



## **GATLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL**


# **SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN**

This School Travel Plan is a document which outlines practical steps to improve children's safety on the journey to and from School. The plan aims to result in benefits for pupils, parents and the wider community. It is an essential part of a school's efforts to promote responsible and sustainable travel to and from School. It should assist pupils and parents in identifying healthy and sustainable transport options and help to reduce the impact of cars on the roads around School.

November 2019

## VERSION HISTORY

Date	Document Version	Document Revision History	Document Author / Reviser
14.11.2016	1.0	Review of draft Travel Plan as prepared by Axispeed	C Palmer
01.11.2019	1.1	Updated	V McManus



Executive Head of School

Date: 01 November 2019



Chair of Governors

Date: 01 November 2019



Gatley Primary School | Hawthorn Road | Cheadle | Gatley | SK8 4NB

## School Details

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## About the School

Gatley Primary School is currently a two-form entry school with 491 pupils on roll between the ages of 4 and 11. In September 2019, the school admitted 30 pupils over its Published Admission Numbers (PAN) to accommodate a growing community, and to meet the demand for places. Some 31 pupils are classed as having Special Education Needs. There is also a nursery which accommodates a PAN of 40. Attendance at the nursery does not guarantee entry into the school which is applied for through Stockport's primary school selection process.

There are 56 staff at the school; 35 of these are part-time and 21 are full-time.

The School has approval from the Regional Schools Commissioner to accommodate an increase to a three-form entry school which will require an expansion of the school building by 5 additional classrooms, and reconfiguration of the playground. This will be a staged increase which started with the current reception year. The three forms will then progress through the school with full three-form entry occupation at the school anticipated by the 2025/26 school year. A plan of the proposed development layout can be found here: <https://www.gatleyprimary.com/school-information/community-relations/growth>

There are currently two vehicular entrances to separate car parks off Hawthorn Road. The pedestrian access lies in the middle of these two vehicular access points. To support pupils travelling to the school from the southeast, an additional pedestrian access has been provided on the south-eastern side of the school that will include a new path from the existing public footpath, leading directly onto the school playground.

## Location of the School

Gatley Primary School is located close to the western edge of Stockport Borough Council. It is bounded to the north by Hawthorn Road, to the east by a public footpath (which connects Hawthorn Road with Beech Avenue and Foxland Road under the railway line), to the south by playing fields and to the west by residential development. Access to the wider road network is limited to Church Road via Acres Road / Birch Road or Elm Road / Cedar Road or to the A560 Gatley Road via Oakwood Avenue / Beech Avenue. All of the roads in close proximity to the school serve residential properties many of which have driveways and crossovers. Church Road serves a number of shops, bars, cafes and offices. There are yellow lines on the corners of the junctions at Hawthorn Road and Burnside Road, and at the junction for Hawthorn Road and Cedar Road. There are no other parking restrictions

on the nearby residential roads with the exception of Hawthorn Road adjacent to the school which prohibits parking during school start and finish times.

### **Map of the area and School Location**

An aerial view of the school boundary and location is shown in the map below.



School Location Plan

The roads surrounding the school, including Church Road, between Gatley Green and Gatley Road are subject to a 20mph speed limit. Church Road provides a pedestrian refuge, west of Birch Road and there is a formal signal controlled pedestrian crossing just east of Elm Road. A school crossing patrol is provided on Church Road east of Birch Road between the hours of 08:40 to 09:20 and 15:10 to 15:50 during school term time.

The catchment area for pupils at the school has historically been about 0.3 miles; as a result of admitting over PAN this year, this has increased to 0.8 miles. However, the current catchment of the school serves up to the furthest distance of 0.6 miles, which the school is unable to accommodate with a PAN of 60. A plot of home postcodes of all children enrolled at the school demonstrates the concentration of home locations to the north, east and southeast of the school.

It has been the experience of Gatley Primary School that some children in this 0.3 mile catchment area cannot all be accommodated at the school and some are having to choose other schools further afield. To this end, the Governing Board made the decision to admit over PAN in September 2019 to allow greater parental choice within our catchment. The school lies on the western fringe of SMBC close to the border with Manchester City Council. Given that children are allocated to schools in their own council area, alternative schools are Crossacres Primary School to the northwest and Lum Head Primary School to the southeast. The school has been classed by OFSTED as outstanding, and is currently ranked in the top 3% of schools nationally, and as such, is a popular choice for parents in the area. It is for reasons including these that the school is seeking to expand to a three-form entry.

