

School Travel Plan

Canberra Primary School



Contents:

- P.2 - Introduction
- P.3 - Brief Description of the School
- P.4 - Evidence of Consultation
- P.7 - Summary of School's Transport and Road Safety Problems
- P.9 - Key Initiatives with Objectives and Targets
- P.12 - Programme for Implementation
- P.14 - Plans for Monitoring and Review

Introduction

Canberra Primary School's Travel Plan intends to set out measures and best practice regarding travel arrangements for both staff and pupils. The school recognises the importance of promoting sustainable transport in order to reduce the current trend of car reliance. We believe that a School Travel Plan (STP) will help to address many of our road safety and transport problems and have a very positive effect on the local community as a whole.

The STP has been devised with input from staff, parents, pupils and local residents. We have carried out a questionnaire survey to obtain an outline of their views. A Road Safety committee has been set up, comprising staff and pupils.

The main objective of Canberra Primary School's STP is:

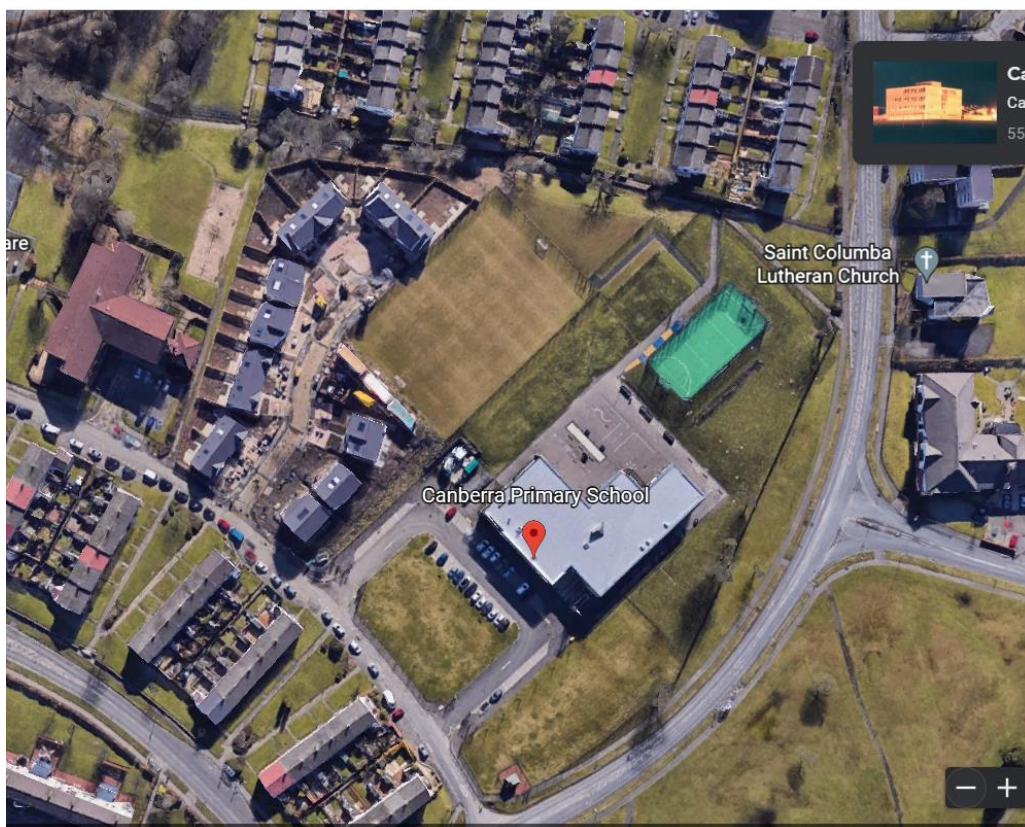
- To reduce the number of car trips made to and from school over the next three years and to maintain or further reduce this thereafter.

Further objectives are to:

- Reduce congestion around the school.
- Improve the safety of routes to the school.
- Reduce the detrimental impact that cars have on our environment.
- Improve the health and fitness of staff, pupils and parents.
- Further our school image and develop our school ethos.

We aim to meet these objectives by encouraging staff, parents and pupils to adopt sustainable transport alternatives to travel to school. These are set out and fully expanded in the Key Initiatives with Objectives and Targets and Programme for Implementation sections.

Brief Description of the School



Canberra Primary School is situated in Westwood, East Kilbride and has an approximate roll of 170 pupils and a further 40 nursery age pupils. Our catchment area is wide-ranging, from the area surrounding the school to Newlandsmuir and Hairmyres. This means that some children can easily walk to school whereas others are more likely to travel by bus or car. Many of our parents work and this has an impact on the method of travel for both dropping off and picking up. The school and nursery opening hours are 9am to 3pm but we have several pre and post-school clubs. These include a Breakfast Club from 8.15am for any primary age pupil who wishes to come along and various extra-curricular clubs for primary age pupils which finish at around 4.00pm, when running.

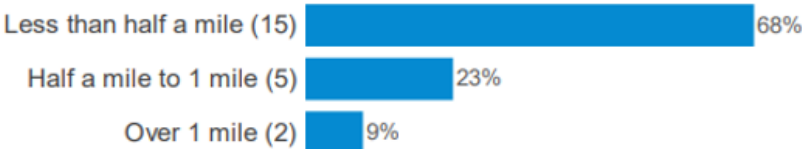
The school is located at Belmont Drive adjacent to Westwoodhill at the junction with Westwood Road. These roads form the main routes from Greenhills, Westwood, Hairmyres and Mossneuk heading to East Kilbride Town Centre and the main dual carriageways leading out of East Kilbride, making them very busy. Local shops and businesses are within walking distance from the school and we are affected by traffic travelling along Westwoodhill to where they are situated. The school is found at the end of Belmont Road, which is a through road from Westwoodhill to housing in the area and the local shops; despite this the road isn't busy for most of the day. Cars park at the side of the road however leading to congestion at peak times such as when school finishes at 3pm. There is a staff and visitor car park on the school grounds, which has a one way system in place.

Evidence of Consultation

Parent Survey

22 responses were received from Parents, here is a summary of results. A full copy of the results can be found in the Appendix Section.

For Primary Schools, how far does your child travel to school?



68% of pupils travel less than half a mile to school.

