



Ysgol Iau
Bedwas
Junior School

School Travel Plan 2013-14



Why should you walk, cycle or scooter to school?

- Saves you money
- Healthy for you
- Better for the environment



**Walk/cycle to
school weeks**



**Campaign for
20mph zone**

**Promoting
New bike racks**



**and
Cycling to school safely**



"TRAVEL TO SCHOOL IN A WAY THAT IS COOL"

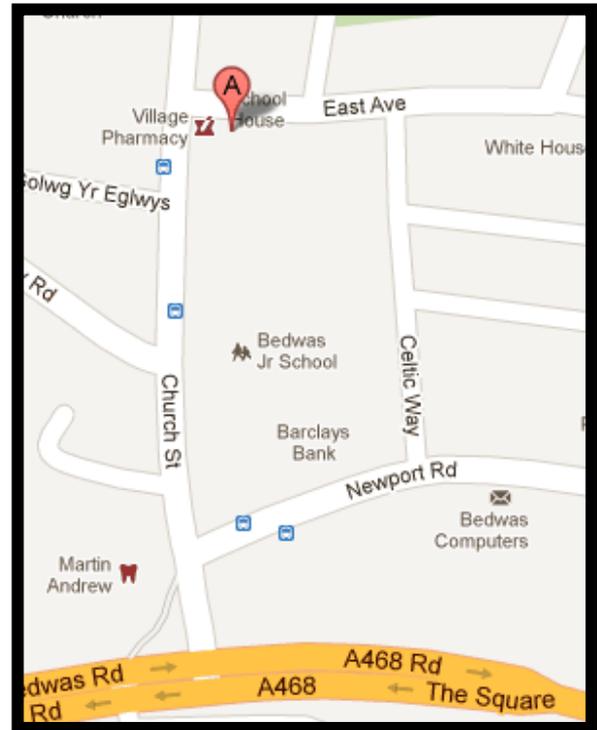
Bedwas Junior School: Travel Plan

Introduction

At present there are 173 pupils attending Bedwas Junior School. The school is situated on Church Street, which is the main road through the village of Bedwas. Behind the school is a residential street - Celtic Way. Bedwas Junior School is also close to the A468 - a busy commuter route between Newport and Caerphilly.

There is no car park within the school grounds and therefore the only traffic allowed in the ground is maintenance vehicles. This only occurs when the pupils are not in school.

The main issues arise from the busy roads at the front and back of the school, in particular Church Street at the front of the school. There are no issues within the school grounds due to the lack of vehicular access.



Issue 1 - The front of the school.

At the front of the school the main issue is the busy road, which the majority of pupils have to cross in order to access the school. Traffic often travels above the speed limit. There are also issues with vehicles parking and waiting in restricted areas, which pose dangers for the pupils as they try to cross the road. A 20mph zone is due to be imposed along Church Street but concerns remain as to whether this will be adhered to.

Issue 2 - The back of the school.

Celtic Way is a residential street at the back of the school where many pupils are dropped off before and after school. Despite yellow Zig-Zags in front of the gate, parents frequently park in this area to drop pupils off or to pick them up. This makes it dangerous for the pupils trying to cross the road.

Issue 3 - The lack of a permanent crossing in the village.

This was an issue raised by the pupils themselves. The pupils on the Eco committee raised concerns about the lack of permanent zebra or pelican crossing in the village. Although there is a lollipop lady during school time, pupils were concerned about safety issues for themselves, and the community, at other times. It is understood that the village would be unable to have both a lollipop lady and a permanent crossing.

PURPOSE

We see the School travel Plan as engaging with the following issues:

- Reducing the number of children travelling to school by car and improving the safety of the journey to and from school.
- Encouraging parents and children to walk to and from school.
- Looking at other issues including health, fitness, the environment and safety education.
- Promoting the new 20mph zone, which has recently been imposed along Church Street.
- Ensuring that parents park appropriately when collecting and dropping off pupils.
- Ensuring that the village is a safe place all through the year.

WHAT THE SCHOOL WOULD LIKE TO ACHIEVE

- Improved alertness, health and fitness of the pupils by encouraging more pupils to walk to school.
- Extending the curriculum and opening up new opportunities for pupils
- Developing leadership and decision-making skills through pupil involvement in the scheme.
- Reduced congestion at the beginning and end of the school day
- Safer surroundings
- Improved community Links - pupils on the school council have raised concerns about the lack of crossing in the village. They feel that this is a concern during holiday times when the lollipop lady is not available. They feel this also affects the older generation in the village.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRAVEL PLAN (to 1/9/13)

- Mrs Sue Davies led a special assembly to raise awareness of the travel plan.
- Pupils entered a competition to design signs for the new 20mph zone outside the school.
- A pupil survey was carried out - results of which were compiled and discussed by school council
- Introduction and promotion of the use of green cones at the rear of the school
- The whole school took part in a road safety awareness day, which involved looking at how speed cameras work. Pupils also measured and recorded the speeds of cars of Church Street.
- Promotion of a healthier lifestyle through encouraging pupils to walk to school through 'walk to school' weeks.

EVALUATING AND MONITORING

The school travel plan will be monitored in the following ways:

- Annual focus through school council meetings - review developments of the travel plan and set new targets.
- Share school travel plan with parents through school website. Invite comment from parents.
- Regular monitoring and review of school travel plan in Inclusion Meetings - Head Teacher, School Clerk, Wellbeing Assistant.
- Provide updates to the Governor sub committee - SEN and Pupil Wellbeing. Invite feedback and participation in the plan.

Objective	Action	Time Scale	Resourcing/ Finance	Review
Ensure all pupils have a good awareness of road safety issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold termly 'Walk to School' weeks to raise awareness among parents. Competition to be held between the classes to reward pupils who walk/cycle to school through the week. • School council and staff to prepare assemblies linked to road and cycle safety and the benefits of walking to school. 	<p>Autumn I Summer I</p> <p>Autumn I Summer I (Linked to Walk to School weeks)</p>	None	Walk/Cycle to school weeks held in both Autumn and Summer terms. Through increased awareness of the benefits of walking to school more children walked/cycled to school in our summer campaign.
Campaign for Church Street to be made a 20mph zone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children to write letters to the council to persuade them to make Church Street a 20mph zone. • Campaign for more 20mph signs along Church Street. 	Summer I	None	Year 5 children have written letters campaigning for Church Street to be 20mph and they have been sent to the council.
Promote the use of cycling to school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTA funds to be used to purchase bike racks. School council to be involved in process of choosing the bike racks for the school. School council to promote during assemblies. 	Spring I	PTA funds TBC	Bike racks have been installed behind the demountable building and children now have somewhere to keep both bikes and scooters.

<p>Understand the impact of traffic pollution on the local community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School council to measure amount of traffic in the roads during the day. Use the information to calculate averages relating to noise and car exhaust pollution. • School council to interview Mrs Wheeler and local campaigner Mrs Partridge to determine road safety issues in the local community. 	<p>Summer I</p>	<p>Measuring equipment (contact Road Safety team)</p>	
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