

RICHARD TAYLOR CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Policy For Cycling To School

Rationale

At Richard Taylor School we recognise both the environmental and health benefits of cycling or scootering to school and wish to promote safe cycling to school.

Aims

1. To ensure that both staff and students who cycle to school have a safe environment to store their bicycles and scooters.
2. to ensure that all parents and staff are aware of the health and safety issues involved in cycling to school and that every step has been taken to make sure that anyone who cycles to school does so in a safe and responsible manner.

Organisation

- Children may cycle to school if accompanied by a parent providing that the parent completes and returns the permission slip. (See attached)
- Children in Year 6 may cycle to school unaccompanied providing they hold a valid cycling proficiency certificate (which must be shown to the school office) and return a signed permission slip.
- (The school is seeking to bring forward the date of the cycling proficiency course for Year 6 children which has traditionally been held in the summer term, to allow Year 6 children to take this option).
- Children who cycle to school must wear a helmet and other high visibility equipment as appropriate, which they will be allowed to store in school.
- The school cannot take responsibility for the security of any bicycle or scooter stored on site and so recommends that children bring a bicycle lock to secure them during the day. Parents are also advised to take out appropriate insurance cover.
- The school reserves the right to refuse permission for any child to store their cycle or scooter in the school bike rack if their behaviour whilst riding to school causes concern or danger to pedestrians or other road users.
- The school can take no responsibility for the safety of children outside school. The final decision as to whether a child is competent to negotiate such hazards as may present themselves on route to school belongs to the parents.
- The school recommends that cycles and scooters are clearly marked or post-coded and that all equipment is named.

Maintenance Checks

Cycles ridden to school should be fully roadworthy and properly maintained. Regular checks should include:

- Both brakes working
- Tyres pumped up and wheels not wobbling sideways
- Handlebars and saddle straight and tight
- Front and rear reflectors and wheel reflectors
- Handlebars and folding locks on scooters.

When possible, the school will organise occasional checking, maintenance and post-coding sessions in conjunction with the local police or road safety.

Safety

We strongly recommend that all children wear helmets when cycling and scootering. These should fit well and conform to current British standards. We also recommend the use of high visibility garments such as jackets or tabards at all times. British standard lights and reflectors are a legal requirement for cycling after lighting up time.

All cyclists should be aware of the rules of the Highway Code that relate to cycling and should follow these at all times. We suggest parents use the free local cycling maps and recently enhanced cycling facilities to identify the safest cycling route to school. We also recommend parents ride the route with their children beforehand to point out particular hazards and danger points.

Reviewed 17/18
Review 19/20

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