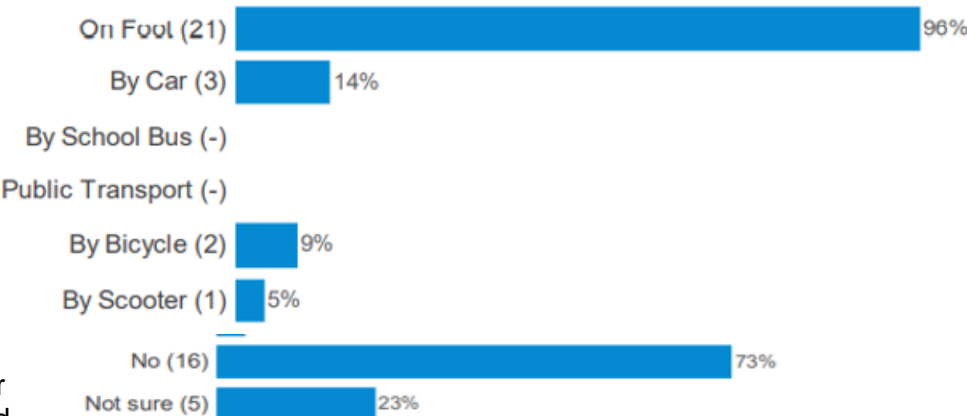
**How does your child normally travel to and from school?
(select all that apply)**



86% of parents selected that their child walks to school, with 50% travelling by car. Parents were allowed to select multiple options for this question.

When parent were asked, if they could choose, how would they prefer their child to travel to and from school, 96% on foot, with car decreasing to 14%. There was support for cycling to school too.

If you could choose, how would you prefer your child to travel to and from school?



For
and
to

the

walking
cycling
and
from
school,

**Would you be available as a parent volunteer to supervise a small group of children cycling to school (cycle train)?
(Would you be available as a parent volunteer to supervise a small group of children cycling to school?)**

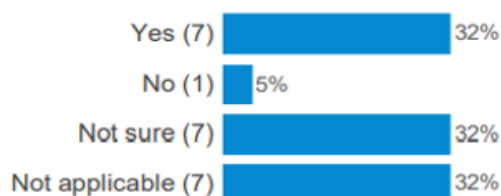


Walking Bus and Cycle Train initiative received little support, with only a few parents selecting that they were not sure if they could support this.

What would encourage or enable your child to walk or cycle to school, parents asked to rank the options in order of importance, here are the results -

1. Safer crossing places – 50%
2. Slower traffic speeds – 35%
3. = More road safety education – 33%
= Better facilities at school – 33%
4. Others walking or cycling the same way – 30%
5. Health and fitness benefits – 29%

We are encouraging those who come to school by car to park a little further away from the school. This will help make the journey to school safer for those children who walk, scoot, or cycle. Would you consider supporting a 'Park & Stride' initiative - parking further away from the school and walking the remaining short distance? (Would you consider supporting a 'Park & Stride' initiative)



For those who replied no or not sure about Park and Stride initiative, comments were given regarding time commitments, work timescales and lack of parking in the vicinity.

Westwood shops was suggested for Park and Stride, there is ample spaces for parking and the location is only a few minutes away from the school.

Pupil Survey

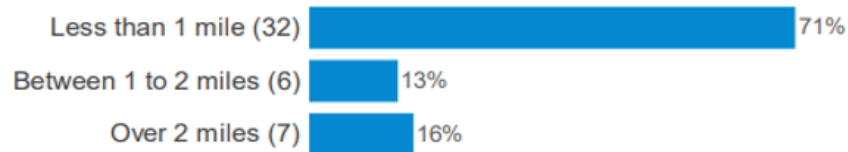
45 pupils' responses were received with majority of classes represented.

In which area of South Lanarkshire is the school you attend?

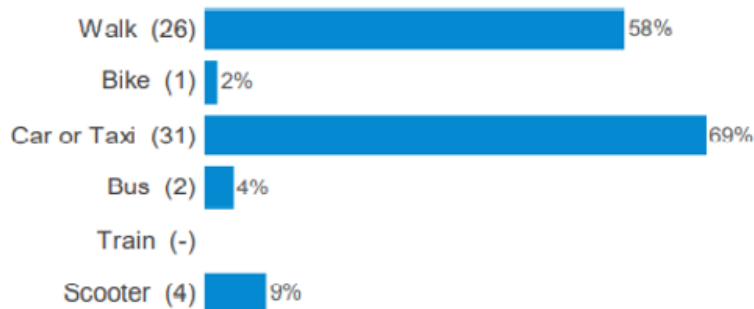


71% of pupils selected that they normally travel less than 1 mile to school with 13% between 1 to 2 miles and 16% over 2 miles.

How far do you normally travel to school?



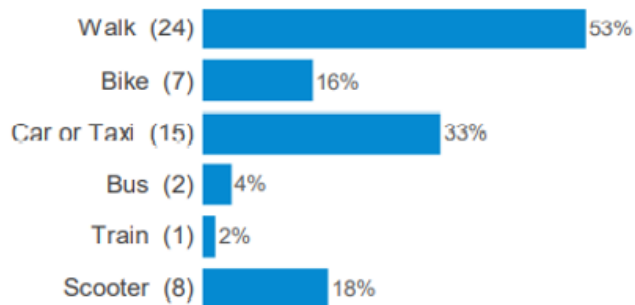
How do you normally travel to and from school (select all that apply)?



69% of pupils normally travel to and from school by car, 58% walk, 9% scooter, 4% bus and 2% cycle.

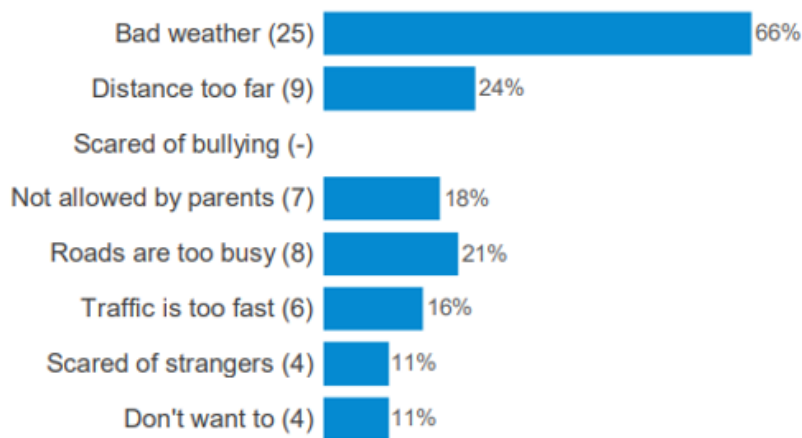
When pupils were asked, if they could choose how they would like to travel to and from school, 53% would like to walk, 33% by car, 18% by scooter, 16% by bike, 4% by bus and 2% by train.

