School Travel Plan

UPDATED 22 January 2018
DFE no: 304/5203
Introduction
St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Primary School has children from 3-11 years on roll. It is a two/three form entry school. In EYFS, year one, year four and year five we have two forms and in year two, year three and year six we have three forms. As of January 2018 there are 519 children in the school.

100 children, which represents 20% of the school roll claim free school meals, but there are a proportion who are entitled to it but do not claim. We have a breakfast club that runs each day from 8:00 – 8.40 am and an after school club that runs from 3:20 – 5:30pm. We have various after school activities such as Football club, Tennis club, Multi-Sports, Athletics, Dance, Drama, Science, Eco Schools, MFL, Choir, Steel pans and Art club. These usually run from 3.30 – 4.45pm.

Staff
We have 76 staff members who work either full-time or part-time. This is made up of teaching staff, non-teaching staff and administration staff. There are currently no parking spaces on site. We encourage staff to walk and cycle to school, if possible and a number do. Two members of staff currently car share and a number of staff use public transport. Three members of staff cycle each day.

Parking
There are no parking spaces on site. Staff and visitors, who have cars, use the on street parking facilities. Controlled Parking Zones (HY) are in use between the hours of 8:30am to 6:30pm, Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays, in and around the Goodson Road area. The School building is located in the middle of four very busy residential roads and just off Church road (A407).

The schools times:

EYFS: 8:55am - 3:00pm
Infants: 8:55am – 3:20pm
Juniors 8:55am – 3:30pm

Children enter the school through the gates on the Leopold Road entrance and Northcote Road entrances

All children can come into the school building from 8:30am and take part in a soft start. This is where children are encouraged to read or take part in tasks to get them ready for their learning.

Automatic gates opened by an intercom are installed on both gates for the increased security of the children.
Our pupils in years 3, 4, and 5 take it in turn to go swimming at Vale Farm Sorts Centre once a week on Friday. They travel by coach which is hired from Brent Transport. All school journeys are risked assessed, and the best mode of transport is decided. The school has made use of the Transport for London School Party Travel Scheme to travel into central London for visits to the theatre, museums and art galleries.

**Available Local Transport**

**Buses**
260, 266 Church Road  
18, 187, 226, 220 Harlesden High Street  
79, 297, 204 Wembley High Road and park Lane  
All these buses stop within a 5-10 minute walk from the school.

**Trains**
Willesden Junction: British Rail 15 minutes’ walk from the school

**Tube**
Neasden Station: Jubilee line 10 minutes’ walk from school  
Harlesden Station: Bakerloo line 15 minutes’ walk from school
The School building is located in the middle of four very busy residential roads and just off Church road (A407). There is a School Crossing Patrol at the main entrance to school from Leopold Road to Goodson Road. There are issues with parking and congestion particularly at the start and end of the school day. Parents will often park on the school crossing lines outside of the school gates blocking access for emergency services. On a number of occasions parents will stop their car outside of the school gates without parking it and leave their child/ren to get out of the car in the middle of the road. This is done with no regard for other road users or for the safety of their children.

We work closely with local police and traffic wardens who we invite to be around school at the end of day to discourage inappropriate parking. We also write newsletters to parents and send out other letters periodically to remind parents of parking and safety issues regarding this. We have recently purchased large banners and placed them outside of the school to remind parents not to park on the school crossing lines as it is dangerous and illegal.

There are controlled parking zones on the roads surrounding the school.
There is a secondary school within a few minutes’ walk from the school and another primary school within five minutes’ walk. The roads are very congested at peak time due to the high number of pupils from all three schools using them at the same time.

Ethos of the School

We are a Healthy School. We are committed to improving the health and outcomes of all children at St. Joseph’s.

The school promotes and encourages healthy eating choices. The school has directly employed a Chef and catering staff since April 2012 and we have developed a nutritious and varied menu, approved to Government standards, which is enjoyed by children and staff. All meals are freshly cooked on site. We have also ensured dining arrangements make the lunch time experience more sociable and enjoyable for children.

The children study nutrition as part of the curriculum and this is reinforced by visits from the school nurse and other health care professionals.

The school joined the School Parties Travel scheme run by Transport for London in 2012 and it is school policy to use public transport where appropriate for school trips.
Current initiatives

Breakfast Club – This allows parents to drop their children to school early to help ease congestion outside the school during peak times. This starts at 8am and finishes at 8:40 am. We have 29 children who attend regularly.

After School club runs from 3:20 pm – 5:30pm. We have 41 children who attend this club. This helps in bridging the gap between school hours and parent’s hours at work. Children take part in activities like games and art and craft as well as getting support with their homework.

