Travel Plan

887/3756
St Mary’s Island Church of England (Aided) Primary School
Island Way West
St Mary’s Island
Chatham
ME4 3ST
Tel: 01634 891050

Date adopted: September 2018
Date for next review: September 2021

Committee/Person responsible for this document: Headteacher and Governing Body
Section 1 – School’s Background

Travel Plan Aims and Objectives

The overall aim of this school travel plan is to ensure that pupils, parents and staff who are currently at the school and will attend in the future, are able to make informed decisions about their travel to and from school. Through the implementation of the travel plan it is hoped the school community will be able to continue to choose more sustainable modes of travel and therefore minimise the impact of the proposed expansion on the local environment.

The aims and objectives of the plan are therefore:

1) Aim: To encourage the use of more sustainable modes of travel for journeys to and from school by pupils and parents and maintain low car use and therefore reduce the impact of travel to school on the local community, particularly as the school expands.
   Objectives:
   • To encourage and enable more children and parents to walk to/from school;
   • To encourage and enable more pupils who have bicycles or scooters to consider cycling/scooting to school and back home with parents;

2) Aim: To increase awareness of the importance of safe travel to and from school.
   Objectives:
   • To ensure that parents and pupils feel safer walking to school;
   • To ensure that Road Safety Education is provided to all to ensure safe journeys to and from school;

3) Aim: To raise travel awareness and integrate sustainable school travel within the curriculum and school ethos.
   Objectives:
   • To raise awareness of the benefits of leaving the car at home and the alternatives amongst children and parents;
   • To update the community on the progress of the travel plan and expansion plans on a regular basis;

4) Aim: To promote and enable sustainable travel for staff and visitors.
   Objective:
   • To promote and enable alternatives to the car and reduce car use (for staff and visitors)
Schools’ Ethos and Values

On its website, the St Mary's Island (CEA) Primary School values are stated as:

St Mary's Island (CEA) Primary School is a popular primary school striving to provide the highest quality education for the children in our care.

The School is situated at the heart of St Mary's Island, Chatham Maritime and can cater for 420 children aged 4-11.

We are proud of our strong Christian ethos and sense of community. We work with the Diocese of Rochester, Medway Local Authority and other organisations so that pupils of the school may benefit.

Every child is valued and we develop positive attitudes to learning in all children. We work in a close partnership with parents, acknowledging their role as the co-educators of their children.

We expect all children to behave well in and around school, understanding the school's expectations of good manners, honesty, care and self-discipline. Praise is central to our teaching and good behaviour is expected. The children develop an understanding of other people's feelings, values and beliefs. We are committed to meet the pastoral and academic needs of all individuals within our school community.

The Governors and Headteacher ensure that the resources and staffing levels meet the diverse needs of all children, both within and beyond the requirements of the National Curriculum.

All pupils are offered an imaginatively designed curriculum, delivered by highly qualified, dedicated staff. Through varied and exciting teaching, children grow in confidence as learners. Great regard is given to the individuality and uniqueness of each child.

At our school, we are proud to promote the British values of Democracy, the Rule of Law, Individuality, Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

These values together with our own of Service, Trust, Respect, Compassion, Forgiveness, Hope and Thankfulness are threaded at every opportunity in our curriculum and in all aspects of school life.

Source: http://www.st-marys-island-cofe-primary-school.co.uk/values
Description of the School's Locality

St Mary's Island (CEA) Primary School is situated on St Mary's Island which is part of the Chatham Maritime development area in Medway, South East England. It is located at the northern end of Chatham, adjacent to Brompton and Gillingham. Once part of the Royal Dockyard, Chatham, the area had consisted of a mixture of sports fields and warehousing but now the island is primarily residential with a community church located in the school; a community centre; a doctor’s surgery and a late-night pharmacy. There is extensive open space between housing parcels, as well as sports fields and play areas. There are riverside walks and cycle paths on the island, and many of the paths in the middle of the island give views of the surrounding area.

The area has frequent bus services served by several bus companies linking the island to Chatham town centre and rail station. The nearby A289 connects to the A2 for links to the M2 and M25 for travel throughout the South East. There are frequent train services from London Victoria to Chatham with a journey time of approximately 1 hour. There are also direct services to St Pancras, London Bridge, Waterloo and Charing Cross. Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and Luton are within easy reach via the M2/M25.

The school’s main vehicle and pedestrian entrances are off The Edgeway which has limited community centre and surgery parking. There is an additional pedestrian entrance point to the north of the school site. St Mary's Island at Chatham Maritime has excellent transport links by road, rail, air and boat.
The School's Catchment

The school’s catchment area encompasses the residential area of St Mary’s Island and over the bridge to Dockside. The majority of children are from within catchment though at present 29% of the children come from addresses which require motor transport on to the island. A map of the catchment area is shown below.