If you could choose, how would you like to travel to and from school?



Bad weather was the main issue (66%) which makes it difficult for pupil to walk or cycle to school, with distance too far (24%) and roads too busy (21%) following.

What makes it difficult for you to walk or cycle to school? (select up to 3 options)



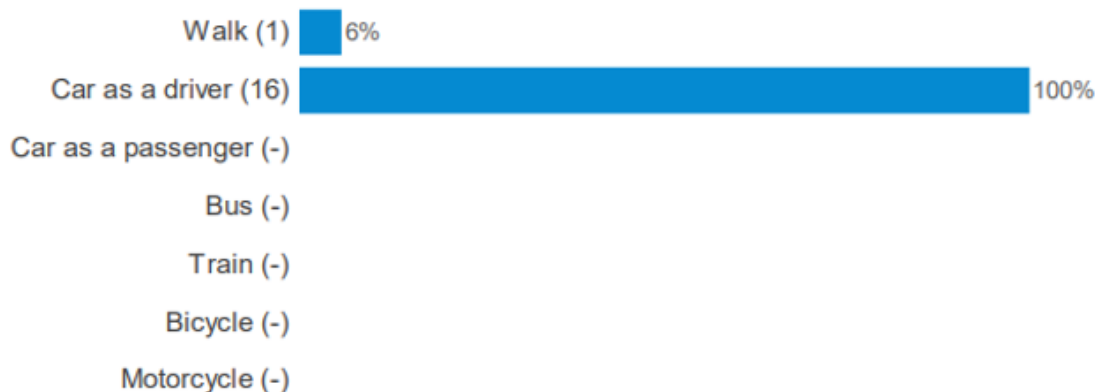
For the last question, 'How do you think your journey to school could be made safer?', general comments were received including a few suggestions of safe places to cross, taking the bus and traffic lights.

Full pupil responses can be found in the Appendix Section.

Staff Survey

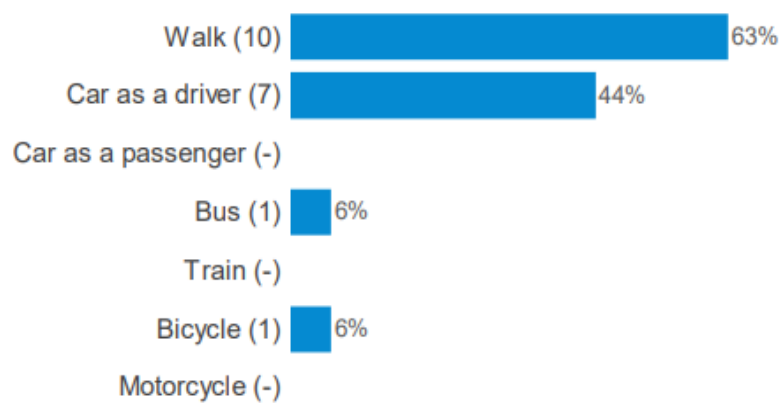
16 staff members completed the survey with majority of staff travelling to school by car.

How do you normally travel to school? (select any that apply)



Most staff travel to school by car.

Ideally, how would you prefer to travel to school? (select any that apply)



If you travel to school by car as a driver, would you consider sharing the trip (car sharing)?



There is an interest in Car Share, this would be an arrangement between staff which would be dependent on location, time and suitability to be progressed.
In the last question, staff did raise concerns about crossing safely and parking around the school.

Appendix Section – Parent School Travel Plan Questionnaire Results

Which area in South Lanarkshire is your child's school located?



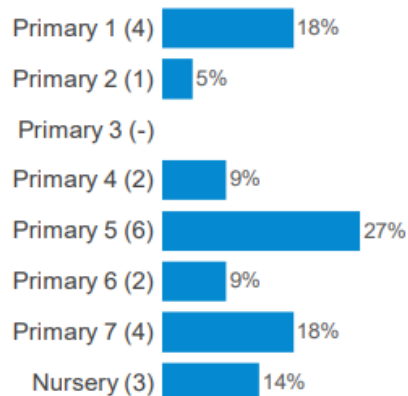
Does your child attend Primary, Nursery, Additional Support Needs, or High school?



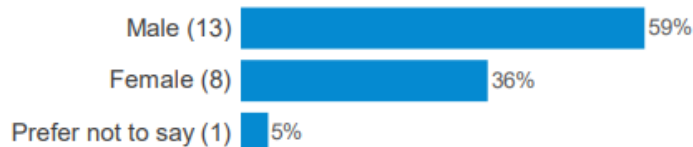
Which primary school in East Kilbride does your child attend?



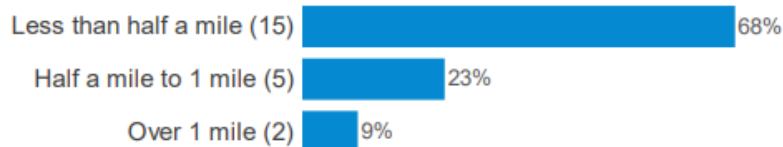
If you are responding for a child at Primary School, please specify your child's class:



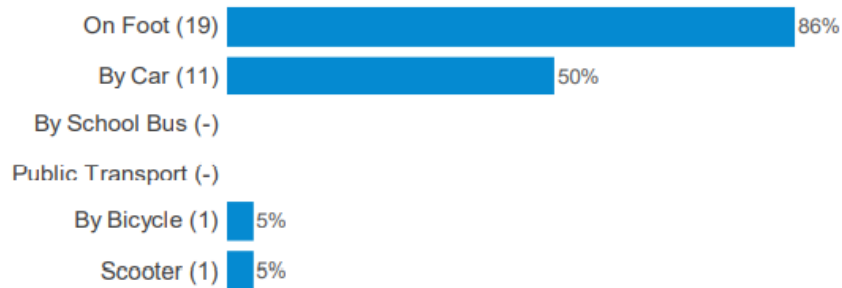
Is your child:



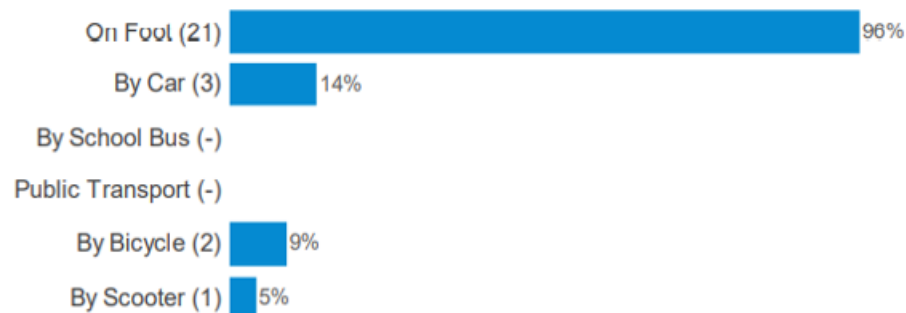
For Primary Schools, how far does your child travel to school?



