

Newton Tony C of E VC Primary School

DfE number: 865/3134

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN

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Foreword

The aim of a school travel plan is to reduce unnecessary car journeys to and from the school site by promoting sustainable transport. This can include walking, cycling and using public transport, and identifying alternatives to single-occupancy car journeys such as car share or park-and-stride initiatives.

Our travel plan document aims to investigate a package of measures designed to reduce car use and promote sustainable transport for journeys to and from the school site. We hope to improve safety on the school journey, cut congestion at the school gate, improve health and fitness through increased exercise, improve the environment and build links with the local community.

Local authorities have a duty to promote the use of sustainable travel and transport for children of compulsory school age who travel to receive education or training in the local authority's area. This school travel plan will help the local authority understand specific local issues for Newton Tony CofE VC Primary School.

Why we want a school travel plan

The school travel plan hasn't been updated since 2007. The number of children at the school has considerably increased since then (it was 46 in 2007 and is expected to be around 75 in September 2019).

As in 2007, most children still travel to and from school by car. The main reasons for having an updated travel plan are to:

- reduce congestion near the school at peak drop-off and pick-up times
- deal with road safety issues and concerns
- evaluate measures for a sustainable future for the school within the local environment
- highlight funding and resource needs

Effective sustainable travel plans have wider benefits for a local area than simply improving access to schools and education. Evidence shows that school travel plans can have benefits ranging from increased road safety, to healthier, more alert and engaged pupils, to increasing independent travel and associated life skills for pupils. Enabling the increased use of sustainable modes of travel such as walking, cycling and the use of public transport has environmental benefits in reducing levels of noise, congestion and poor air quality.

Introduction

School background

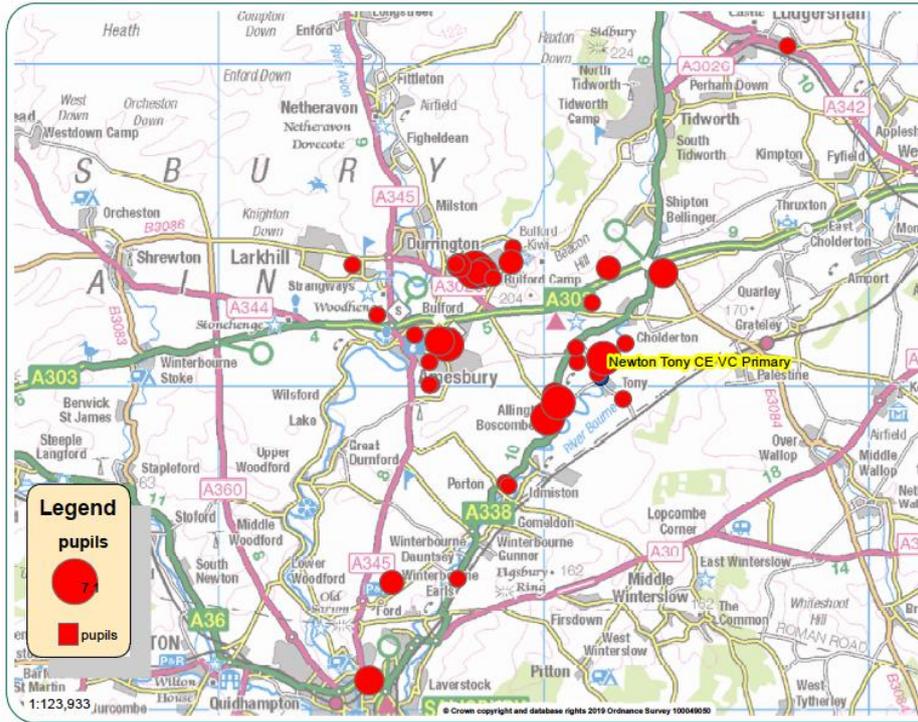
Newton Tony C of E VC Primary School is a small village school situated in Newton Tony near Salisbury. It's located next to the Village Memorial Hall.