An externally commissioned parking beat survey was undertaken encompassing the school start time of 09:00 and end time of 15:30. A summary of the on-street parking occurring in the immediate vicinity of Gatley Primary School during the morning and afternoon. In total, the surveyed area provides a capacity of 570 parking spaces. Peak demand in the morning was recorded between 08:50 and 09:00 when a total of 183 vehicles (32.1%) occupied the spaces. This is an increase of about 55 vehicles from the lowest total occupancy of 128 vehicles (27.0%) recorded between 08:30 and 08:40.

During the period encompassing school end time, peak demand occurred between 15:30 and 15:40 when 236 vehicles (41.4%) occupied the spaces. This was an increase of 68 vehicles on the lowest surveyed occupancy of 168 vehicles (22.5%) between 15:00 and 15:10.

These results demonstrate that there is plenty of spare parking capacity available within walking distance of the school. Although as noted above, Gatley Green and Acres Road which are closest to the school, were observed at full capacity during the period 15:20 to 15:40. Acres Road was observed to be fully occupied between 08:50 and 09:10 during the morning surveyed period.

Nevertheless, it is proposed to provide three offsite parking locations as part of the school development proposals. The first is already in use and is located at the pavilion to the southeast of the site and about four minutes' walk from the new pedestrian entrance. The school has secured use of this car park with Stockport Council and currently uses it for a 'Chaperone Service' scheme which has been in operation since September 2019. 54 children are registered as users of this service. This car park has capacity for 64 cars, and a further 4 disabled bays. The pavilion car park will also be opened for periods of time to facilitate a 'Park and Stride' option for parents and children.

The second would be located at Gatley Hill to the southwest of the site. With the 2 additional parking locations recommended by the school, it is anticipated this would increase the offer to in the region of 90 car parking spaces for parents / carers to drop-off

and pick-up children. The school is awaiting permission from Stockport Council to open the second chaperoned route into a new entrance to the rear of the building. This is approximately a 1 minute walk.

The third would be located at Bethany Church on Church Road to the northwest of the site. With the 3 additional parking locations recommended by the school, it is anticipated this would offer in the region of 120 car parking spaces for parents / carers to drop-off and pick-up children. The school was granted permission by Bethany Church to use the carpark and the third route is approximately a 3 minute walk.

The locations of the proposed offsite parking and chaperoned service are shown below



The travel surveys have revealed that 57 per cent of parents who drive said they would be willing to 'Park and Stride'. A 'Walking Bus' was supported by 39 per cent of parents who drive, and half of these said they would volunteer to walk with the children. A 'Chaperone Service' is in operation from the Pavilion, which is being operated by staff from the school. This is gaining in popularity, with an increasing amount of parents choosing this option as a means of travel for their children.

Through Bikeability programmes the school also promotes safe cycling to / from school providing the use of existing cycle storage.



## Aims of the Travel Plan

The Travel Plan aims to reduce congestion on roads around Gatley Primary School, to ease the conflict between vehicles and pedestrians and reduce parking problems. The plan aims to promote the school ethos/motto 'Enjoying Learning and Achieving Together' by:

- Encouraging pupils to care for the environment and care about health and safety outside the school as well as inside.
- Encouraging pupils to have consideration for others by raising awareness of traffic problems.
- Promoting fitness and a healthier lifestyle by encouraging walking and cycling and so discourage car use.
- Involving pupils and parents to make them feel part of the community.
- To encourage considerate and legal parking.

## Consultation with the School and Community

In developing our Travel Plan, we have consulted with a wide body of interested parties.

- **Children** were involved in the "Hands Up" survey in the classroom on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 2019.
- **Parents and children** were involved with the "School Travel Plan Questionnaire" survey which was distributed to parents in October 2016. A total of 305 questionnaires were returned, about 68% of the total school roll.
- In November 2019 consultations took place with the staff and the Senior Leadership Team for their views on the Travel Proposals and ways of making the pupils' journeys safer.
- **The Governors** discuss the contents of the Travel Plan as part of their Resources Committee responsibilities.
- Discussions have taken place with the Stockport Highways and Transportation Services and Gatley Primary has been identified as part of the Road Safety Around Schools Programme which will provide safe route options such as informal crossing points, dropped kerbs, signage and imposed parking restrictions. Site visits during peak hour are to take place in February 2020.
- The Gatley Village Partnership Group were approached for their views on road safety around school. This group has been actively promoting road safety, and conducted a travel observation and survey in July 2019. The group designed a flyer for the 'Walking Bus' and worked with a PCSO to distribute this and promote the initiative to parents.
- The school has made parents aware of the council initiative for the mobile camera car, for the small minority who park illegally at the front of the school.
- The overall plan has been included in discussions at a number of staff meetings.

