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Dane Ghyll CP School

School Travel Plan

This travel plan has been prepared by the school under the Auspices of Cumbria County Council's 'Better Way to School' Initiative which aims to restore countrywide levels of walking, cycling and bus use for the school journey in the mid 1980's by the year 2010.

Purpose:

The travel plan sets out to:

- Reduce the number of car trips by parents, staff and pupils
- Improve safety on the school journey
- Improve social inclusion of the local community

Brief Description of School:

The school is in a suburban residential area of Barrow-in-Furness. The school is in a 1970's private housing estate. The school is close to the town's hospital which brings in additional parking difficulties for the area alongside fast moving traffic on the nearby hospital road.

There are 220 children at the school. Unfortunately, a vast majority of parents at present come/pick up children from school by car. This causes:

a. Major parking problems for 20 minutes before/after school.
b. Dangerous movement of cars, children and parents outside the School in a confined area on the pavement and school road.
c. Unsafe pedestrian use about the pathways close to school due to overcrowding.

The roads about the school are unsafe for older children to cycle to/from school as they are full of parked cars and traffic rushing to work. There is also the traffic from the hospital which cuts across a large part of the school's catchment area and is very dangerous to cross.

The travel plan is based on current school travel/road safety problems:

- Dangers on Skelwith Drive for children and parents
- Children crossing Dalton Lane
- Very bad parking by cars outside and around school
- Too many cars bringing their child/ren to school
- Pedestrian routes are poor on way to school
- Pedestrian waiting and mobility outside school is dangerous
- Cycle routes to school are dangerous, no existing cycling routes
- Congestion of traffic outside school
- Parking on double yellow lines outside school
- No cycle parking at school at present

OBJECTIVES

- To improve safe walking conditions
- To improve safe cycling routes and facilities
- To improve general health and social skills of school community
- The school will work towards achieving the ideas sheet attached
- Alongside the County Council

TARGETS

Walking to school:

- At present 28 % walk to school.
- In 1 year we would like to see 40% walking to school.
- In 3 years we would like to see 60 % walking to school.

Cycling to school:

- At present 0% cycle of Year 6 cycle to school.
- In 1 year we would like to see 10% Year 6 cycling to school.
- In 3 years we would like to see 20% Year 6 cycling to school.

Stage 1: Consultation/Survey of parents and children

- Autumn Term: 2001
- Survey of parents views, these are analysed by the
- School's working committee. (Completed)

Survey outcome: Main Points:

76 of the children/families completed the survey out of 216 children/in the region of 130 families.

This represents a fair spread across the age range of the school.

How children travel to school at present:

- 27% Children: Come to school on their own
- 7% Children: Come with other children
- 63% Children: Come accompanied by an adult
- 47% Children use car
- 28% Children walk to school
- Nil Children cycle to school

Stage 2: 2nd July Meeting of committee:

School's standing committee have agreed the initial ideas to submit to the Road Highways/Area committee to consider what is feasible/what is not from School's working party. This submission is based on the outcome of the survey undertaken.

Initiatives

The School proposes:-

A.ENGINEERING MEASURES

1. Cycle track between Thorncliffe School and Dane Ghyll School so children can cycle to school safely from their respective areas. (Can this be part of the Barrow cyclelinks project?)

2. A raised hump on Dalton Road for children to cross over on. This to include flashing lights at school times, traffic signs.

3. Consider blocking off the Skelwith Drive outside the school so the road is a dead end outside the school. There are enough other throughways for traffic to get around without interfering with traffic.

4.In tangent increasing the waiting area for parents outside where children pour out on to the public pavement.

This totally eliminates all dangers for children and parents outside school and means only dispersing 12 parking places for cars to other nearby roads.

- Alternative plan:

Make Skelwith Drive one-way outside school.

- Alternative plan:

Place a raised hump across Skelwith Drive for children/parents to cross on, which has flashing lights at school times and traffic sign.

5. Extend yellow lines outside the school from Yewdale Drive to Whinlatter Drive to eliminate dangerous parking.

6. Extended railings where parents wait for children and where children spill out on to public path.

7. Gates on community car park to close off this area so that only users of community centre can park there.

8. Extend path around park opposite, so that parents can park their cars around the park and walk along the path to school.

B. School Based Measures

1. **The school will ecourage** sets of 2 parents to run 'walking buses' to school and then notify all parents that buses are available.
Children using walking buses to receive yellow fluorescent jackets.

