustrans Award, the number of students cycling and scooting to school has increased.

Cycling in 2018 remains the third most popular form of travel to school, but there has been an 8% rise in the number of students choosing to travel this way.

This may be as a result of -

- Weekly Bike It Crew meetings with students in Y7, 8 and 9 to discuss ways to continually promote cycling.
- Three consecutive years, taking part in The Big Pedal, a national cycling initiative.
- Regular assemblies with all year groups to discuss sustainable methods of travel.
- Embedding a 'Bike It' fundraiser into the criss-cross day programme for Y7, collaborating with Sustrans volunteers from Slough.
- Running an annual Dr Bike event to fix broken bikes for free.
- Running an annual lock sale in the Dining Hall.
- Securing a new bike shed building, lockable during the day and with a roof to protect bikes.
- Displays around the school site associated with safe travel and the Green Cross Code.

Scooting has also become a popular method of sustainable transport and was something that was never considered in 2005.

From 2016 to 2018 we have doubled our number of students scooting to school. This is most likely from our Bike It Crew winning a free scooter pod for the school, enabling safe storage of scooters on site.

We have tried numerous ways to collect the data - using hand out forms, calling for information in tutor groups, in assemblies, through Google forms or via email. We have managed to increase our number of students participating from 62% in 2016 to 100% in 2018. It looks like our number of students travelling by car has increased significantly, yet this may be due to lack of data in 2016.

As a result, we embedded two annual hands up surveys into the school calendar from Sept 2017 in order to make students aware of the importance of accurate data and in order to ensure we monitor the differences in numbers between the cooler autumn months and the warmer summer months.

It would also appear that the overall number of students owning a bike has declined. In 2016 90% said that they owned a bike, whereas in 2018, only 64% own a bike.

The number of students who have a bike that is broken has reduced, from 18% in 2016 to 10% in 2018.

The number of students scared to bring their bike onto the school site for fear of their bike being damaged has reduced from 7% in 2016 to 3% in 2018.

The number of students without a lock to secure their bike on site has also reduced, from 13% in 2016 to 7% in 2018.

4. School Travel Plan Objectives

The School Travel Plan document sets out measures to promote healthier and more environmentally friendly forms of transport and to improve safety and security both on the school journey and on the school site.

The School Travel Plan aims to:

- Increase awareness amongst students, parents and staff about the health, environmental and safety benefits of more walking and other forms of sustainable and active travel
- Provide a relevant focus for class work within the curriculum and increase the number of students benefiting from road safety education
- Address issues of road safety by improving the traffic awareness skills of students
- Improve and make safer and more secure the facilities for the wide variety of traffic on the school site including bicycles as well as cars
- Encourage more walking and cycling to school and improve children's health and fitness through increased walking and cycling
- Engender a responsible attitude in all members of the school community towards the safety of themselves and others on the school journey
- Promote safe and considerate driving on the school site
- Be a living document which is reviewed, progress measured and successes publicised on an annual basis
- Be part of the school's commitment to being a community focused school

5. School Travel Plan Targets

The school has developed the following targets based on our goals and objectives:

- To implement regular assemblies/events promoting the rules of the road to ensure students safety on the road.
- To regularly conduct 'bike and scooter' counts in the bike enclosures and monitor their usage, taking into account the time of year and the weather.
- To use the first criss-cross day of each academic year to introduce the concept of smart travel to our Y7 and promote a day of cycling through a competitive event.
- To offer safety advice to all students through a 'Bike It' display board and messages to tutors during particularly bad weather conditions.
- To create, sustain and evolve a Bike It Crew to eventually include representatives from all year groups, to support the safety of the students on site as they arrive and leave school and to monitor parking/locking of bikes and scooters.
- To make duty staff at the end of the day aware of student travel and to look for occasional feedback.
- To establish links with our primary schools in order to support students with route planning to our school site, sharing in good road safety knowledge and teaching younger students how to perform an M check.
- To increase the number of students using bikes, scooters or those walking to school, when monitored at year points and compared.
- To reward students who regularly travel to school via sustainable means in assemblies.
- To continue to share success and events associated with travel through the school website.

6. The Action Plan

Target	Measure	Timeframe	Monitoring
To ensure the student body regularly consider road safety advice, through continuing a 'Bike It Crew'.	Growing group - all years	Ongoing	After 3 years, we now have representation from Y7, 8 and 9. Weekly meetings ensure pace and progress towards the next Sustrans award.
To increase student awareness of sustainable transport	To create a Bike It display board and share information via tutors and assemblies	Refresh summer each year. Big Pedal every April.	Information pack to new parents with safety guidance and storage information. Assemblies scheduled to coincide with Big Pedal event annually. Prizes draw attention throughout year.

