

Hillmead Primary School School Travel Plan

Our Aim

Hillmead Primary School is committed to ensuring that everyone travelling to and from Hillmead School can do so as safely as possible. We encourage those travelling to the site to walk whenever possible or to consider car sharing. We encourage the school community to be aware of the needs of those living in the immediate vicinity of the school.

We believe these aims will contribute to the health, safety and developing independence of pupils and good relationships with our neighbours.

The School Travel Plan will be monitored regularly as travel patterns change.

Our Plan

Hillmead Primary School is situated off Woburn Avenue, Bishop's Stortford, at the far end of the Bishops Park area. It is built to take 210 pupils, aged 5 - 11 years and 30 Nursery pupils. Nursery sessions will be mornings only.

The school population is taken from the local areas of Bishops Park, Bishops Gate, St Michaels Mead and Thorley Park.

It was envisaged that the majority of children would walk to school, but car parking is becoming an issue and our plan has had to be amended to encourage more children to walk. We are aware however, that those families with young children living on St Michaels Mead and the far edges of Thorley Park may still find it necessary to drive to school.

Hillmead School is aware that the roads in the immediate area are designed for access to private homes and are not suited to accommodate a number of parked cars and will therefore encourage parents to walk whenever practical.

There is a sign on our site gates to help with security. The sign reads:

**These gates will be closed
between the hours of
9.20 a.m. - 11.45 a.m.
and
12.15 p.m. and 3.00 p.m.**

**Any authorised visitors during
these hours are requested to close
the gates on entry and exit**

Travel Modes

Walking to and from school

- Access for pedestrians may only be gained to the school site via gateways off Woburn Avenue (Bishops Park) or Bishops Gate;
- All pedestrians must remain on the footpaths;
- Pedestrians entering from Bishops Gate must follow the footpaths round to the playground;
- Pedestrians must be aware of vehicles at all times;
- Visitors are requested to use the main entrance.
- Lighting is in place on the footpaths near the Bishops Gate entrance.

Cycling to school

- All children wishing to cycle to and from school on their own must have gained their on and off road cycling proficiency tests and have obtained permission from their parents and the Head Teacher;
- Cyclists entering from Bishops Gate must dismount at the gate and walk their bicycles along the path and around to the cycle shed;
- Cyclists entering from Bishops Park must follow the cycle track and enter the school site via the Bishops Gate entrance (then as above);
- Any parent wishing to cycle with their children on an attached cycle unit will be able to leave the unit in the cycle shed;
- All children and parents are expected to wear cycle helmets.
- All bikes and scooters should be left securely locked when in the cycle shed

Driving to and from school

- Parents are requested to car-share whenever possible;
- Those parents who park on the local estate roads are requested not to block driveways or park in private parking spaces;
- A voluntary one-way system has been introduced for all parents and staff driving to Hillmead School. The route will be approaching the school from Burghley Avenue and leaving via Dukes Ride. Buses are encouraged to do the same;
- Drivers that are authorised to enter the site must be aware of pedestrians at all times.

Out of School Activities

- All those attending out of school activities or events are requested to walk or park in the school car park wherever possible, if not, to park on the estate sensibly without blocking access to local residents.

At the beginning of the school day the doors will be opened at 8.45 enter the school building with their class teacher after the bell has been rung.

Children in Reception (Poppy Class) should arrive between 8.55 and 9.00 and Nursery (Clover Class) will walk to their outside classroom doors for 9.00 a.m.