The school's catchment area is the villages of Newton Tony and neighbouring Cholderton. However, most pupils travel in from various towns and villages in the surrounding area (see map on following page).

Four pupils currently live in the village. Parents living above a certain distance from the school may apply to Wiltshire Council for assistance with transport. The distance varies with child age. Currently 9 children use free transport. By sharing taxis this reduces total journey numbers.

At March 2019 the school had 63 children aged from 4 to 11 (year Reception to year 6). In September 2019 it's 74 children. The school capacity is 90 pupils.



Our School

The school consists of 3 classes: Hedgehogs (Reception and year 1), Squirrels (year 2 and 3) and Badgers (year 4, 5 and 6).

There are currently 14 members of staff (Headteacher, 4 class teachers, 6 teaching assistants, 2 lunchtime supervisors, 1 office manager). All staff enter and leave school at different times. Many work part time.

The school day did start for all at 8:55am and finished at 3:15pm. Children could be dropped off at school from 8:40am. However, from May 2019 the Headteacher proposed a trial of staggered timings for drop off and pick up for the different classes. This trial has continued throughout the summer and is continuing in the Autumn term from September 2019. The current arrangements are:

Class	Drop off	Pick up
Badgers and Squirrels	8:30am to 8:40am	3:05pm
Hedgehogs	8:50am to 9am	3:15pm

Children are dropped off at the side entrance to the school from the Village Hall car park.

There's a breakfast club available from 7:30am and after-school clubs run from 3:05pm until 4pm to 5:30pm.

The school has no car parking of its own, apart from a front driveway, which is currently not in use. The Village Hall car park has only 16 marked car parking bays. There's no formal arrangement for the school to have use of the car park. Ownership and responsibilities for maintaining the car park are unclear between the Parish Council and the Village Hall committee.

There's a pre-school located on land behind the Memorial Hall who also use the car park for access. There are 2 members of staff and 9 children (some part time) at November 2019.

There's also a Post Office in the Village Hall building, which is open 2 mornings per week. The Village Hall car park is also used by village residents who live nearby. Some of these residents have an arrangement with the Village Hall committee to park overnight and pay an annual charge for this.

There is no public transport serving the school. Throughout the village there are very few pavements, footpaths or cycle paths. Pedestrians and cyclists travel on road. There are some bicycle racks at the rear of the school, but these are rarely used. Pupils who cycle or scoot currently leave their bikes or scooters at the side of the school outside the school office window. There is no parent waiting shelter.



Area currently used for scooter and bike parking.

Access to the village is via unmarked single-track roads in each direction, with only a few informal passing places.

School travel plan working group

The school travel plan working group consists of 2 parent governors, the Headteacher, the Chair of Governors and a school governor who also is a member of the Parish Council and Wiltshire Council. Other interested parties have been brought into discussions as required including the Parish Council and the Village Hall committee and the Friends of Newton Tony School (FONTS PTA).

What we're doing already

Since starting this update of the school travel plan, the school has made improvements to congestion in the Village Hall car park, by requesting that all staff either journey share or park considerately elsewhere in the village.

It has also implemented the trial staggered timings for drop off and pick up as described above.

The school promotes road safety education for pupils through visits from Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service. For parents and carers, the school has sent regular text messages and letters reminding them 20mph is plenty through the village.

The school has offered the use of free high-vis waistcoats for children to use and encouraged parents to park elsewhere in the village wherever possible.

In the Summer term 2019, Squirrels class designed and produced '20 is plenty' posters, which have been displayed around the village.

The school currently has its Eco Award - silver level.

Survey results

A survey was completed in September 2018 with parents, staff and pupils.