Transport for London

TfL staff visit St Joseph’s each year to present information to our Year 6 children. As our children become more independent and will soon be travelling to their high schools, it was really important for them to find out more about the public transport system. The children received really useful information about personal safety, keeping safe on the Underground system and how to use Oyster cards.
Cycle Training

We provide cycle training for our pupils. Year six pupils will be attending cycle training in the summer term. This means that children in Years six, who have bicycles, have been given the opportunity to attend cycle training lessons in school time. The cycle trainers also examine the bikes to make sure they are road worthy and make minor repairs, where necessary. This training was organised by Cycle UK and the children have completed levels 1 and 2.
Pupil Survey Results January 2018
Response Rate: 98%
Completed by the following Classes: Whole school

How pupils travel to School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Car</th>
<th>Car Share</th>
<th>Bus</th>
<th>Train</th>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>Walk</th>
<th>Park and stride</th>
<th>Other</th>
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<td>285</td>
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How pupils would prefer to travel to School

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<th>Bus</th>
<th>Train</th>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>Walk</th>
<th>Park and stride</th>
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<td>166</td>
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Staff Survey Results January 2018

Response Rate: 97%

How teachers travel to School

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<th>Train</th>
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How teachers would prefer to travel to School

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<th>Car</th>
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Challenges faced

- As the school is located in the middle of four small residential roads just off the A407, there is no area where children can be dropped off by car without causing congestion in the residential roads and obstruction on the main road.
- Due to the amount of road works and building work going on in the area journeys can take longer by bus.
- Educating parents that they do not need to drop their children right outside the school.

Who was consulted in the design of the travel plan?

The travel plan was the result of a consultation process involving all stakeholders in the school.

- The School Council carried out the show of hands survey for the pupils.
- Pupils are involved through the curriculum lessons, assemblies, and workshops with outside agencies, class discussions and surveys.
- Parents are involved through parent surveys and news.
- The local authority provided Road Safety Officer workshops.
- Transport for London provided workshops on safe use of public transport for the children going to secondary school.
- Governors discussed the Travel plan and are looking in to the purchase of a minibus to reduce the school's carbon footprint.
Targets and objectives

The objectives we aim to achieve are:

- To reduce congestion on the residential road the school is situated on.
- To promote walking to school.
- To promote cycling to school.
- To improve road and personal safety skills of all pupils.
- To reduce car use for parents and staff.
- To encourage good health through walking, cycling and reducing pollution.
- To maintain Healthy School Status.

Outline of New Action Plan Autumn 2018 (When the school building is completed and we have access to both playground areas).

- Provide additional cycle racks and scooter pods that can be used by pupils, staff and parents who wish to cycle to school.
- We want to increase the number of children cycling to school regularly.
- Encourage more children to walk to school.
- Measure this by hands up surveys and annual monitoring and initiatives e.g. WOW.
- Achieve this by having regular events such as walk to school week each term.
- Try to encourage as many staff and children to participate and supply a healthy breakfast to all participants.
- Encourage the children to WOW by effective use of the cards, certificates and badges supplied to the school each month.
- Have a prize for the class that has most children regularly participating in WOW. This prize would be presented each month at the school assembly.

Cycling

We aim to:

- Encourage more children to cycle to school. Measure this by hands up survey.
- Provide additional cycle racks/lockers in the infant playground that can be used by pupils, staff and parents who wish to cycle to school.
- Provide scooter pods for nursery, infant and junior playground.
- Have training for children, parents and staff and to provide safe storage for cycles on the premises.
- Achieve by ensuring road and cycling training.
- Offer incentives such as certificates and prizes.
- Ensure pupils, parents and staff have access to the school cycling policy.
- Pupils, parents and staff know that helmets must be worn by children who are cycling on school premises.
- Bike It crew work towards silver award.
The Curriculum

We will ensure sustainable travel and road safety are embedded within the curriculum using appropriate lesson plan ideas through all Key core curriculum subjects. We will link these to wider educational activities that support a healthy school and sustainable school ethos e.g. Healthy Schools. We will also promote safe road awareness when our children go on school trips/residential trips.

School Prospectus

We make parents aware in our prospectus that we have a school travel plan in place and we actively promote walking to school.

School Council and Bike It Crew

We will include and consult our School Council and Bike It Crew to consider travel on a regular basis and support initiatives. We will also include them in developing the school travel plan and its implementation.

Funding

We will use funding from the department of transport and the Local Authority to ensure that the travel plan is implemented and walking and cycling to school is promoted. We will use the funding for resources, teaching materials, and incentives to walk to school and Bike It.

Every Child Matters

We were the first primary school in London to receive the Every Child Matters Award and we will continue to ensure that the every child matters agenda of Enjoy and Achieve, Being Safe, Being Healthy, Making a Positive Contribution and Economic Well-Being are taken into account when planning and promoting the travel plan.

Responsibilities

The School will take ownership of the STP and keep a portfolio of triumphs and successes, the school community will work to promote the travel plan and ensure it is implemented successfully.

Health Benefits

We will promote the health benefits of walking. We have achieved Healthy School Status and have gained the Sports Mark and Activemark awards. We have received the Stars 2017 accredited award (Gold Standard) for sustainable travel and a bronze award from Sustrans for our commitment and awareness to the Bike It initiative.
Monitoring and reviewing

The travel plan will be reviewed each term and success of initiatives will be monitored annually.

Conclusion

As a school we want to ensure the following:

➢ Road safety improves around the school.
➢ Travel awareness and improved road and personal safety skills
➢ Health and fitness levels improve through more walking and cycling.
➢ Safer, Independent and confident travel.
➢ Knowledge of environmental issues.
➢ Taking ownership of the School Travel Plan.
➢ Reduced congestion and pollution outside the school.
➢ Improving the health and wellbeing of pupils and staff.
➢ Less traffic and reduced noise level.
➢ Improved road safety around the school.
➢ Reduced congestion around the school.
➢ A healthier and safer environment.
➢ Reduced conflict over parking issues.