



**Active Travel to School Policy**  
2022-2025

**At Harmony Hill Primary School we regularly promote the benefits of ‘Active travel’. Wherever possible, we encourage pupils, parents and staff to travel to school by cycling, scooting and walking. As a school we organise activities each term to help facilitate this and have been working with UK charity Sustrans to make sustainable and active travel more achievable for everyone.**

This Active School Travel Policy explains how we encourage active travel to school. Our pupils will be familiar with the policy and we will re-visit it at the start of each school year to ensure its relevance. For pupils unable to travel from home by foot, scooter, or bike, we encourage the use of car-share and ‘Park & Stride’ locations. If you have any ideas to help further improve things at or around school for pedestrians and cyclists, or questions about travelling to school, please get in touch with the school via the school info account, or contact our Sustrans School Officer, Mr A. Rowlands.

**Some of the benefits of active travel are it:**

- Improves both mental and physical health through physical activity.
- Establishes positive active travel behaviour.
- Promotes independence and improves safety awareness.
- Reduces congestion, noise and pollution in the community.
- Reduces the environmental impact of the journey to school.



To encourage everyone to cycle, scoot or walk to school our Eco Council have developed our own **Active School Travel Pledge:**

➔ **“We want to help our school, Harmony Hill, be a safer, happier, healthier place for children, parents and teachers. By walking, cycling or scooting to school we feel refreshed and ready to learn.”**

This year, as we continue to develop ‘active travel’ we plan to:

**1. Have special ‘active travel’ events each term.**

**2. Provide further ‘Bikeability’ training which will help equip our pupils to become better, safer cyclists.**

**3. ‘Upgrade’ our cycle storage areas**



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

- Ride and walk sensibly and safely and to follow the Highway Code and Green Cross 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 or scooting.
- Wear a cycle helmet.
- Ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.

**For the well-being 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 or scooting.
- Consider cycling, scooting and walking with their child on the school run; possibly joining with other families as a ‘walking bus’ or as part of ‘Cycle to school week’ or a school organised ‘Wheely Wednesday’.
- Provide their child with equipment such as high-visibility clothing, lights, a lock and cycle helmet as appropriate
- Ensure that the bicycles and scooters ridden to school are roadworthy and regularly maintained.

**Please note: 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. Parents are advised to get their child to securely lock up their bike within school grounds and take out appropriate insurance cover for bikes (check home insurance) as the school’s insurance does not cover any loss or damage to bicycles and scooters.**