## Current In-School Provision

There are a number of key events and activities offered by the school that will affect traffic movements. These are as follows:

- The school has adjusted its start and finish times for Year 6 pupils, not only to support with transition to secondary school, but as a conscious decision to reduce the amount of footfall around school during peak times. Consequently, this has also reduced the amount of cars at peak times.
- Children are encouraged to take part in the 'Bikeability' scheme which encourages use of bikes, whilst ensuring proficiency and safety of bike use.
- On site before school care is provided from 08:00 to 09:00, and after school from 15:10 to 17:45 Monday to Friday (32 children);
- Elm Road Church operates a breakfast and afterschool club which typically has 30 children in attendance every day. These children are walked to and from school by adults who work at Elm Road.
- Breakfast activities at school:
  - Monday – running club (18 children)
  - Thursday – dodgeball club (24 children)
  - Friday – dodgeball club (12 children)
- After school activities are as follows:
  - Monday – football club (18 children);
  - Tuesday – drama club (15 children);
  - Wednesday – school choir (65 children)
  - Thursday – MiniSports (28 children)
  - Friday – football club (20 children);
- A number of children attend an afterschool dance club called PTI at a nearby church at Elm Road, and are collected by staff who walk them to the venue:
  - Monday – PTI afterschool club (26 children)
  - Wednesday – PTI afterschool club (46 children)
  - Thursday – PTI afterschool club (23 children)
- School diary events across the year e.g. productions, assemblies, sports days, PTA events.
- Regular communication in school newsletters about traffic issues on website, actively promoted by Young Gatley Village Partnership Group.
- Involvement of the school with community initiatives, including PCSO support.

## Children's Hands-Up Survey Analysis

A 'Hands-Up' travel survey was undertaken on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019 to capture the mode of travel of nearly all of the 465 children enrolled at the school, including part time nursery children. There were 20 children absent during the survey. The results are provided in Table 1 below. This survey revealed that 42.49 per cent of children travelled to school by car whilst the majority of children (57.51 per cent) travel by sustainable modes to school.

3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2019		
Mode	How did you travel to school today?	
	Number	Percentage
Walk	247	55.8%
Scooter	4	0.9%
Bus	3	0.6%
Other	N/A	N/A
Car	181	40.9%
Cycle	8	1.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Young Gatley Village Partnership Pupil Traffic Survey Analysis July 2019

Location	Number of cars 8:30am	Number of cars 8:55am
Hawthorn Road	17	15
Outside Elm Road Church	5	5
Stumps at the top of Hawthorn and Beech	6	6
Oakwood Avenue	20	20
Shops Oakwood Avenue end	4	6
Church Road	8	12
Cedar Road	11	17
Burnside Road	6	13
Acres Road	8	13
Gatley Green	10	12
Outside Shops	4	4
Co-op Carpark	13	16
Birch Road	6	10
Elm Road	10	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>183</b>

28 cars passed the school gates of which 5 stopped to let out passengers.

3 cars had blocked driveways on Hawthorn Road

No cars were parked on road markings



## 2019/20 Objectives and Targets

Objectives	Targets	Action needed	When	Who
Reduce car use	Encourage walking to school	Promotion of initiatives / encouragement to increase numbers of walkers – Implementation of 'Chaperone Service, Healthy living week etc.	September 2019	Headteacher – whole school initiative
		Young Gatley Village Partnership monitoring of traffic to reduce inappropriate parking.	October 2019	Young Gatley Partnership
	Reduce cars on surrounding streets	Open carpark to southwest of building	October 2019	Facilities and Premises Manager
	Provide storage for cycles	Provision of new, covered cycle / scooter shelter in response to parent / carer and pupil travel surveys.	Summer 2020	Resources Committee
	Reduce cars on surrounding streets	Open carpark to southeast of building	April 2020	Facilities and Premises Manager
	Reduce cars on surrounding streets	Open carpark to northeast of building	July 2021	Facilities and Premises Manager
Improve safety in school vicinity.	Monitor traffic / parking issues	Ongoing – communication with parents / carers Continue to discourage drivers from parking inappropriately in close proximity of the school.	Ongoing	Headteacher Senior Leadership Team
		Half termly monitoring and sampling of parking activity directly outside of the school.	Ongoing	Young Gatley Partnership School Staff
		Feedback provided in school newsletter.  Communication of traffic issues via Community Relations area on website	December 2019 February 2020	Senior Leadership Team School Office

