



CREATING A CLIMATE FOR GREAT LEARNING,
SUCCESS AND OPPORTUNITY

Benton Park School Travel Policy

September 2020

Benton Park School is working in partnership with the school community and Leeds City Council to ensure our students can travel to and from the school more easily. We will strive to raise awareness of travel safety issues by ensuring children and parents are aware of the need for road safety around the school. The school travel plan will aim to reduce congestion around the school and decrease the number of cars travelling to and from the school day to day. This will enable our school to be a cleaner, healthier and safer environment for the whole community.

We will aim to encourage our students and staff where possible to walk, car share or use a designated school bus service, public transport, scoot or cycle to school. This will:

- Help to keep us fit and healthy.
- Help our students develop road safety skills which will keep them safe as they travel further afield and more independently.
- Help keep our local air clean, and our streets free from congestion.
- Teach life skills that everyone should be able to benefit from.

What we do:

- We use Modeshift STARS to update and monitor our school travel plan
- We promote safe and active travel as much as possible by using our noticeboard, displays, newsletter and website at <http://www.bentonpark.org.uk/>
- We encourage all members of our school community to walk, cycle or travel by public transport for the journey to school. To support this we provide:
 - Cycle training (Bikeability)
 - Road safety awareness
 - Cycle storage
 - Scooter storage
 - Public transport information
 - Information on road safety
- Local school trips are made by our two school mini buses or public transport where possible, or on foot if the destination is close by
- We let all new students and their parents/carers know that we promote healthy and sustainable travel to school before the child starts at our school.

What we ask of parents:

- Please encourage your child to walk, scoot or cycle to school whenever possible.
- Ensure your child walks or rides sensibly and safely on the way to and from school, and changes to pushing bikes on foot on school grounds.
- Ensure that bicycles are roadworthy and properly maintained. If in doubt consult a qualified mechanic.
- Provide your child with a cycle helmet.
- Ensure your child can be seen by fitting lights to their bike by supplying them with high-visibility clothing.
- Make sure your child has an appropriate lock for their bike and that they know how to use it.
- Ensure you have appropriate insurance cover for your child's bicycle as the school is not liable for any loss or damage to equipment on the premises or being used on the way to or from school.

We understand that sometimes there is no alternative to driving to school.

- Where a car must be used we ask parents to drive only part of the way, and drop their child off away from the school so that some of the journey can be walked where possible.
- If you do have to drive your child and stop in the near vicinity please do so legally, safely and with respect for our neighbours and local residents
 - It is not acceptable to park or wait on double yellow lines, on the school zigzags on pavements. In private residential areas or across residential driveways for any period of time.

Please note that the decision on whether a child is competent to cycle to school is for the parent/carer to make. The school has no liability for any consequences arising from this decision.

What we ask of Students:

- Ask your parent/carer if you can walk, scoot or cycle to school.
- Behave in a way that shows you and the school in the best light at all times.
- Ride or walk courteously, sensibly and safely on the way to and from school.
- Walk and push bikes and scooters on school grounds.
- Check that your bike is roadworthy and properly maintained.
- Always wear a cycle helmet when riding your bike on public roads.
- Make sure you can be seen by using lights and by wearing high-visibility clothing particularly in the dark or bad weather.
- Make sure you have a lock for your bike and that you use it.