

Newton Tony C of E VC Primary School

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN

SUMMARY

In November 2019 Newton Tony school published a travel plan.

The aims of the plan are:

- to reduce congestion near the school at peak drop-off and pickup times
- To deal with road safety issues and concerns
- To reduce the environmental impact of school travel
- To encourage healthier methods of travel to and from school

This is a short summary of the travel plan, giving an outline of the issues we face and what is proposed.

The complete, detailed, travel plan can be found on the school website, or you can request a paper copy by contacting the school.

Consultation

This plan will only work if everybody linked to the school knows about it and takes part.

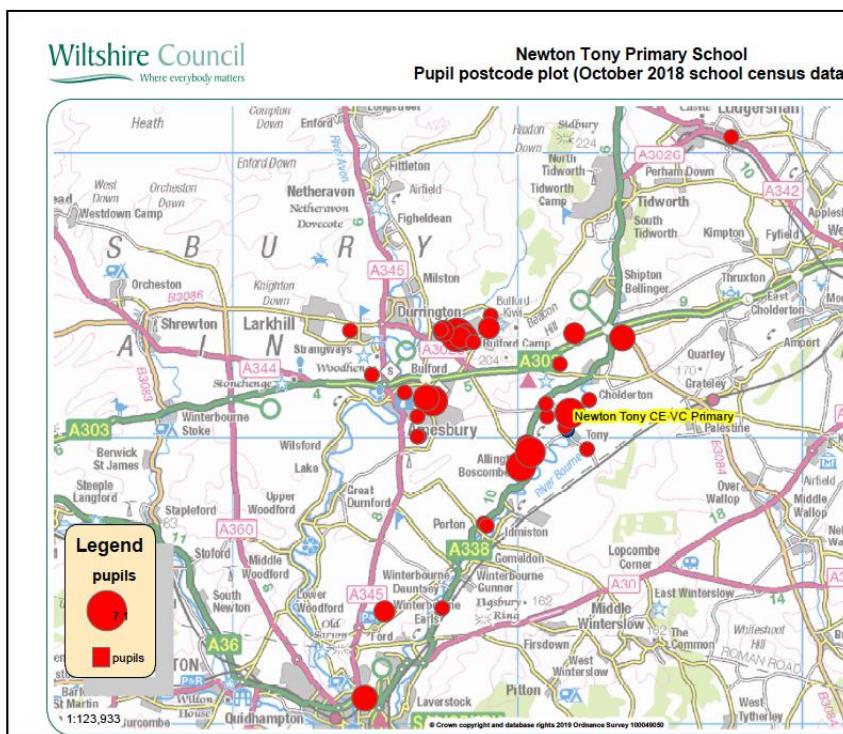
As we developed the plan we ran a survey to ask the children and parents of their needs and suggestions. We also discussed issues with the Parish Council and Memorial Hall committee.

Now the plan has been published there will be ongoing consultation as we put the various proposals into action.

Please contact us if you have any thoughts or suggestions. Contact details are on the back of this document.

Our School

- The school has about 75 pupils and 14 staff
- About 10% of pupils walk or cycle to school, the rest travel by car.
- About 10% of pupils live in Newton Tony village. The remainder travel from various locations, with large clusters from Amesbury and the Army garrison towns north of the A303 (see map below).
- Most of the 14 staff travel by car, although some now a car-share. Most staff are part-time so they (and their cars) are rarely all on site the same time.
- The breakfast and after-school clubs, and staggered school start times, help to spread the arrivals/departures through the day.
- There is no public transport to the village, although some children use school transport (mostly shared taxis)
- There is little public off road parking in the village, and no space on school grounds for significant car parking.
- The roads around the village are narrow, often single tracked, with few pavements.

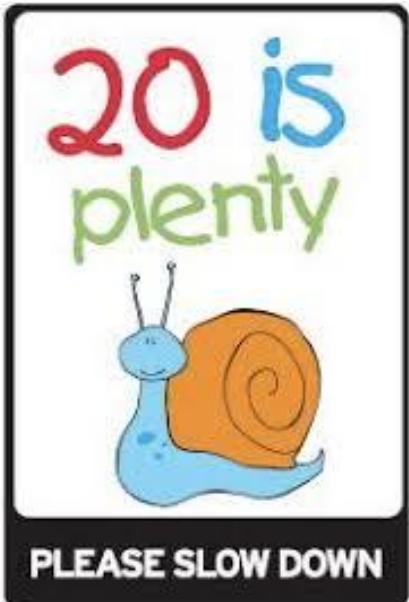


- When surveyed, many children and parents said they would like to walk or cycle to school, but distance and work commitments prevented this.
- About 50% of parents said they would be interested in ideas like car sharing, or a walking bus.

The Main Problems Identified

Our main challenges we identified are:

- Reducing congestion in and around the village at peak travel times
- Managing the risk to children from other cars as they are being dropped off and collected
- Finding space for staff car parking
- managing potential damage to roadside verges etc. in congested areas
- managing concerns about speed or driving in and around the village



What we are doing already

We have already made some changes to reduce travel problems

- We are trialling staggered arrival/departure times for different classes to reduce congestion.
- We have obtained high viz vests for loan to children who are walking or cycling
- in summer term 2019 Squirrels class produced a "20 is plenty" poster for display around the village to promote careful driving.

How Can I help?

If you are a parent - there are plenty of schemes around to make it easier to manage school transport, such as car sharing apps. You may also be eligible for free school transport. Contact the school for advice.

If you live in the village - we are keen to hear your comments and suggestions. You can feed them back to the school or via your Parish Council.

Whether you are - please drive safely and considerately. Keep a good lookout for children moving around near the school.

The Action Plan

Having studied the problems and consulted widely we have developed a number of action plans.

Some of these ideas are straightforward and can be started quickly. Others are more complex, and need capital funding and liaison with our neighbours such as the Parish Council. Full details are given in the school travel plan.

Objective 1. -Improve the safety and considered parking in and around the school and village hall.

- Reduce traffic at key points in the school day by staggering arrivals/departures
- Encourage safer driving with varied education programmes such as “20 is Plenty”
- reduce the numbers of cars in and around the hall and school car parks, to make it safer for children moving around the area

Objective 2 - Reduce the number of car trips to and from school

- investigate the possibility of minibus provision for travel from certain areas
- promote car sharing through the Homerun app and other systems
- Investigate the possibility of a walking bus
- Re design the area directly in front of the school to create space for a bus/taxi drop-off point.

All of these projects involve consultation with other people, including parents, staff and our village neighbours. We will also liaise closely with the Parish Council and the Memorial Hall committee.

What Happens Now?

- If you are interested in knowing more, please look at the full Travel Plan on the school website (<http://newtontony.wilts.sch.uk/>), or ask for a paper copy by contacting the school (01980 629232)
- We would love to hear what you think. The school’s email address is admin@newtontony.wilts.sch.uk or phone or write.
- As we carry out the plan we will keep in constant touch with the Parish Council and the Memorial Hall committee, and keep parents and village residents informed.