		Review of impact of initiatives and prioritisation of future campaigns – publish targets in newsletter and Community Relations area on website	Ongoing	Senior Leadership Team School Office
Improved street safety measures for cyclists/scooter users and pedestrians	Improve street lighting in winter months.	Initiate discussion with LA re: replacement of lighting - more efficient interior lighting, improved exterior lighting on sensors to improve visibility.	September 2020	Headteacher / Local Authority
	Raise children's awareness of road safety	Pedestrian training for KS1 Whole school assembly on road safety KS2 performance on road safety Bikeability	February/March 2020	Headteacher PDHWP Team
	Improve safety at access points	Request Council to clear footpath alongside school	February 2020	Facilities and Premises Manager
	Improve traffic signage.	Road Safety Around Schools Programme with SMBC to confirm whether existing measures, including signage is adequate.	June 2020	Headteacher / Local Authority

### Previous Action Plan

Objectives and Targets	Steps/actions needed	Timeline	Who is responsible?
Safer crossing for Church Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet and review current arrangements with 'Lollipop' person / representative</li> </ul>	January 2017	Senior Leadership Team
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to promote 'Walking Bus' scheme from designated location in Gatley</li> <li>Implement road safety awareness training as a pilot initiative</li> <li>Gather data on crossing usage</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Young Gatley Village Partnership Group PCSO Governing Body

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review the impact of new drop-off / pick-up arrangements</li> <li>▪ Use review data to inform availability for 2019/20 academic year</li> </ul>		Governing Body
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promote reduction of car usage</li> <li>▪ Provide signage to promote Walking Bus scheme</li> </ul>	Spring 2017	School Council
Encouraging children and families to walk / cycle to school as part of overall Healthy School initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Complete Traffic Survey with all pupils giving reasons for mode of transport.</li> <li>▪ Review priorities and identify key initiatives to address a reduction in traffic and greater options for walking</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>	October 2016	PSHE Co-ordinator
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Healthy Living Activity Week</li> <li>▪ Walk Once A Week initiative</li> <li>▪ Promote early morning running club</li> <li>▪ Implement termly walk to school promotion week</li> </ul>		Health and Wellbeing Team
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Planned walks in school time to encourage use of vicinity – local area and environment study etc. (curriculum)</li> <li>▪ Review mapping to check coverage and monitor</li> </ul>	Termly	Assistant Headteachers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bikeability training for Y5 children – encourage general increase in cycling for health and leisure</li> </ul>		PCSOs/ PSHE coordinator
Provide annual road safety training for all children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pedestrian training for KS1 children</li> <li>▪ Source assembly and classroom material.</li> <li>▪ Include in PSHE curriculum</li> <li>▪ Bikeability training in KS2</li> </ul>		Class teachers PSHE Co-ordinator
Provide safe access to and from school during and after proposed expansion works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify named liaison officer.</li> </ul>		Headteacher
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain flow of information regarding restrictions on safe access</li> <li>▪ Emphasise crucial nature of providing safe crossing for children and families during works</li> </ul>		School Business Manager

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improve signage</li> </ul>		
Expand cycle storage in school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify site for storage.</li> </ul>	November 2016-	School Business Manager
Improve cleanliness of surrounding streets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Contact the LA regarding dog waste</li> </ul>	Spring 2017-	School Business Manager



## **Monitoring & Reviewing Our Plan**

The following dates are proposed for monitoring and review of the Travel Plan:

- Our next hands up surveys will be: May 2020
- Our Annual Progress review will be completed in: July 2020
- Our full review of the School Travel Plan will be completed in: Autumn 2020
- Person(s) responsible for ensuring the annual review will be done is Tracey Payton.