



## Woodfield Infant School & St George's Junior School Travel Plan Newsletter January 2018



### Why a Travel Plan?

The Travel Plan aims to **reduce traffic congestion** around school, **make travel to and from school safer and more enjoyable**, and **encourage a healthy and active start to the day**. The Plan covers support for parents to set up walking buses, promoting safer cycling schemes, scooting and the 'WOW, Not in a Car!' badge scheme. The schemes are run by Woodfield and St George's schools, Shropshire Council and parent volunteers, all of whom are crucial to the success of the Plan.

### Step out in the New Year.

After a rather slippery end to last term we are all looking forward to the weather warming up! This is a good opportunity to leave the car behind and cycle, scoot and walk to school more often. As the spring progresses there will be more activities in school to promote walking and cycling.

### Coming up....



Last March, 27% of St George's pupils rode scooters or cycled into school during the **Big Pedal** in March. The challenge is on to increase this during March 2018.

### Stepping Out

Year 3 children will be receiving their training in April. **Stepping Out** is a programme which teaches children how to cross the road safely, and is run by council affiliated colleagues.

### Bikeability

Year 6 children will be able to sign up for **Bikeability** later this year. Last year 68 children achieved Level 1 or 2 cycling proficiency, learning about safe bike use, a good reminder as they move up to senior school. This year there will also be a chance to take Level 3 proficiency.

**More details on how to join nearer the time.**

### Bikeability Adults

Parents can now complete Level 2 or 3. There are nine adult places, funded by Shropshire Council. Training will take place in late spring. **Please ask for more details at the office if you are interested.**

**Bikeability Ride** encourages families to join in safe cycle routes.

## Help needed!

We would love to have more parents taking part in the travel plan group. The group meets just twice a year (next meeting Tuesday, 19th June 2018, 9.15am). If you are interested, just come along or ask at your school office.

If meetings aren't your thing, there are other things you can do to promote walking, cycling and scooting to school, including getting involved in the schemes mentioned below.

## Scooter code

Please ensure your children follow the **scooter code** and **walk** with scooters whilst they are on school premises, including along the access paths. Our entrance/exits are quite narrow and speeding scooters can cause a nuisance and potential risk to other users.

## Car parks

A reminder that car parks are for **staff only, unless** you are a **blue badge holder**. Please keep safe and don't walk across the car parks.

## 'Golden Lock' scheme



St George's children who cycle or scoot to school can have a safety check done by the Bike-it crew which covers the condition of their bike, helmet and examples of safe riding to school. A golden lock is put on one bike each week – if you are lucky and your bike gets the lock you can collect an award from the school office.

## WOW Badge Scheme

We need someone to run The WOW badge scheme. If you can help, please contact Woodfield School office.

## Walking Buses

These can be a great way of getting your children to school with their friends and meeting other parents/carers. If you would like to start a bus from your area, we can help. You will get free training, a DBS check and be fully covered by our insurance.

## School Rules and Safety reminders: for all our children's safety

- Please put your children's safety first and don't walk across St George's car park as a short cut.
- Please make sure that your children (including pre-schoolers) **do not** ride bikes or scooters within the school grounds. The pathways are not wide enough to allow this safely, when pedestrians are using the paths as well.
- Please **avoid walking, driving or cycling** down Kelsalls Lane, to drop off/collect your child at peak times; pedestrians with children should always follow the safe yellow footprint routes. If you come by bike, it's advisable to dismount and walk in on the yellow footprint routes.



- **High visibility clothing of some sort is strongly recommended** for children cycling to school: if the children are visible they are less likely to be involved in an accident.
- **Parking or stopping to let out passengers on the white zigzag lines either side of the zebra crossing is a traffic offence and puts our children in danger but continues to happen. Civil Enforcement Officers regularly patrol here and will issue fixed penalty tickets for parking offences.**

**Active Travel and Road Safety Officer:** Ray Hughes

**Newsletter:** Julie Howe

Contact either of us via the school offices.