The school

St Mary’s Island Primary school is maintained by the Medway Local Authority. The age range of the pupils is between 3 and 11 years. There are currently 450 children on roll, with a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 90 (gradual three form entry, starting with year R in September 2018 and on-going year by year until September 2024). This increase in capacity is to meet the expected demand from a general increase in local population. In excess of fifty members of staff work at the school throughout the day currently and this will likely expand to 70 when at full capacity. This excludes visiting peripatetic teachers.
School day and extended school activities

The school day starts at 8:50 am and ends at 3:10pm for Key Stage 1 and 3:15pm for Key Stage 2.

The school hosts a breakfast club which runs from 7:30am until the start of school. There is space for 40 children (though this can be expanded as required), costing £3.00 per child.

The school hosts an after-school club which runs from 3:15pm until 6:00pm. From 3:15pm until 3:45pm the cost is £3.00, from 3:15pm until 4:30pm the cost is £6.00 and from 3:15pm until 6.00pm the cost is £8.00 (including food).

After-school extra-curricular clubs run every day of the week beginning at 3:15pm with the latest finishing at 4:30pm. There are clubs for multisport, rugby, drama, maths and science run by outside companies who charge a fee. The school also offers extra-curricular clubs throughout the year without a charge to attendees.

In addition to these activities, St Mary’s Island Primary School undertake a number of trips off-site, walking where possible and by coach if not.

The trips run in the academic year 2017/18 are as follows:

- St Mary’s Island (walk)
- St Mary’s Island Marina (walk)
- Island woods (walk)
- Recreational park (walk)
- St George’s Centre Brompton (walk)
- Chatham Dockyard (walk)
- Brompton Barracks (walk)
- Sports events (parental transport – car share)
- Kent Life (coach)
- Wingham Wildlife park (coach)
- Upnor castle (coach)
- Swimming lessons to local pool (bus)
- Isle of Wight residential (coach)

Community use of the school buildings

St Mary’s Island Primary School is home to St Mary’s Island church. The church uses the premises for worship on Sundays, as well as other mid-week meetings and other church related activities such as youth groups, prayer groups, music groups and a women’s group. Both church and school work very closely together.

Other St Mary’s Island community groups such as Guides, Scouts, Brownies, Rainbows and youth club either use the school hall or school playing fields for their meetings.

The school hall with associated parking can be hired for community events.
Site accessibility and transport links

There are currently two pedestrian access points to the school, with one vehicle entrance. The vehicle entrance is off The Edgeway, which ends in the St Mary's Island Community Centre car park. The vehicle entrance is controlled by the school office and car parking for staff is beyond. There is a crossing point outside the vehicle gate for children to walk safely across the road.

To the east of the vehicle entrance is a set of two pedestrian gates one after the other. Both gates are open until 8.50am, but supervised by a member of school staff. The inner one, which enters the playground, is padlocked until 3.10pm and the outer electronic gate is activated at 9:00am. Visitors and parents who wish to enter the school after 9.00am notify the school office via intercom. Office staff can verify the caller by looking on the CCTV monitor. A footpath leads visitors safely to the school front door without the need to cross any vehicular access points.

Parents and visitors access the school nursery through pairs of outer and inner electronic gates which are also monitored by CCTV. A member of nursery staff receives the parent/visitor at the gates as an extra precautionary measure.

At the rear of the school, there is a pedestrian gate, which accesses a walkway leading to residential areas to the north of the island. The rear pedestrian gate is padlocked at 8.45am by the member of duty staff. It is unlocked at 3.05pm to allow parents to pick up their children.

The school staff car park has 56 spaces plus three visitor spaces and can currently cater for demand. There will be further spaces available at a later stage. The majority of staff live between 5 and 30 miles from the school.

There is vehicular access and appropriate parking on the school premises for children with medical, physical needs or a disability.
Walking

St Mary’s Island was designed with a network of traffic calmed roads, footpaths and cycleways to give priority to cyclists and walkers. Most of the walkways were designed to take people through the many green spaces and criss-cross the island. Walkways lead through residential areas to the school. There are good footpaths that enable full access around the perimeter of the school grounds.
Cycling and Scooting

St Mary’s Island has many cycle paths which were designed and built as part of the original conception. Many children use these wide paths to cycle or scoot to school. The school has a covered bike store sited by the pedestrian front gate and a designated scooter and bike storage area by the rear pedestrian gate. Plans for a covered cycle storage shed at the rear of the school have been proposed as children have highlighted that they do not like riding their bikes to and from school in the damp weather as the saddles get wet and are uncomfortable.

What is the school doing already?

The Curriculum

As part of having the Healthy School Award, throughout the year children are taught about road and bicycle safety, environmentally beneficial modes of transport and how exercise such as walking, cycling and scooting can help in developing a healthy lifestyle.

The Year 1 science curriculum topic which explores the forces of pushing and pulling, requires the children to bring their bikes and safety helmets into school. The children practise riding on the school playground to improve their balance whilst exploring the theme. By the end of the topic the children want to come to school on their bicycles as a matter of course.