Children's responses:

Hedgehogs (year R – year 1)

Mode	Current	Preferred
Walk		
Cycle		
Scooter		
Park and Stride / Scoot		
School Taxi	1	
Public Bus		
Private car / van	14	
Car Share		
Other		
TOTAL	15	0
What prevents you from walking, cycling, using the bus to get to school?	Distance	
Note: Preference data not collected for this group		

Squirrels (year 2 – year 3)

Mode	Current	Preferred
Walk	1	3
Cycle	1	13
Scooter		7
Park and Stride / Scoot	2	
School Taxi	6	
Public Bus		
Private car / van	14	1
Car Share		
Other		
TOTAL	24	24
What prevents you from walking, cycling, using the bus to get to school?	House too far away Don't have a scooter Busy road Parents busy	
What changes could solve these problems?	Mum and Dad stop working	
Why would you like to walk, cycle or travel to school by bus?	Car is too hot To exercise, not sit around I like riding a bike	

Badgers (year 4 – year 6)

Mode	Current	Preferred
Walk	3	
Cycle	3	17
Scooter		2
Park and Stride / Scoot		
School Taxi	4	1
Public Bus		
Private car / van	15	5
Car Share		
Other		
TOTAL	25	25
What prevents you from walking, cycling, using the bus to get to school?	Distance	

Staff

Mode	Current	Preferred
Walk	1	2
Cycle		1
Scooter		
Park and Stride / Scoot		
School Taxi		
Public Bus		
Private car / van	8	5
Car Share		1
Other		
TOTAL	9	9
What prevents you from using sustainable modes of travel to get to school?	Distance, no bus, early working hours, health	
What changes/incentives would encourage you to use sustainable modes of transport to get to school?	Car share if convenient, if public transport was available	

Parents

Mode	Current	Preferred
Walk	1	1
Cycle	1	3
Scooter		
Park and Stride / Scoot		2
School Taxi	1	3
Public Bus		
Private car / van	18	11
Car Share	1	2
Other		
TOTAL	22	22
What prevents you from using sustainable modes of travel to get to school?	No alternatives currently, no infrastructure in rural areas, distance too far, convenience, work schedule, safety concerns, sharing of booster seats, busy roads	
What changes/incentives would encourage you to use sustainable modes of transport to get to school?	Sharing the journey with other parents (car share, walking bus), safer cycling and walking, public transport provision	
Interested in walking bus?	Yes - 8	No - 12
Interested in car sharing?	Yes - 9	No - 13

Problems and issues identified

Through consultation with stakeholders, we've identified several current transport issues or problems in Summer 2019.

Current travel and transport issues/problems	How and when was this identified?	Possible/suggested solutions
<p>Village Hall car park becoming very congested at peak times in the morning and particularly in the afternoon.</p>	<p>Ongoing since numbers have increased in last 2 years.</p> <p>Highlighted by Village Hall committee in March 2019.</p>	<p>Staggered drop-off and pick up for different classes.</p> <p>Encourage parents to park responsibly elsewhere in the village.</p> <p>Encourage parents to park further away from the school and walk, scoot or cycle the remainder of the way. Provide high-vis waistcoats for children.</p> <p>Alternative drop-off or pick-up points elsewhere in the village.</p> <p>Ask village residents for use of their driveways by parents, in return for an incentive.</p>
<p>Staff cars taking up a considerable number of parking spaces in the Village Hall car park.</p>	<p>Highlighted by Village Hall committee in March 2019.</p>	<p>Staff to park elsewhere in the village or journey share.</p> <p>Look to develop the front of the school to provide better staff or visitor parking or drop-off point.</p>
<p>Parking along the front of the car park, damaging the road and footpath.</p>	<p>Ongoing for many years. Photos were the same in 2007 travel plan.</p>	<p>Reported to Wiltshire Council but they won't intervene as it's below their priority level.</p> <p>Parents have been reminded in a letter to avoid parking on this area.</p> <p>Parents and staff should be reminded regularly that this isn't a parking area.</p> <p>Investigate solutions with Parish Council and Village Hall Committee. Improve the path and put up no parking signs.</p>