How does your child normally travel to and from school? (select all that apply)



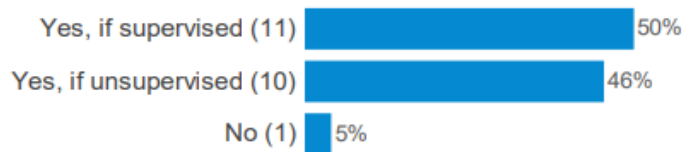
If you could choose, how would you prefer your child to travel to and from school?



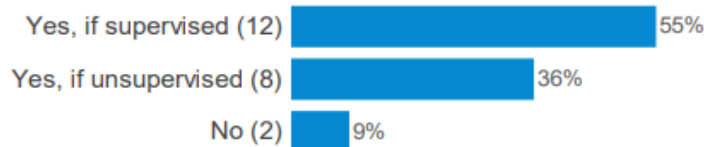
How does your child usually travel to school?



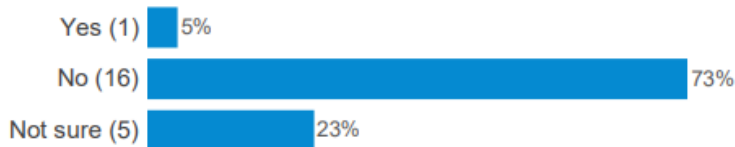
Would / do you allow your child to walk to school?



Would / do you allow your child to cycle to school?



Would you be available as a parent volunteer to supervise a small group of children walking to school (walking bus)? (Would you be available as a parent volunteer to supervise a small group of children walking to school?)



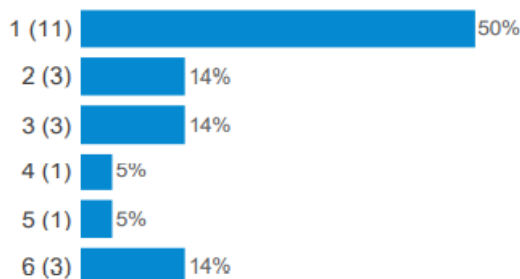
Would you be available as a parent volunteer to supervise a small group of children cycling to school (cycle train)? (Would you be available as a parent volunteer to supervise a small group of children cycling to school?)



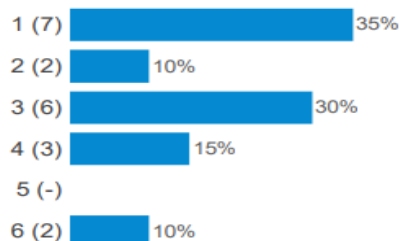
If yes to any of the above volunteering questions, when would you be available to volunteer for a Walking Bus or Cycle Train?



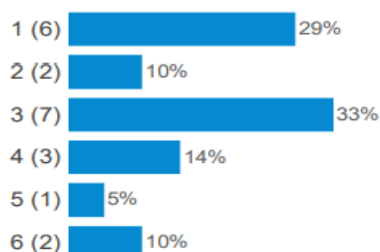
What would encourage or enable your child to walk or cycle to school? (Please rank the following aspects in order of importance to you from 1 to 6, with 1 being most important and 6 least important) Please ensure you choose a separate ranking level for each aspect. (Safer crossing places)



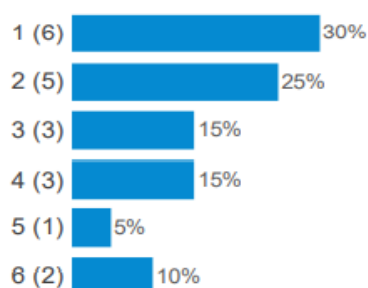
What would encourage or enable your child to walk or cycle to school? (Please rank the following aspects in order of importance to you from 1 to 6, with 1 being most important and 6 least important) Please ensure you choose a separate ranking level for each aspect. (Slower traffic speeds)



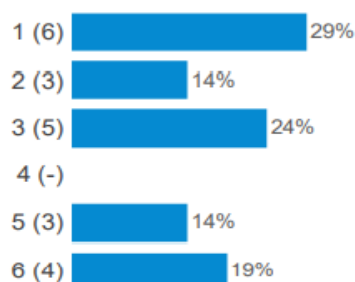
What would encourage or enable your child to walk or cycle to school? (Please rank the following aspects in order of importance to you from 1 to 6, with 1 being most important and 6 least important) Please ensure you choose a separate ranking level for each aspect. (More road safety education)



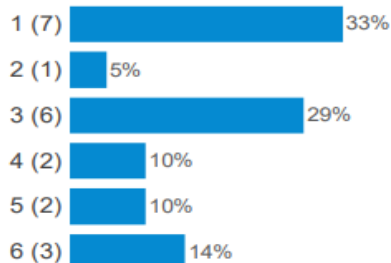
What would encourage or enable your child to walk or cycle to school? (Please rank the following aspects in order of importance to you from 1 to 6, with 1 being most important and 6 least important) Please ensure you choose a separate ranking level for each aspect. (Others walking or cycling the same way)



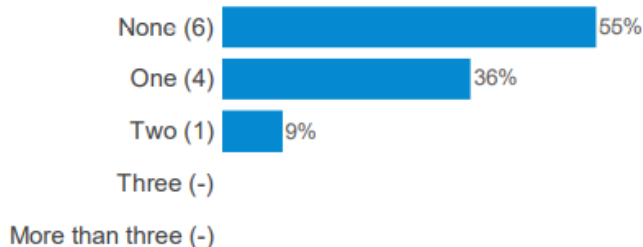
What would encourage or enable your child to walk or cycle to school? (Please rank the following aspects in order of importance to you from 1 to 6, with 1 being most important and 6 least important) Please ensure you choose a separate ranking level for each aspect. (Health and Fitness Benefits)



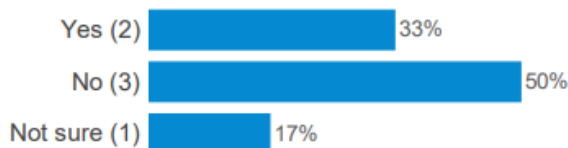
What would encourage or enable your child to walk or cycle to school? (Please rank the following aspects in order of importance to you from 1 to 6, with 1 being most important and 6 least important) Please ensure you choose a separate ranking level for each aspect. (Better facilities at school)



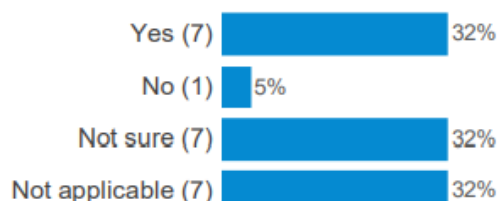
If your child travels to or from school by car, how many additional pupils normally travel with them?