2. Ken Hanson(RSO) in collaboration with teaching staff to give class training on crossing Dalton Lane safely.

3. School will aim to train Year 6 in cycling proficiency in September each year so that they can cycle to school.

4. County Council to buy covered bicycle racks for the school. These will be for children to use who cycle to school. Children will need a parent's disclaimer, school's permission, as well as having passed cycling proficiency.

5. Outside plastic container for keeping cycle helmets in during day.

6. Parents able to leave their children's small bikes, scooters at cycle rakes. (They must obtain school's permission/and have safety checked). This is so that they can bring children to school with child cycling to/from School. This may encourage more parents to walk with their children to school.

7. Ask parking attendants to visit once a month to monitor parking restrictions.

School Programme of Road Safety and Promoting Walking to School:

All school:

Views gained from children on road safety through Class Councils and School Councils.

School has just got the Gold Activemark award from Sports England. (Gained)

School already has a yearly Sponsored Walk for all children in the school to raise money.

Include a section in termly newsletter to parents on road safety.

Commentary on:
New road structure successes
New cycle ways
Parking
Children's views of changes
Walking buses
RSO views
Children cycling

Try to encourage parents to car share. Work with RSO on this.

Termly Walk to School Day: County Council to provide an apple for children to congratulate them/florescent tops etc.

Children who walk to school each day over school year to get Road Safety Officer certificate presented by him in assembly.

Children who use 'walking buses' get a free Fluorescent jacket, as they are being green.

(Environmental companies programme/support scheme??) Certificate, medal.

Leaflet for new parents, school brochure and local road users on:

- Expectations of children on roads/paths about school
- Expectations of parents driving/parking near school
- How it is better to walk
- Walking buses
- Cycling to school
- Car sharing
- Parking about the school vicinity

In School programme: The internal programme for children will include:

Alongside existing National Curriculum and other curriculum work in school:

Key Stage 1:

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Key Stage 1 Assemblies:

Road Safety Officer: On florescent and bright colours: being seen
Dangers on roads
Video on road safety for young children

Reception:

RSO: Pretend road safety on playground
RSO: To mark out pretend road on playground for children to learn safety on

Year 1:

Health Official: Different ways to come to school and walking is good for you

Suggest class is taken by health representative

Year 2:

RSO: Pedestrian training: How to cross a road

Key Stage 2 Assemblies:

RSO: On crossing Dalton Lane
Video on road safety
Hidden dangers on roads
Health Offoicial: Walking to school benefits Year 3:
RSO provides: Road Safety Activity Book 1
RSO to organise a Road Safety poster competition for class in afternoon and arrange for children's work to be displayed in town somewhere.
Health Official: Health benefits of walking to school

Year 4:

RSO provides: Road Safety Activity Book 2
RSO takes children to Barrow town centre and shows how to use town roads safely

Year 5:

2 Sessions on Highway Code
Walking to school now and the Victorian pupils walking to school

Year 6:

Pupils take cycling proficiency test with Road Safety Officer
Opportunity to cycle to school
Junior Citizen Scheme

stage: Final stage: After one year of above

Review progress

Stage 3: County Council Meeting: July, 2002

County Council to consider the above recommendations to undertake work to improve the travel arrangements for children and parents coming/going from school. This programme has been suggested by the School's working committee.

Programme for implementation:

Alongside the alterations/development of the area about the school which will take place by the County Council from Stage 3, the school will establish its programme of work/ideas for working with children/parents with the Road Safety Officer and Better Way to Schools Officer.

Maintain working committee to lead this travel plan programme.

Monitoring and Review:

The intention is that this will be a working document that will be reviewed at each stage of progress with termly working party meetings to discuss progress.

The RSO to monitor delivery of programmes and ensure that the school's working committee is on course.

School survey: Once programme above is completed to compare parents/children's views about journeys to school as compared to their views prior to this programme being started.

Development Plan:

Dependent on speed of LEA agreement and financial arrangements for 2002/03:

- New road system in place outside school
- New cycling lanes from Thorncliffe School to Dane Ghyll School
- In Autumn Term Year 6 trained on cycling proficiency

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- In school programme up as mentioned above up and working

- RSO trained 'Walking Buses' leaders and letter gone out and Scheme working
- School has cycling shelter and cycle helmet shelter

- Cumbria Council sponsoring healthy walking to school projects

- RSO establishes certificates programme for children to encourage 1st Year's percentages targets met