To increase parent awareness of sustainable transport	To post information about the Bike It Crew on the school website and send home letters to parents advertising events and facilities	September Ongoing	Information pack with transition materials. Website information. Student participation in Y7 criss-cross day activities - letter to parents. Dr Bike events. Competitions during The Big Pedal.
To increase appropriate use of the bike storage	To increase the % of bikes locked securely in the compound	Ongoing	Daily logs Sale of locks annually. New bike shed and opening ceremony. Assemblies to raise awareness of the need to secure your bike.
To offer students safety advice	To see safety advice around the bike enclosures regularly updated	Criss Cross day 1 for Y7. Display board.	Updates in R+P PP as needed. Website information.
To reward students who regularly use sustainable transport	Rewards to regular cyclists - ongoing Rewards for ten day challenge - April each year	Throughout year	HOY communication - assemblies.
To increase the % of students walking, biking or scooting to school.	September and May hands up survey to be taken each year via tutors. One week turnaround.	September and May annually.	All of the above actions will promote this objective.
To make links with Primary feeder schools to show students safe travel routes	Bike It Crew Safe to School project.	July annually	Students to visit primary schools to showcase how to M check, discuss road responsibility and rules and to route plan as part of a carousel. Y5 and Y6 involvement. Parent information during transition evening.

7. Our Travel to School Policy

At Easthampstead Park Community School we encourage pupils and parents to travel to school by cycling, walking and scooting (active travel) wherever possible.

This school travel policy explains how we will be encouraging active travel to school. We will discuss the policy with the pupils and re-visit it periodically to ensure its relevance. For pupils unable to travel to school actively, we encourage the use of public transport or car-share.

If you have any ideas to improve things at or around school for pedestrians and cyclists, or questions about travelling to school, please get in touch with Lisa Thornton: lisa.thornton@epschool.org

Some of the benefits of active travel are:

- improving both mental and physical health through physical activity
- establishing positive active behaviour
- promoting independence and improving safety awareness
- reducing congestion, noise and pollution in the community
- reducing the environmental impact of the journey to school.

To encourage pupils to cycle or scoot to school frequently the school will:

- actively promote cycling and scooting as a positive way of travelling
- celebrate the achievements of those who cycle and scoot to school
- provide cycle and scooter storage on the school site
- provide high quality cycle training to all pupils who wish to participate

To make cycling and scooting to and from school a positive experience for everybody concerned, we expect our pupils to:

- ride sensibly and safely and to follow the Highway Code
- check that their bicycle or scooter is roadworthy and regularly maintained
- behave in a manner which shows them and the school in the best possible light and to consider the needs of others when cycling and scooting
- consider wearing a cycle helmet
- ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.

For the wellbeing of our pupils, we expect parents and carers to:

- encourage their child to walk, cycle or scoot to school whenever possible
- encourage their child to take up opportunities to develop their competence and confidence in cycling and scooting
- consider cycling or scooting with their child on the school run
- provide their child with equipment such as high-visibility clothing, light, a lock and a cycle helmet as appropriate
- ensure that the bicycles and scooters ridden to school are roadworthy and regularly maintained

Please note that:

- the decision as to whether a child is competent to cycle, scoot or walk safely to and from school rests with the parent(s)/carer(s). The school has no liability for any consequences of that decision.
- this policy covers the journey to and from school where the school has no responsibility or liability. When walking, scooting and cycling

activities are being led by the school there may be additional rules and guidance concerning equipment such as the use of helmets, high-visibility clothing, etc.

- parents are advised to consider appropriate insurance cover (check home insurance) as the school is not liable for, and its insurance does not cover, any loss or damage to bicycles and scooters being used on the way to or from school.

8. Consultation

Staff: All staff at EPCS have been consulted via email of the intentions of the Travel Policy. The Travel Policy was made with the support of the Headteacher, Liz Cook.

Students: The Bike It Crew stands at 12 Y7 members and 2 Y9 members currently (June 2018). These students work on a rotary basis to collect travel data each morning and report back, inputting the data into the bikeitdata.org portal.

Students meet on a weekly basis and discuss ways to promote cycling and scooting over car rides to school. They create and execute their own assemblies for students in all years and run The Big Pedal event successfully for all students in Discovery. Students accompany the promotion of The Big Pedal with 10 days of challenge, setting students competitions associated with cycling and awarding certificates and prizes in subsequent assemblies to winners. We have been South East Champions for two years, both in 2016 and 2018!

Students are currently working towards the Silver Sustrans Award which they should secure in July 2018. They have a teaching opportunity with Wooden Hill Primary School this year that should spark the beginning of their work with primary students in order to encourage cycling and scooting as the preferred choice of travel for students joining us in September.

Unfortunately, Bracknell Forest no longer have a Sustrans coordinator so we have been working with affiliates in Slough. Sustrans continue to support our endeavours with the Travel Policy and our Bike It Crew.

9. Monitoring and Review

- Hands up surveys will be completed twice annually in September and May.
- The STP will be reviewed annually, monitoring the difference between results from the Hands up survey in September and May and adjusting the action plan accordingly.
- Mrs Thornton will review all progress and actions as necessary.

Mrs Thornton will ensure that the STP is shared with staff and parents as necessary and will raise the STP profile in SLT meetings to ensure staff refer to the document when considering pupil travel needs in the future.

10. Sign Off

Headteacher: Liz Cook

Chair of Governors: Rene Rastall