If your child travels to or from school by car and you don't carry any additional pupils, would you consider sharing the journey to or from school with other parents and their children?



We are encouraging those who come to school by car to park a little further away from the school. This will help make the journey to school safer for those children who walk, scoot, or cycle. Would you consider supporting a 'Park & Stride' initiative - parking further away from the school and walking the remaining short distance? (Would you consider supporting a 'Park & Stride' initiative)



If 'No' or 'Not sure' please say why:

I have three children in the school and one being nursery age so she isnt suitable to leave her. Would also mean time wise for drop offs becoming difficult as I work

We are dropping off on route to work, time is often tight.

I only drop kids off by car on way to work so may not have time to park and stride

Lack of parking in the vicinity

Whether or not you would use a Park and Stride scheme, can you give details of suitable locations that could be used as a pick up / drop off area or to be used as a 'Park & Stride' site?. Please give as much detail as possible.

The Westwood shops car park .

Westwood carpark at the top of the hill from the school its large enough

Back westwood shops has car park. School down road from it. Less 5min walk.

Whether or not you would use a Park and Stride scheme, can you give details of suitable locations that could be used as a pick up / drop off area or to be used as a 'Park & Stride' site?. Please give as much detail as possible.

Parking in that street is horrendous adjacent too Canberra primary . Should be made one way . There have been numerous near misses with children . There is plenty space at carpark, at top of hill next to spar . But if you have any health issues it quire a steep hill . Maybe arrange kids to meet a spark car park . 8.50 and walk as a group . With appropriate appointed adult . Safety in numbers .

Car park at the Westwood shops, back car park on Belmont Drive. Car park off Belmont Drive used by Westwood Parish Church

The massive car park across from the church at Belmont drive

Currently I use the lutheran church car park off Westwood Hill but it is very small so not much scope for park and stride. The Westwood shops is a possibility but only if you live in that direction, which I don't.

Westwood shops

How satisfied are you with your child's knowledge of road safety?



Can you suggest any ways the journey to school be made safer?

Patrol crossings directly outside Canberra

Zebra crossing or a crossing at the school with traffic lights.

Reduce car speed

More lollypop people

Zebra crossing outside the school - There are 2 lollypop people but not directly outside the school, or perhaps a bridge or tunnel

Can you suggest any ways the journey to school be made safer?

Its safe my kids walk to school where we live

Making the street one way . Would help households and children . As the way they park is dangerous. Then add kids . 2 way traffic . Accident waiting too happen .

Make the school be in the centre of the catchment rather than the way many of them currently are. My house (Keswick rd) is at the far end of the catchment and there is no direct car route to the school (we pass 2 other schools if we drive.) We have tried to cycle to school but we cross a major bus route so it isn't always safe. We have very few other children in our area who go to the school (there are 2 schools closer to us but that aren't catchment) so no-one to walk with.

Zebra crossing on Belmont Road

Lollipop person at Westwood road

~ End of Parent School Travel Plan Questionnaires ~

Appendix Section – Pupil School Travel Plan Questionnaire Results

In which area of South Lanarkshire is the school you attend?



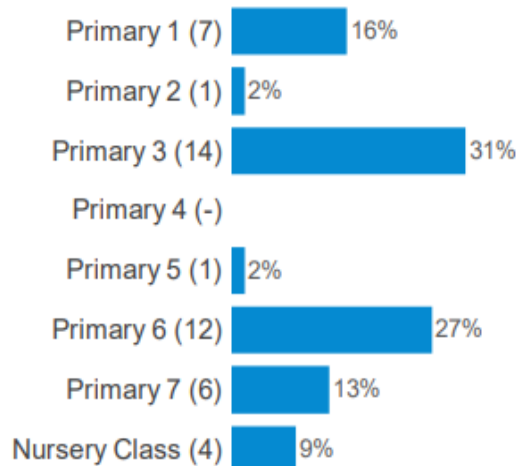
Do you attend Primary, Nursery, Additional Support Needs, or Secondary school?



Which primary school in East Kilbride do you attend?



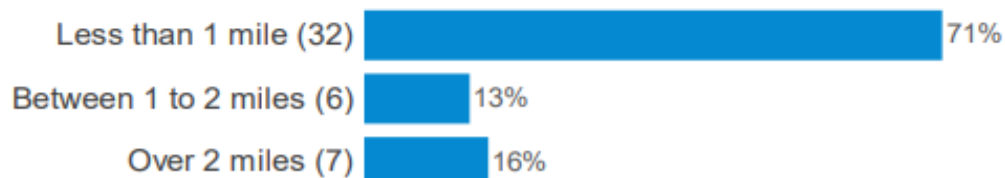
If you are at Primary School or Nursery, what class are you in?:



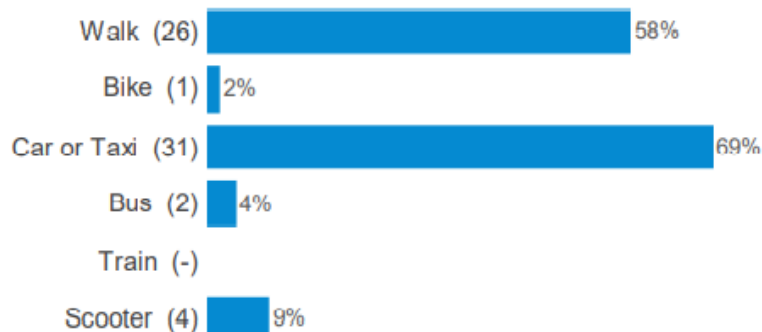
I am:



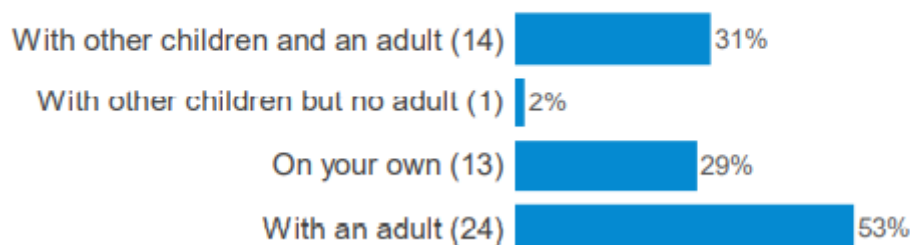
How far do you normally travel to school?