Each year the school holds a Road Safety Awareness Week where children have taken part in a host of activities to heighten safety consciousness:

Children in Foundation Stage practise stopping and looking for each other whilst riding on their trikes and tour the island discussing and practising safe ways to cross the roads.

Year 1 further practise how to cross a road and explore the dangers that could be encountered.

Year 2 write safety instructions and advice for all types of road and pavement users.

Year 3 investigate the different types of safety clothing that should be worn when riding bikes and how the time of year affects visibility.
Year 4 and 5 discuss the reason for wearing seatbelts at all times regardless of journey length.

Year 6 take part in the Bikeability scheme, discussions about safety advice and design posters to inform different audience age groups.

Medway Road Safety Officers visit the school throughout the school year and comment on how attentive and well-informed the children are.

St Mary’s Island Primary School Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSO) and their deputies spent the academic year 2017/18 promoting various aspects of road safety. In January, they devised a competition to design a cycling top that would be safe to wear at night to improve visibility by traffic and pedestrians. The competition’s aim was to raise awareness to both children and parents about the dangers of wearing dark clothing when cycling on the island during the winter months. Discussions which began in class soon involved parents as well, enabling community engagement and dialogue around road safety. Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children submitted many designs. The JRSOs and their deputies chose the winning entries and presented the children with certificates and prizes in the celebration assembly.

St Mary’s Island CEA Primary School took part in the ‘Sustrans Big Pedal’ campaign (April 2018) which is the UK’s largest inter-school cycling and scooting challenge aiming to inspire pupils, staff and parents to choose two wheels for their journey to and from school. Journeys were logged on to ‘The Big Pedal’ website by the JRSO team and were given a daily score to help mark their progress against other schools nationally. Parents also endeavoured to walk to school and preschool siblings have either scooted or been pushed in pre-trike transport. The school was entered into the ‘Large Primary School’ category and came first in Medway. 31% of the school population chose to arrive at school on two wheels whilst another third walked to school. Councillor Howard Doe, Deputy Leader and Portfolio holder for Housing and Community Services, James Sutton, Principal Road safety officer at Medway Council and Belisha Beacon, the Road Safety Journeys Team Mascot came to the school to present a certificate to acknowledge our position in the national event.

As a result of ‘The Big Pedal’ the children asked, via the school council, for an extra covered cycle storage shed, citing that they were reluctant to sit on wet saddles if the weather was forecast to be inclement. The children who scoot to school stated that they would scoot more often in the damp if their scooters were dry at the end of the day.

80% of Year 6 follow the ‘Bikeability’ course which trains the children to acquire practical skills and knowledge of how to cycle on the island’s roads whilst giving them the confidence to do so. This is held in the Autumn Term so the children have a chance to consolidate their skills in order to ride to and from school unaccompanied in the summer months. Since altering the course dates to earlier in the academic year, the school has seen an increased number of children cycling to and from school.

There are three Bikeability levels, each designed to improve cycling skills, no matter what is known already. Levels 1, 2 and 3 take trainees from the basics of balance and control, all the way to planning and making an independent journey on busier roads.

St Mary’s Island Primary School took part in the Hedgehog Hike (Walk to School month) in October 2018. 44.1% of pupils walked to and from school in that month with approximately 1,283 cars being taken off local roads.

Previously, St Mary’s Island Primary School implemented a walking school bus but as the island is a close knit community parents prefer to walk with their children to and from school. The take-up for the walking bus has slowly declined, however the number children walking to school has not.
Section 2  What are the issues for the school?

School Travel Survey

In June 2017, St Mary’s Island Primary School conducted a full school survey which involved asking parents and pupils how they travelled to and from school. To ensure a good response, pupils were given team points for completed questionnaires.

Staff were also provided with a survey to complete, to gather general information about travel trends and any issues or barriers they may have if they wish to travel sustainably.

Both surveys are in addition the wider consultation that all have been engaged with on the wider expansion plans for the schools.

Key partners

It is important to engage with the whole school community the impact of travel to and from school felt by the island residents. Therefore, as part of the wider expansion plans, letters were sent to residents inviting them to a consultation event on 25th January 2017 whereby residents could view and listen to the proposals, and share their views and concerns on the building and the wider impacts. A number of Medway Council representatives were available at the event in which residents and parents could express their views.

Survey results

The hands up survey took place in June 2017. A total number of 419 were surveyed. It was explained to the children that the survey was asking what method of transport was usually undertaken to travel to and from school, however, it should be noted that the number of children who bike and scooter to school is less in the winter months.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Type</th>
<th>Pupils in survey</th>
<th>Not stated</th>
<th>Walk</th>
<th>Cycle/Scooter</th>
<th>Bus</th>
<th>Car Alone</th>
<th>Car Share</th>
<th>Not stated %</th>
<th>Walk %</th>
<th>Cycle %</th>
<th>Bus %</th>
<th>Car Alone %</th>
<th>Car Share %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hands Up May 2017</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School census Jan 2017</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The school data shows that the two most dominant forms of travel are walking and car. Cycling and scooting rates are improving and always increase in the latter part of the
academic year (April onwards) due to the lighter evenings and as children have become more confident in riding and scooting.