		School council or travel plan working group parking ambassadors.
Most pupils travelling by private car into the village.	Ongoing for many years. Increased numbers at school over the last 2 years.	Encourage and help parents to find journey share partners. Investigate bus options.
Some concerns about speed of driving through the village.	Ongoing for many years. Applies to all village visitors and residents – not just school.	'20 is plenty' campaign. Get a 20mph speed limit in place around the school. Regular reminders sent out to parents.
Safety of children crossing the Village Hall car park	Increased numbers at school over the last 2 years have exacerbated the issue.	Use the rear of the Village Hall or top playground for parent/child collection point. Have different collection points for different school classes, for example walk older classes across the playing field. Create a path to alternative collection points across the playing field (in collaboration with Parish Council and Village Hall committee) Relocation of playpark (collaboration with Parish Council and Village Hall committee)
The school is growing in numbers so needs to ensure the travel problems don't get worse	Ongoing	Make new parents aware of travel plans before starting to embed good behaviour and sustainable travel.

Objectives, targets and action plan

The following objectives, targets and actions have been set using the findings from the survey results and consultation that has been done to date. Targets are set over at least 2 years.

Objective 1: Improve safety and considerate parking in and around the Village Hall car park

SMART target:

Person responsible for monitoring the objective to make sure actions are carried out:

Sheena Priestley

Action no.	Action description	How will it be achieved?	Person responsible	Parties involved	Timescale and completion date	Funding required	How will it be evaluated?
1	To reduce traffic at key points of the school day	Parent/staff and pupil questionnaire. Analyse results. Proposed staggering of start times in the morning and the afternoon. EYFS and Year 1 will start school between 8.50am-9.00am. They will finish school at 3.15pm. Y2 – Y6 will start school between 8.30am-8.40am. They will finish school at 3.05pm.	S Priestley Head Teacher (HT)	FGB Parents Staff Villagers	September 2018 September 2019	None	HT to monitor traffic flow and parking every morning and afternoon. HT to discuss with parents on a daily basis to assess impact of staggered times. FGB to agree proposed changes in November 2019.
2	To develop awareness of 20 is plenty in the village to improve the safety of road users	Parents to receive regular text messages reminding them that 20 is plenty. Promote awareness is school newsletter and on school website. Children to display 20 is plenty posters around the village.	HT Parents Road users Children	Parents Road users children	Text messages at start and end of each half term	None	HT to monitor speed at drop offs and pick up times. Community police officer to visit the school to monitor speeding and car parking.
3	To reduce the volume of cars parking in the village hall allowing younger children walking access within the car park rather than on the roads	Staff to share drive to reduce the volume of traffic. Staff to park on the public roads around the village and walk to work to ensure there are more car parking spaces available.					

Objective 2: Reduce the number of car trips made to the school at the beginning and end of the school day

SMART target: Reduce the percentage of pupils travelling alone by private car from 67% to 50% by December 2021. Increase car sharing to 25%.

Person responsible for monitoring the objective to make sure actions are carried out:

Kristina Auckland

Action no.	Action description	How will it be achieved?	Person responsible	Parties involved	Timescale and completion date	Funding required	How will it be evaluated?
1	Investigate opportunities for accessing mini bus provision.	<p>Contact mini bus companies for pricing and availability .</p> <p>Investigating possibility for military funding and if there are any other sources of funding.</p> <p>Identify the demographical need.</p> <p>Survey parents for need/possible uptake. Potential for optional contribution.</p> <p>Contact/approach PTA for support</p>	HT KA	Parents	<p>Survey parents – completion November 11th 2019</p> <p>Research possible mini-bus companies.</p>	It will need funding. Currently in early stages of investigation and gathering costs.	<p>Analysis of parental survey responses to establish need.</p> <p>Put into a trial period.</p> <p>Look at long-term sustainability.</p>
2	Promote the Homerun app to provide car sharing opportunities.	<p>Phase out text messaging service of teachers2parents app and incorporate homerun app messaging service to communicate with parents and promote car sharing.</p> <p>HT to promote travel plan on school website.</p>	<p>HT Send letter informing parents of switching to Homerun</p> <p>Admin To ensure teachers2parents service is not renewed</p> <p>KA To support with transition.</p>	All stakeholders	<p>Teachers2parents ends on 13/03/2020</p> <p>HT send letter notifying parents in November</p> <p>Completion of switch to Homerun by mid-March</p>	Cost-effective exercise of saving of £250 annual cost for Teachers2parents app	Homerun app has been trialled for 4 months with a small group.