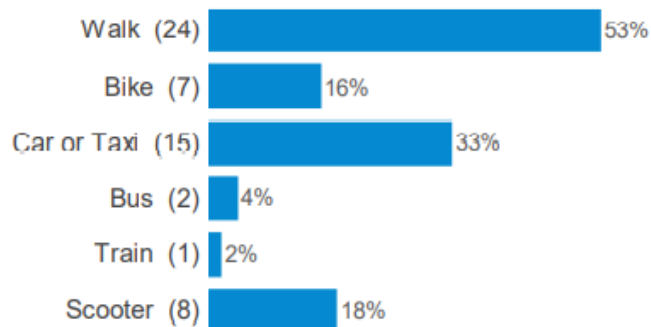
How do you normally travel to and from school (select all that apply)?



Do you usually come to school:



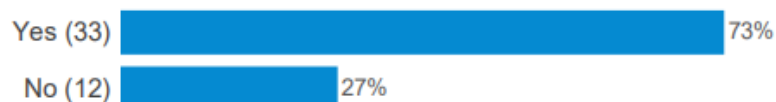
If you could choose, how would you like to travel to and from school?



Would you like to walk with a group of children and adults to school?



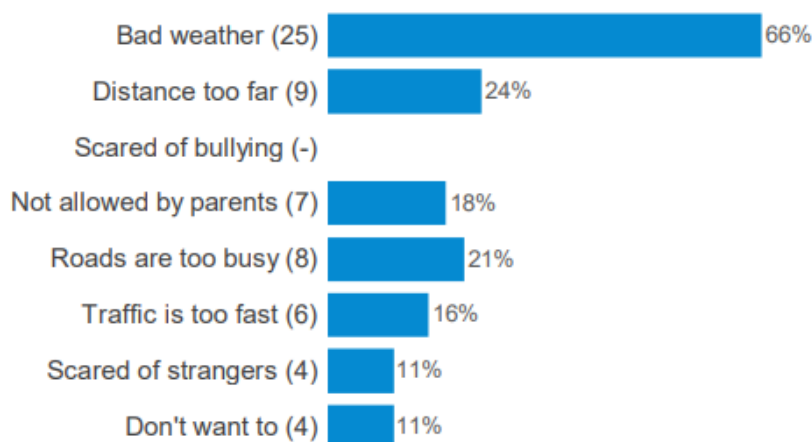
Do you have a bicycle ?



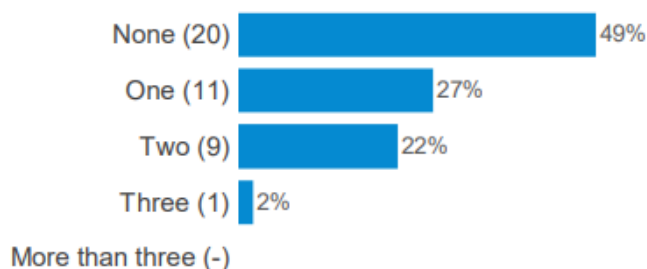
If you have a bicycle, would you like to cycle with a group of children and adults to school?



What makes it difficult for you to walk or cycle to school? (select up to 3 options)



If you travel to school by car, how many other pupils usually travel with you?



How do you think your journey to School could be made safer?

None

Safe places to cross busy roads

Zebra crossing. And a crossing with lights at the school.

Don,t know

Having 2 adults with me

Don't know

Don't know

Don't know

I don t know

I can t think of anything

a lollipop lady/man on rockhampton avenue.

nothing im pretty safe for justnow

Taking the bus

I can t think of anything

not sure

I think my journey to school is really safe obviously I could be in car crash but my dad is a very safe driver.

if cars wont drive so fast

Not sure.

traffic lights

Roads are more safe

i cant be made safer

I think my way to school is pretty safe and it cand really get safer.

How do you think your journey to School could be made safer?

More lollipop people

Less cars

idk

My walk to school is safe.

less pot holes in road

By car

nothing - I stay really close to school

if i was running non stop so noone could grab me and take me away

In which South Lanarkshire area is your school located?



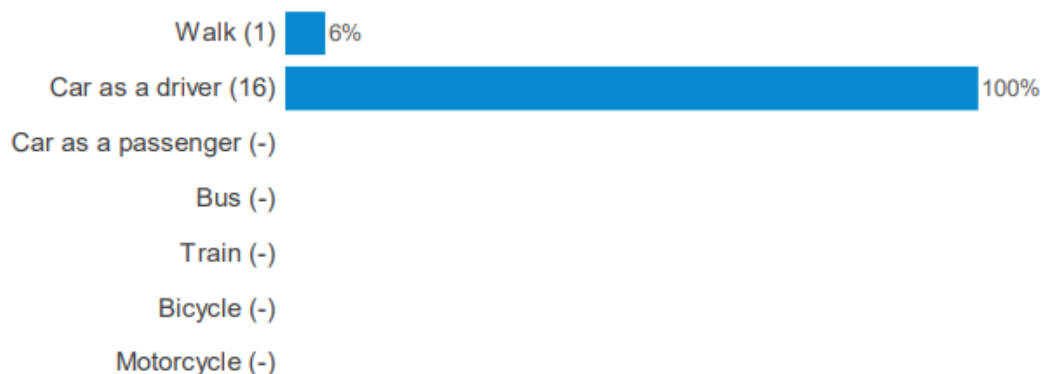
Do you teach in Primary, Nursery, Additional Support Needs, or Secondary school?