**Pupil and parent travel survey**

All of the main travel surveys were undertaken in June 2017. Out of the 419 surveys that were sent to children/parents, 195 responded, which represents a 47% response rate.

**Q1) How do you usually travel to school?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pupils in survey</th>
<th>Walk</th>
<th>Cycle/Scooter</th>
<th>Bus</th>
<th>Train</th>
<th>Car</th>
<th>Walk %</th>
<th>Cycle/Scooter %</th>
<th>Bus %</th>
<th>Train %</th>
<th>Car %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children's survey</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Walking is clearly still the main mode of travel, though not as dominant as the school census shows (63%). Cycling also tends to increase and decrease, either due to the time of year, or because the frequency in which children travel in this way changes.

When asked why pupils and parents travelled in the way that they do, the responses clearly support the travel trends as those who live near are choosing to walk because of the distance, and also because of the ease. Many parents stated that they enjoyed the walk to school with their children and saw it as one of the attractions for moving to the island.

There are still a reasonable number of parents and pupils who are affected by the distance being too far, which is likely to be the main reason for those using the car. This could be an issue with the number of children travelling to the school from out of catchment. 29% of the school population come from families who have either moved off the island but still wish their child to attend the school or are out of the immediate catchment area or on the other side of
the River Medway. A vehicular tunnel without pedestrian access connects both sides of the river.

Clearly, for many parents, the added complications of going on to work or dropping siblings off at other schools made a difference to how parents chose to travel.

Q2. How do you usually travel home from school?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children's survey</th>
<th>Pupils in survey</th>
<th>Walk</th>
<th>Cycle/Scooter</th>
<th>Bus</th>
<th>Train</th>
<th>Car</th>
<th>Walk %</th>
<th>Cycle/Scooter %</th>
<th>Bus %</th>
<th>Train %</th>
<th>Car %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>195</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall, on the journey home, the trends remain the same as the journey to school, which is predominantly walking. There is a little fluctuation in numbers, which maybe attributable to children attending after school clubs, parents who are picking up on the way back from work or children walking home after being dropped off at breakfast club by parents.

The reasons given for travel choice going home are, again, very similar to the reasons going to school with little change in the results.
Comparison of answers to Q1: How do you travel to school and Q3: How would you like to travel to school?

How would you prefer to travel to school?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children’s survey</th>
<th>Pupils in survey</th>
<th>Walk</th>
<th>Cycle/Scooter</th>
<th>Bus</th>
<th>Scooter</th>
<th>Car</th>
<th>Walk %</th>
<th>Cycle/Scooter %</th>
<th>Bus %</th>
<th>Scooter %</th>
<th>Car %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How do you usually travel to school?</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How would you prefer to travel to school?</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Looking at the numbers of parents/children, far more would like to cycle or scoot, and there is a decline in those wanting to walk, though walking still remains the dominant mode of travel. Those that come by car have to do so because of either work commitments or because they live too far away from the school. Those who come by car want to.

This is very positive evidence that providing an extra covered scooter and cycle storage on site would encourage more walkers to scoot to school. Scooting is a particularly good mode of travel for younger children as they are then able to travel longer distances, and if they have older siblings, they will be able to keep up with the pace. Obviously it is important to ensure that scooting is undertaken in a safe and sensible way.
Q.4 Have you ever had, or nearly had, an accident on your way to or from school?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children's survey</th>
<th>Pupils in survey</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Yes %</th>
<th>No %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>195</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reasons given accidents

- I didn't look carefully when crossing the road.
- The car was driving too fast around the roundabout.
- I was knocked over by a bike.
- I fell off my scooter.
- I fell off my bike.
- I fell over on the path.
- The car was driving too fast.
- I did not look carefully enough.
- We crossed at a crossing. The car driver behind the car that stopped was very angry.

The majority of children have not been involved in an accident, and that those who say they have, were relatively minor.

Q.5 Do you have any suggestions for making routes to and from school and the area out the school safer?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggestions</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crossing attendant/lollypop person.</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrolls to monitor the community car park.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop drivers blocking the roundabouts at pick up time.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zebra crossing near the roundabout area</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wider pathway along from the rear pedestrian gate to the end</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create a drop off zone</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed monitoring e.g. bumps or electronic signage</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trim vegetation as visibility is impaired</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop drivers parking on the corners.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More official markings with dropped kerbs</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevent the use of the community centre car park</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilise the parking barrier and only give code to doctors patients</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidance to parents to respect community car park</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The responses from parents and pupils included a number of comments about poor driver behaviour including driving too fast, cars blocking residents’ driveways and also obscuring pedestrian crossing points. Parents’ main concerns were driving too fast around the island’s perimeter roads especially those leading to the bridge.