3	Investigated opportunity for walking bus.	HT to contact pub landlord to discuss drop off point. AK to contact RSPB to establish potential for car parking provision. SD to contact local farmer/landowner to establish potential for car parking provision.	HT AK SD	HT AK SD Local landowners	July 2019	Staff costs/benefits. Potential for funding towards maintenance of car parking wear and tear.	
4	Explore re-purposing part of front of school area to incorporate a dedicated pull-in area for taxi drop-off and collection and to offer drive through drop-off and collection.	By obtaining at least 3 estimates and more detailed plans to carry out the work.	HT KA TBC	Admin HT KA TBC	Initial proposal and plan to be presented by end of December (TBC)	Dependant on outcomes of estimate collection	By surveying parents/carers and monitoring peak drop off and collection times.
5							
6							

Objective 3: Increase partnership working between the school, parish council, village hall committee, church and villagers

SMART target: A meeting between the parties at least termly

Person responsible for monitoring the objective to make sure actions are carried out:

Simon Dawson

Action no.	Action description	How will it be achieved?	Person responsible	Parties involved	Timescale and completion date	Funding required	How will it be evaluated?
1	Initial Consultation after FGB approval	Easy to read summary of Travel Plan sent to stakeholders – linked to full plan on school website.	CofG	A)-Staff B)-Parents C)-Parish Council D)-MH Committee E)-Other Villagers via Village website F)-Close neighbours via letter	End December 2019	Nil	Questions asking for for response in Summary.
2	Ongoing Liaison	A)-HT / FONTS Chair attend monthly MH committee B) JS attends Parish Council	HT, LG..JS	Parish Council and Hall Committee	Ongoing	Nil	No formal evaluation, but see para 3. below
3	Review after 2 years	Contact Stakeholders (see para 1 above) to ask for feedback on perceived effectiveness of travel plan changes	C of G	Same as for Para 1. above	Autumn 2021	Nil	Create short survey asking for feedback to be evaluated
4							
5							

Evidence of consultation

Throughout the updating of the travel plan, a variety of people have been consulted to make sure that we have views from all important parties.

An initial meeting was held with the village hall committee chair and a parish councillor on 26 April 2019. Minutes are available. Since that meeting, a school representative and FONTS PTA has attended village hall committee meetings.

Ongoing dialogue with the parish council is continuing through the school and its governors.

Ownership and sustainability

This travel plan will be reviewed and updated with survey comparison data at least every 3 years.

The travel plan will be included in the School Development Plan. The Head Teacher is responsible for overseeing the travel plan and will report on progress to the Governing Body Management Committee, which will be fed into the Full Governing Body.

The travel plan objectives and progress will be reviewed at the start of each school year, in September.

The completed travel plan will be published on the school website and a copy available from the school office.

Signatures of endorsement

This agreement will be signed by, or on behalf of, representatives from the teaching staff, pupils, parents, governors and the Local Authority.

The following signatures confirm that the school management have read the contents of this document and that the school commits itself to make every effort to resolve the problems identified within the travel plan and to implement the actions identified.

The school further acknowledges that it will strive to achieve all targets highlighted in this document and commits to the regular review and monitoring of the plan.

Headteacher:

Print name:SHEENA PRIESTEY..... Date:

Chair of Governors:

Print name:SIMON DAWSON..... Date:

Member of School Council:

Print name: Date:

School Travel Plan Advisor:

Wiltshire Council:

Ruth Durrant

Date: