



Road Safety

POLICY



Road Safety Policy

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Rationale

It is well documented that the amount of traffic on the roads has increased dramatically over recent years. As a result, accidents involving children occur on a daily basis. Moreover, accidents concerning children during their home to school journeys arise too frequently. By issuing this policy the Rodings School community acknowledges that we have a duty to help prevent such tragedies and will ensure to meet our educational responsibility to contribute to the effective road safety education to all pupils in its care.

Rodings unique location means it has quite individual needs compared to some schools and the geographically dispersed catchment means that many children travel by a variety of modes of transport to school. Walking to school is not practical or safe for the majority of our children.

Aims

1. To establish and maintain a school ethos that incorporates: -
 - i) safer journeys to school
 - ii) to reduce the congestion at the school gates as much as possible
 - iii) encouraging other forms of transport for school journeys
2. To educate children and parents in road safety issues and make them aware of the dangers of road traffic around the school environment.
3. To encourage children to take the road safety issues that they have learnt from school and adopt them in other areas of their lives i.e. around their home environment etc. so they may become confident with these skills.
4. To ensure the road safety issues that have been taught to children at an early age are part of a sustainable long term strategy which can be used as a building block that can be built on as they get older.
5. Where appropriate, to encourage a healthy attitude and walking culture amongst the school community that will lead to a healthier lifestyle.

Pedestrian journeys

1. Where walking to school is safe and appropriate, it will be communicated to parents that this is the preferred means of travel to school. This will be done by: -
 - i) this policy being stated in the school's prospectus
 - ii) regular reminders of the school ethos being made in the school's newsletter.
 - iii) road safety education to illustrate the importance of walking to school.
2. Children to be educated in pedestrian skills and road safety in accordance with the relevant sections of the Highway Code.

3. Parents and children are encouraged to either wear bright or reflective clothing or carry something of that description on their school journey especially in the winter and poor conditions.

4. Parents to be encouraged to use the school crossing or other approved crossing site where appropriate

Car Journeys

If the use of the car is considered unavoidable for the journey to and from school:

1. Parents should be encouraged to use the 'Kiss and Drop/Collect' system provided at Rodings.

2. Parents make sensible parking choices either using the car park in school or the lay by outside the school gates. Parents may also be encouraged to park in other local roads and walk the last bit of the journey.

3. The parents of new children to the school should be provided with information about the local area highlighting the parking areas which are deemed appropriate by the school.

4. Car drivers should be reminded to approach the school community with caution, drive at a sensible speed and be aware of other road users and pedestrians in accordance with the Highway Code.

5. All car passengers should be restrained by seat belts and child locks should be used if appropriate. Booster seat legislation must be adhered to.

6. The school will promote car sharing amongst those who live in the same vicinity and rely on the car as their only viable means of transportation.

Bus /Taxi Journeys

A significant number of children live in areas where transport to school is provided by the Local Authority (LA) and this is the encouraged mode of transport for getting to school.

1. Children are to be reminded that they should enter and depart from the bus/taxi in an orderly and sensible manner with due regard for their environment and the rest of the car park.

2. Bus/taxi drivers will be regularly advised to approach the school with caution and pay due care to other pedestrians and vehicles within the school environment.

Cycling to school and Bikeability

Children and adults will be encouraged to use bicycles to get to school where appropriate. Consideration will be given to the rural nature of our catchment when targeting particular groups to use their bikes e.g. shorter distances on safer roads.

Bike storage facilities will be available on site.

Children in Year 6 will be offered Bikeability training to make sure they have a sound understanding of road rules particularly in a rural location.

Once completed and where appropriate, children will be encouraged to use their bike to get to school.

However, the dangerous nature of country roads will be considered when allowing children to use a bike to get to school.

Road Safety in General

1. Parents are encouraged to notify the school of any road safety issues within the school community that they believe has the potential of causing an accident. By the same token, feedback should be given to the parent once the matter has been investigated.
2. The school will attempt to make and maintain links with Essex County Council and the Community Police and work in partnership to ensure road safety best practices are upheld.
3. Constant reminders of the school's road safety policy and ethos will be provided to parents via the website and newsletter.

Road Safety in the Curriculum

1. Time is to be devoted within PSHE lessons for the topic of road safety and school travel.
2. Road safety issues will be raised during school assemblies.
3. Road safety will also be introduced to children through class work, specialist events, visiting speakers and national campaigns.
4. Crucial Crew for Year 6 pupils is an annual event emphasising teaching and learning about road safety.

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Term/Abbreviation	Meaning
LA	Local Authority
PSHE	Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education