Medway Council and the Highways Adoption Team asked St Mary’s Island (CEA) Primary School children to design a picture to be used on a raised crossing, the first of its kind in Medway. The entries were judged by Highways Adoption Team Director, Mrs. R. De-Lieu, Councillor Mr. A. Mackness and Councillor Mr. H Tejan. The winning entry certificate was presented in a school assembly in July 2018.

In September 2018 two raised crossing had been constructed, one of which carried the winning design.

St Mary’s Island Primary School – Staff Survey

How do the staff travel to school?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Type</th>
<th>Staff in survey</th>
<th>Walk</th>
<th>Cycle/Scooter</th>
<th>Bus</th>
<th>Car</th>
<th>Walk %</th>
<th>Cycle %</th>
<th>Bus %</th>
<th>Car %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How do you normally travel to and from school?</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As with most schools, car use is the dominant mode of travel for both schools, particularly with teaching staff. 71% of staff come by car. Many staff live on the Wainscott side of the River Medway and have to drive through the Medway Tunnel in order to access St Mary’s Island. There is no pedestrian access through the tunnel. The responses received highlighted practical barriers such as carrying sets of books to mark, using the car during the day for offsite meetings and distance from the school as the reasons preventing staff from travelling sustainably. 63% of staff live over two miles from the school buildings and of that, 20% live further than ten miles away from St Mary’s Island.
Section 3 - The problems and issues for the school

The main problems for the school is the number of cars that arrive to drop and pick up children at the start and the end of the school day. The number seems to increase during the winter months.

The community centre car park becomes very busy, very quickly, at drop off and pick up times. Cars can travel in and out of the car park too fast. Some parents highlighted that they had witnessed examples of poor driving and at speed especially when leaving the island.

Illegal parking on the roundabouts and corners, and cars parking partially and fully on kerbs and pavements, make it harder for pedestrians to see to cross the road.

Inconsiderate parking partially blocking residents’ access paths and driveways have also caused tension amongst local residents although this is acted upon swiftly by the Headteacher.

In the afternoons, the community centre car park can fill quickly at least 30 minutes before the end of school as parents take the opportunity to meet and talk with each other. This creates a bottle-neck as cars do not ‘flow’ to and from the parking spaces.

Children are reluctant to use their scooters and bicycles in damp or inclement weather, but will choose to walk instead.

The width of rear pedestrian gate access makes it difficult for children to scoot/cycle if being accompanied by an adult. It is wide at the actual gate access point but tapers as it leads to the residential area.
Section 4 - Consultation

As travel issues affect the whole school community, especially when they are linked with a new development, it is important to ensure that all affected groups are consulted with. This helps both with finding out what the issues are, and also offering communities the opportunity to share their ideas as to possible solutions. Therefore a number of groups, including pupils, parents, staff, governors and local residents have been consulted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parents</td>
<td>• Travel behaviour;</td>
<td>• Travel survey</td>
<td>June 2017</td>
<td>• Copy of covering letter &amp; questionnaire;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Expansion plans</td>
<td>• Expansion consultation events</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Copy of letter/invite</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Expansion plans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pupils</td>
<td>• Travel behaviour;</td>
<td>• Travel survey;</td>
<td>June 2017</td>
<td>• Copy of questionnaire</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Expansion plans</td>
<td>• School council</td>
<td></td>
<td>• School council minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Expansion plans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>• Travel behaviour;</td>
<td>• Questionnaire</td>
<td>June 2017</td>
<td>• Copy of questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Expansion plans</td>
<td>• Expansion consultation events</td>
<td>Jan 2017</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Expansion plans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Governors</td>
<td>• Expansion plans</td>
<td>• Headteacher report to Governors</td>
<td>Sept 2016-17</td>
<td>• Extract from Head Teacher's Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The principle of expansion of the school,</td>
<td>• FGB meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>the detailed plans and the impacts this</td>
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<td></td>
<td>would have on the community</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Expansion consultation events - invites</td>
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<td></td>
<td>went to residents</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Dec 2016</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Jan 2017</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Notice to residents from Medway Council.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Consultation evening held at the school.</td>
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</table>
Section 5 - Action Plan

Aim 1: To sustain, and where possible, encourage use of more sustainable modes of travel for journeys to and from school by pupils and parents, maintain low car use and therefore reduce the impact of travel to school on the local community, particularly as the school expands.

Objective 1: To encourage and enable more children and parents to walk to/from school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Measure / Initiative</th>
<th>Task / Action &amp; completion date</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Tasks/Actions reviewed &amp; dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Walking  | To promote/take part in initiatives such as Walk to School Week (May) and International Walking Month in (October) on an annual basis. | • Register on [www.livingstreets.org.uk](http://www.livingstreets.org.uk) to include the school on programme. Sept 2017  
  • Promote initiatives to pupils in assemblies/class form time with JRSOs leading initiative. Oct 2017 & monthly bulletins onwards.  
  • Promote initiatives to parents via parent mail, website and paper drop. Sept 2017 & monthly bulletins onwards. | Curriculum focus lead.  
  Headteacher Staff  
  JRSOs  
  School Council  
  Ethos Committee  
  Website editor | Living Streets investigated. Telephone/e mail conversations stated that school does not meet criteria for their projects. Will work on own projects. Oct 2017  
  Promotion in staff meeting, assembly led by JRSOs, parent mail, website, paperdrop and class form time. Oct 2017 & Oct 2018.  
  64% uptake by pupils, parents and carers resulting in 1,283 cars taken off the road due to the scheme. Oct 2018. |
|          | Increase walking levels from 58% to 64% by Sept 2019                                   |                                                                      |                                                                              |                                |
|          | New intakes/pupils are provided with the necessary information for travel to and from school in a safe and sustainable way. | • Update information on website and at introductory talks by Headteacher informing parents as to how they may travel to school sustainably. June 2018 and annually thereafter. | Website editor Headteacher | Completed. Jan 2018  
  • Talks to new intakes/casual admissions include statements about travelling to and from school. June/July 2018 |
Explore the viability of a 'Walking Bus' from The Ship and Trades, depending on future numbers of pupils to make it viable and number of volunteers available.

- View data for new intake to ascertain how many pupils live beyond a mile walking distance of the school. **Sept 2017**
- Send out a request for expression of interest to parents through school newsletters to investigate interest in a walking bus and potential volunteers. **Oct 2017**
- If significant numbers identify options for a walking bus route to enable parents to drop off away from the school.

**SLT**

- In response to the travel survey, several parents were approached about the volunteering to run a 'walking bus', however no-one wished to commit for 5 days per week nor commit long term. **Nov 2017**
- Not enough parents thought a ‘walking bus’ would be used as they enjoyed walking with their children and the school's breakfast club catered for children whose parents needed to leave the island before the start of school.
- School has no funds to pay staff to park at school and then walk back to the Ship and Trades to begin the walk to school. **Dec 2017**
- Car parking at the Ship and Trades is now limited with a difficult entry and exit.
- Not enough numbers nor commitment to make this a viable option. **Autumn 2017**

| Objective 2: To encourage more pupils who have bicycles/scooters to consider cycling/scooter to and from school. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Target** | **Measure / Initiative** | **Task / Action & completion date** | **Responsibility** | **Tasks/Actions reviewed & dates** |
| All: Increase pupils choosing to scoot/ cycle to school on a regular basis. | Provide scooter storage and cycle storage as part of expansion and where possible, ensure there is adequate provision from the front and back of the school. | Identify the number of scooter/cycle spaces required by revised draft parking standards and provide appropriate storage. **May 2019**
Install cover bike and scooter storage. | Site manager Headteacher | As the build is still in progress this initiative will be targeted once build is completed. |
| Scooting/ cycling up from 10% to 12% by July 2019 and to 15% in 5 | To encourage more pupils who have bicycles/scooters to consider cycling/scooter to and from school. | To take part in Sustrans Big Pedal, a nationwide initiative to encourage pupils and parents to cycle or scoot to school. **May 2017 & May 2018. Annually thereafter.**
Promote initiatives to pupils in assemblies/class form time with JRSOs leading initiative. **Oct 2017 & monthly bulletins onwards.**
Promote the initiative to parents | Curriculum Lead | Councillor Howard Doe, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services, James Sutton, Principal Road Safety Officer at Medway Council and Belisha Beacon, the Safer Journeys Team mascot, came to school on Monday 11th June 2018 to present a certificate to acknowledge the school's position in the Sustrans 'The Big Pedal' |
years.

Data TP Surveys June 2017

via parent mail, website, and paper drop. Sept 2017 & monthly bulletins onwards.

campaign.

- The campaign, which took place on 23 April - 4 May 2018 allowed schools to compete to see which school could get as many of their pupils, staff and parents cycling or scooting to school.

- St. Mary's Island CEA Primary School was in the ‘Large primary school 5-day challenge’ category, where we came **first in Medway**.

- Over the course of the challenge, the best data from 5 days was used to calculate our percentage. 30.86%, just under a third, of our school came to school by either bike or scooter.