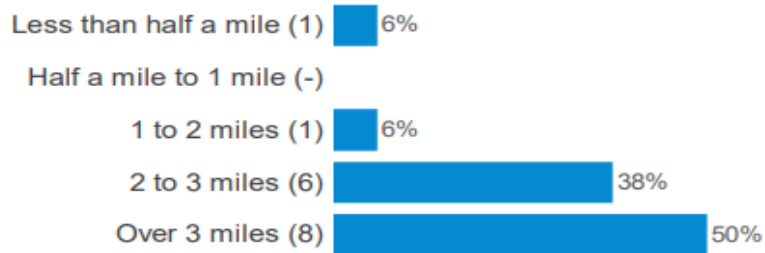
Which primary school in East Kilbride do you teach in?



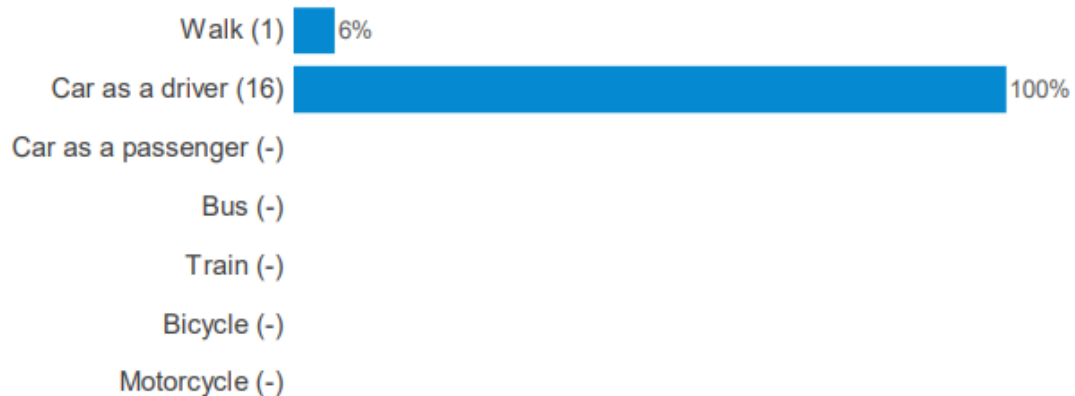
How do you normally travel to school? (select any that apply)



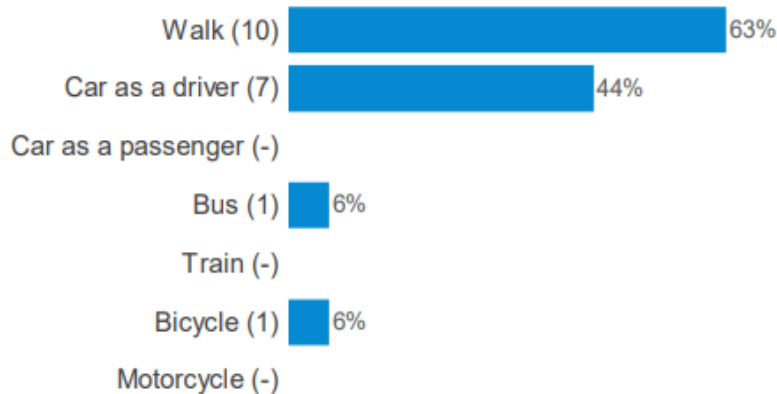
How far do you travel to school?



How do you normally travel to school? (select any that apply)



Ideally, how would you prefer to travel to school? (select any that apply)



Please give a reason for wishing to travel this way:

It is healthier to walk and is better for the environment

Exercise

I live in Strathaven and have 2 children to drop off at nursery in Larkhall before heading to East Kilbride for work.

Rising fuel costs.

Walking is better for health and environment.

Walking is good for your mind and fresh air can give you a good start to your day!

fuel prices

exercise and health and cost of petrol

Health & fitness

Healthier option.

When I finish work I have a half hour to collect my children from afterschool care and this is the quickest way to do so and also the quickest way to transport us all home in time a for afterschool clubs and activities

It is too far and there is no direct mode of public transport from my home without several changes . This would also take a very long time. A car is the quickest and most convenient way to travel.

Too many heavy bags going in and out each day to travel by public transport. Only in school Monday and Tuesday. Usually Last teacher to leave, just before the cleaners lock up therefore cart sharing is not an option.

If you travel to school by car as a driver, would you consider sharing the trip (car sharing)?

Yes (8)  50%

No (8)  50%

If 'No' can you say why:

I often come in early and stay later than others

I have to do things after work.

I drop children off at another school.

Because i have family commitments which I do after work

Timings do not always work and can be difficult with commitments.

I would then have to go home to collect my car to then go and collect my children which takes more time and I have limited time when work had finished to collect them from afterschool.

Nobody else at my work lives near me.

See previous comment.

If you currently travel to school by car as a driver, what would persuade you to consider: (Walking?)

Impossible I live 20 miles away

Good weather!

nothing - too far and children to drop off at nursery

If there was a park and ride maybe?

I don't have enough time with my own children's school run to walk or use public transport

yes but too far and on the express way

Living closer to school.

Not feasible time wise

No , too far

If you currently travel to school by car as a driver, what would persuade you to consider: (Cycling?)

I don't cycle and wouldn't want to on the busy roads from Glasgow

Don't currently have a bike

nothing - wouldn't be able to drop children off at nursery

Better showering facilities in work.

Not fit enough.

Cycle lanes.

Safety

Not readable time wise or collecting children after work

No , too far and not safe as have to travel on the expressway

If you currently travel to school by car as a driver, what would persuade you to consider: (Public Transport?)

I have tried but each time the bus hasn't turned up! I also have to drop my dog off 2 days a week so need my car on those days.

No public transport between home and school

nothing - too many buses to go Strathaven-Larkhall-East Kilbride-Westwood

More convenient travel times.

Can be unreliable.

More frequent and cheaper service.

I do not have a bus route near enough and would take too long

No , no single method available and would take too long

Do you have any concerns in relation to the school journey or traffic around the school vicinity (for you or for the pupils)?

Occasional absence of lollipop person with no cover and not notified. Belmont Drive is too busy and would be better one way. There are parked cars at one side of the street at all times of the day. It is a through road to the Westwood shops car park and even at quiet times cars cars meet going in opposite directions leading to one car having to find space to pull over. At 3pm it is gridlock on Belmont Drive. Westwoodhill is also very busy and difficult to turn right onto with long queues of traffic leading up Westwood hill. The crossing point is at the roundabout but would be better further up as this would stop children having to cross Belmont Drive to access it.

No

No as there are lollipop men/ladies and zebra crossings

none

No as there are crossing patrol officers.

no

Very busy.