- Due to the success of the initiative the school will be taking part again next summer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To ensure that cycle/road safety training is available for all Y6 pupils through the Bikeability training scheme.</th>
<th>Bikeability booked for all Y6 pupils. To take place in Jan &amp; Feb 2018</th>
<th>School Office Y6 team</th>
<th>2017-18 data: 90% of Y6 children who took part in the training received a level 3 award. This was presented in an awards ceremony in assembly. Apr 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rebook for next year. Sept 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To provide scooter training for Y1 children.</th>
<th>Researched feasibility. Training booked for Y1 for Feb &amp; Mar 2018. Oct 2017</th>
<th>School Office Y1 team</th>
<th>Despite the entire year group having sessions booked only 50% of children took part in scooter training as one day was cancelled due to snow conditions in March. Despite many calls to the department they were not able to replace the session as there were too many schools booked for the course. Feb &amp; Mar 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Balance-ability booked for 3 YR classes in March 2019.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rebook for next year. As Y1 spend much of their leisure time scooting with their parents, impact would be better for YR children. Apr 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Aim 2:** To increase awareness of the importance of safe travel to and from school

**Objective 1:** To ensure that parents and pupils feel safer walking or cycling to school

**Objective 2:** To ensure that Road Safety education is provided to all to ensure safe journeys to and from school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Ensure that 100% of pupils are taught Road Safety. | To appoint new Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs) each September to deliver important road safety messages to the entire school community. | • Potential applicants write letters to the Headteacher to apply for the job.  
• Two positions with 2 deputies. Sept 2018 | JRSOs.  
Curriculum Lead. | • Position are sought after by Y5 pupils. Many letters of application.  
• 4 positions easily filled. Sept 2018 |
| JRSOs to spread road safety messages to the school community. | JRSOs to:  
• give talks  
• run competitions  
• put up posters  
• banners on the fence  
• use their own ideas to spread the message  
• maintain their own community notice board to spread safety messages. Monthly from Oct 2018 onwards. | JRSOs.  
Curriculum Lead. | • Road Safety Week – children took part in activities linked to keeping safe on the roads. Drama activities, external visitors/speakers talking to the children and curriculum learning were used to reinforce the road safety messages. Competitions ran for KS1 ‘Stop. Look. Listen.’ Many entries JRSOs fed back to school on the standard of entry and presented winners with certificates. Children were able to talk/write about the topic. Mar 2018  
• Competition ran for KS 2 ‘Road safety in your local area.’ Mar 2018  
• Input and process data from initiatives such as Walk to School Week/Month and Sustrans - The Big Pedal. May 2019  
• Continue these projects next year. |
| To ensure that parents and pupils feel safer walking or cycling to school | • To explain to the children the plan for two raised crossings planned for the approach roads to the school.  
• To devise a competition to draw an appropriate eye-catching design for one of the raised crossing.  
• To ensure paperwork/permissions | JRSOs.  
Curriculum Lead.  
Headteacher.  
Staff. | • Medway Council and the Highways Adoption Team asked St. Mary’s Island Primary School to design a Raised Crossing that will be installed on the island later this year - the first of its kind in Medway.  
• The entries were judged by members of |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Promote use of safety clothing and cycle helmets.</th>
<th>• JRSOs promotion of safety clothing and helmets when cycling/scooting to/from school.</th>
<th>JRSOs Curriculum Lead.</th>
<th>• Competition by JRSOs to design an outfit that fulfils criteria of 'See and Be Seen.'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Promotion of Road Safety Awareness through assemblies and the curriculum. | • Opportunities throughout the curriculum for investigations and discussion  
• Medway Safer Journeys Officer to be contacted so he can attend promotions/curriculum events. Sept 2018 | Curriculum Lead. Staff. | • Paul Binnie Medway Safer Journeys Officer has attended/hosted assemblies focusing on Road safety throughout the year. The children are very active in contributing their ideas in these sessions. The last one coincided with Hedgehog Hike - Walk to School Week in October 2018.  
• Continue actions – plan & book for Oct 2019 |
Aim 3: To raise travel awareness amongst the whole school community and integrate sustainable school travel within the Curriculum and school ethos.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target</th>
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<th>Task / Action &amp; completion date</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Tasks/Actions reviewed &amp; dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ensure that pupils and parents are aware of the School Travel Plan objectives and their role in supporting them.</td>
<td>Promote the travel plan to the whole school community.</td>
<td>• Provide access to travel plan to all stakeholders. <strong>July 2018</strong></td>
<td>Headteacher. Website editor.</td>
<td>• Travel plan is available to all stakeholders via the school website. <strong>Sept 2018</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consider ways in which to include in the curriculum work on sustainable travel linking in with the Healthy Schools and other related work.</td>
<td>• Discuss with teachers the ways in which sustainable travel can be included in the curriculum - making use of pupil postcode, maps, school journeys etc. <strong>Jan 2018</strong></td>
<td>Curriculum Lead. Staff.</td>
<td>• All classes from Nursery to Y6 have taken part in opportunities that are relevant to their curriculum topics e.g. walking around the island/post box, discussion of cycle routes. <strong>Apr 2018</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To take part in an air monitoring scheme with Medway Council Nov – Apr 2018/19</td>
<td>• The monitoring programme will involve putting tubes within the school grounds which the children will change on a monthly basis between <strong>November 2018 and April 2019</strong>. • Air quality findings to be shared with the children. <strong>May 2019</strong></td>
<td>Curriculum Lead.</td>
<td>• May 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Aim 4: To promote sustainable travel for staff and visitors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Measure / Initiative</th>
<th>Task / Action &amp; completion date</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Tasks/Actions reviewed &amp; dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ensure that staff car alone use is reduced to a minimum.</td>
<td>Encourage staff to car share if possible.</td>
<td>• Encourage staff to car share if possible.</td>
<td>Headteacher</td>
<td>• Where it is possible and practical, staff car share. • To continue to promote car share option where possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Share information with staff on public transport, walking and cycling routes.</td>
<td>• Have information available for staff on public transport, walking and cycling routes.</td>
<td>School Admin Officer</td>
<td>• Information is available. • <a href="http://www.arrivabus.co.uk/medway">www.arrivabus.co.uk/medway</a> • <a href="http://www.thetrainline.com">www.thetrainline.com</a> • <a href="http://www.google.com/maps">www.google.com/maps</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 6 - Evaluation and Monitoring

As this travel plan is a living document, it will need reviewing and updating regularly. We will carry out a full travel survey and a full review of the whole document every two years to find out if anything has changed or requires action. The next full travel survey will be carried out in May 2019 by the Senior Leadership Team. The next full review will be carried out in September 2019 by the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team.

In addition to this, the school will participate in the annual submission of mode of travel data for all pupils as part of the local data collection undertaken by Medway Council. Furthermore, the school will perform a “hands up” travel survey annually for children and staff and log this information. They will ask the questions, “How do you usually travel to school?” and “How would you like to travel to school?” The school understands that this supports the monitoring of the travel plan, and informs Medway Council’s policies. The data will be kept and used by the school in subsequent reviews to measure progress against our targets.

There will be an interim review of the travel plan in June 2018 to monitor progress and achievements, and also to take into account any changes in education or transport provision that will alter the travel needs of our staff and pupils. This will be undertaken by the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team. Timescales will require reviewing regularly due to the size of the expansion.

Any review undertaken will be submitted to the Medway Council’s Strategic Transport Team to monitor the impact of the development and the effectiveness of the School Travel Plan.

Section 7 Long Term Sustainability

Once the School Travel Plan has been approved, the travel plan will be incorporated within the School Development Plan for the school to ensure that it is implemented and monitored.

Section 8 - Promotion of School Travel Plan

Further discussion is required as to the most appropriate and effective ways in which to promote and educate the school community of the travel plan objectives, e.g. School website www.st-marys-island-cofe-primary-school.co.uk, newsletters etc.

School Travel Plan Approval Form

The principles detailed in the School Travel Plan for St Mary’s Island Primary School, are endorsed by the Headteacher and Governing Body.

We understand that a travel plan needs to be evaluated and monitored on an annual basis to ensure that it continues to reflect the current situation at the school. We are also aware that although we have outlined measures in our action plan, Medway Council is not obliged or committed to funding all or any of these.
Appendix

Samples of children’s work:

Winning design for the raised crossing

Sample of JRSo’s powerpoint presentation to the school on Stop, Look & Listen!

Walk to school month bulletin to parents informing them of competition results.

Well done!

During Walk to School Month (Hedgehog Hike) a total of 1,283 cars were taken off our roads. Well done if you were able to contribute to this total.

The winning class in Nursery/FS/KS1 was Penguin with 337 people walking, scooting or biking to school.

The winning class in KS2 was Seal with 350 people walking, scooting or biking to school.

Why not keep this going and see how often you can walk, scoot or bike to school next term too.
Minutes of JRSO – October 2018

2nd October 2018
- Met to give out JRSO handbook and explain role. Children to read and return.
- Discussed need for competition and how to collect Hedgehog Hike data.

4th October 2018
- Collected data sheet and handed out new sheets. JRSOs inputted collected data on KM Portal. Weekly collection and input for the duration of October.

9th October 2018
- Assembly with Paul Binnie to launch competition and hand out badges.

Competition:
FS/KS1 to expand on the ‘Stop! Look! Listen!’ slogan by drawing their own design and adding what it the words mean to them.
KS2 to find out how they can stay safe on the roads in their local area e.g. low speed limit, safe crossings etc

11th October 2018
- JRSOs met with Medway Council’s Environmental Protection Team to find out about the air monitoring scheme. Will start at the end of October. The EP team will return in July to discuss results with the JRSOs who will then inform the school.

31st October 2018
- First tubes placed outside for the air monitoring scheme – one in the staff car park by the road and one by the back gate where only pedestrians access. Will change tube 5th December.

19th November 2018
- JRSO led Act of Worship segment to announce winners of Hedgehog Hike and the poster competitions and to launch Road Safety Week. Parentmail sent out to inform parents of results of Hedgehog Hike.

19th – 23rd November 2018
- Road Safety Week taking place in school