No

Only people parking in areas that are not designated for cars

Very busy at home time with parents cars in the carpark

Even if I could transport everything I require for a day in school on a bike, I would not feel safe cycling on the roads between my home and the school.

Do you have any other comments in relation to School travel?

No

No

none

no

No.

I walk my own children to and from school on my days off however it is not feasible for me on my working days due to time restraints

No

Summary of School's Transport and Road Safety Problems

Although Canberra Primary School is located at the end of a relatively quiet road, we have some major problems with the congestion that the school run traffic causes. The cars parked on Belmont Drive cause the road to become practically a one-way street. Traffic must wait and allow cars with right-of-way to pass the cars first. This often causes significant tailbacks and can result in a build-up of cars queuing at the end of Belmont Drive to turn onto Westwoodhill. The double parking of vehicles creates a similar problem. This then means that the road becomes extremely hazardous for pedestrians and children trying to cross the road.

There are linking paths from both the front and back of the school and a crossing patrol is situated close to the school at the junction of Westwood Road and Westwoodhill. An additional crossing patrol is located further up Westwoodhill in the direction of Lickprivick Road. These allow children to walk from their homes to school. The crossing patrol at Westwood Road and Westwoodhill is situated at the roundabout and this means that vehicles have to stop suddenly at times. The crossing patroller has been hit by cars on more than one occasion. The children from Canberra also have to cross Belmont Drive to access the crossing patrol and as noted earlier this is a busy and congested road which has parked cars on one side, making it a hazardous point for children to cross unaided. This crossing would therefore be better positioned to the left of Belmont Drive. We were advised however that it is situated in this location to encourage the pupils from Duncannrig to use it.

The school has a one way car park which has limited spaces. Despite a no entry sign at the exit some vehicles enter this way, going against the flow of traffic. The janitor now mans this gate at home time to direct vehicles to the entrance. The limited number of spaces results in the school gate being closed at home time as soon as the car park is full, otherwise vehicles park out with designated spaces or in disabled spaces causing an obstruction and danger to pedestrians. This has led to the janitor receiving verbal abuse and challenge.

Key Initiatives with Objectives and Targets

Car Travel

Park and Stride:

We are currently trying to implement a 'Park and Stride' area in the Leisure Centre car park. This would allow parents to drive their children to the car park then accompany them the rest of the short distance to school on foot.

Park and Stride Objectives:

This initiative will allow parents who are pushed for time to do their best to be involved in our School Travel Plan. It also helps the children to have a little exercise, reduce the congestion which builds up around the school gates and improve the safety of all the children who walk along Belmont Drive to school. The Westwood car park has excellent lighting and is less than a 5 minute walk away which is encouraging to parents/carers.

Park and Stride Targets:

We are intend to regularly promote this scheme in our school newsletter to ensure that all parents are aware of it.

Car Sharing:

We are endeavouring to set up a Car Sharing initiative between parents living in the same area who normally take their child to school by car.

Car Sharing Objectives:

It would be extremely beneficial to both the environment and the congestion issues around the school to encourage parents to car pool the school run. This would ensure a great reduction of traffic on our local roads. As recent figures show that 1 in 5 cars on our roads at 8.50 am are taking children to school, any measure that will help to reduce that figure is welcomed. This idea will also help to make our routes to school safer for pedestrians.

Car Sharing Targets:

We think that this Car Sharing scheme should be set up within a year. We are currently asking parents to provide the Parent Council with their names if they would like to participate. We will then create routes for parents in the same area to collect multiple children in the morning, and take it in turns to do the school run.

Cycling

Cycle readiness:

We have found that few of our pupils are currently cycling to school and feel that we should introduce some plans to help them begin cycling.

Cycling Objectives:

We hope that through the creation of a pupil focused plan for cycling to school that we can encourage children to begin cycling to school. This will improve the general health and fitness of pupils, reduce congestion and reduce the impact of cars on our environment.

The re-introduction of Bikeability training for Primary 5 & 7 will provide children with the skills required to ride safely to school.

Some children are unable to afford a bike. Consultation with regards to subsidising bikes for children in receipt of FME will be undertaken and if agreed upon put in place to encourage families to purchase bikes.

Cycling Targets:

A 5% increase in the number of children who regularly cycle to school.

Publicity and Awareness

Publicity and Awareness Objectives:

Raise the profile of the School Travel Plan and gain positive press coverage.

Publicity and Awareness Targets:

Junior Road Safety Officers will develop an annual plan and liaise with the School Travel Plan Coordinator, to map out different promotional activities throughout the school year and to access press coverage for any of our initiative launches and events.

The school newsletter will feature information for the term to highlight key issues to parents/carers.

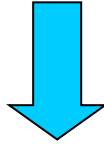
A copy of the School Travel Plan will be shared on the school website.

Programme for Implementation

We have created a timeline to show our proposed action plan to implement these short, medium and long term measures.

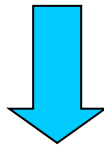
February 2023

School Travel Plan complete.



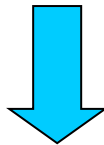
6 months later

Park and Stride initiative underway.
Subsidised cycle purchase scheme underway



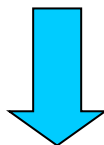
6 – 9 months later

JRSO plan in place
Cycling plan in place



1 year later

Car Sharing Scheme set up and operating.



We will begin work on these plans as detailed in the **Objectives and Targets**. The whole of the STP committee (subset of Health Committee with adult consultation through Parent Council) will be involved in the implementation of these proposals. We will identify people's strengths and ask them if they would like to be responsible for a particular aspect or action. As we begin work we will have a much better idea of who is involved with what areas and will return to this plan and insert the appropriate details. We will also be involving the parents, Parent Council and pupils in this process and encouraging them to do all that they can to help us develop our School Travel Plan.

Plans for Monitoring and Review

The plan will be monitored and reviewed at Health committee meetings. As with all of the processes to implement our ideas, the pupil's views will be represented by our Junior Road Safety Officer at the meetings that he/she attends. Copies will be available in the school for parents, pupils and local residents to browse.

Copies will also be circulated to all relevant parties:

- Community Police.
- Engineering Officer.
- School Travel Plan coordinator.
- Any other interested party.

Any amendments that are to be made to the plan will be inserted by the committee. All changes and amendments will be inserted as soon as possible and updated copies available to all stakeholders immediately. This is not a prescriptive plan and it is by no means complete. We are intending to treat this as an active, ongoing 'work in progress' and add to the plan when we can.