



Woodways Haddenham Aylesbury
Bucks HP17 8DS

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Aiming High, Celebrating Success

School Travel Plan - Background information

The School Travel Plan (STP) group was set up in 2003 because of concerns about children's safety when travelling to school. The first School Travel Plan was completed in 2008 and money granted used to build a parent shelter to encourage parents to walk to school.

One of the first members of the Travel Group was a teacher who founded the school Eco Group. She set up Go for Gold at the school in 2005, running it with the help of pupils and the Travel Group. Initially this led to quite an increase in walking and cycling to school but after some years fell in popularity. The decision was taken to replace it with competitions during Walk to School Month (October) and for the last three years a Walk on Wednesdays (WoW) competition has been held and proved popular.

In 2003 there was no cycle training at the school but early meetings led to the formation of Haddenham Cycle Training (HCT) with full support from the school. Now there is regular cycle training at the school. HCT and the Travel Group carried out a lot of fund-raising to provide a large number of cycle racks at the school and the balance of the School Travel Plan money was used to build a shelter over the racks. The Travel Group and HCT have also run a large number of activities, including Bikers' Breakfasts and cycle snakes.

The school, HCT and Haddenham Safe Walking and Cycling Group (HaddSWAC) led a long campaign for a safe cycle/community path through the recreation park so that children could avoid the busiest roads when cycling to school. Finally, with Parish Council support, funding from Sustrans and fund-raising from HaddSWAC and the school the community cycle path was opened in April 2010.

To help encourage cycling the school has enthusiastically taken part in the national Big Pedal competition each year from 2011. School competitions, Bikers' Breakfasts and cycle snakes are put on to encourage children to cycle. This effort has led to an increase in cycling to school, especially in the summer.

Due to recent changes in local schools far fewer children now come to school by school bus (24 in 2008 down to 0 last year). The effect of this is an increase in car use, which adds to the large volume of traffic along Woodways, particularly in the mornings. In addition to this, Arriva bus 280 was re-routed along Woodways in September 2010 which adds to morning congestion.

When the Travel Group was first formed the need for a pedestrian crossing on Woodways was identified. From 2011 Emma Lister, a school parent, led a strong campaign for a zebra crossing, with support from all three village schools, HCT, HaddSWAC, the Parish Council (HPC) and local MP John Bercow. 2015 saw successful lobbying of HPC to apply for funding for the crossing and a grant was awarded from AVDC New Homes Bonus. Following continued lobbying by Emma Lister and the Junior School Travel Group, working closely with HPC, the zebra crossing was finally built in July 2016.

**We provide a safe, stimulating and successful environment
to enable all children to develop their full potential
to prepare them for the next stage of their lives.**

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The work carried out by the Junior School to get the zebra crossing, plus the large number of partnerships the Travel Group has forged, was recognised in a Modeshift Stars East & South East Region Award for Effective Partnerships in October 2016. One positive effect of this award was a further award of a scooter pod to provide extra scooter storage.

We have just heard (Jan 2017) that Bucks CC has set up an inquiry into the use of cars to get children to and from schools in Bucks and how schools and communities can affect behaviour change to encourage people to adopt more sustainable travel options and reduce car use for the school journey. The Junior School STP of last year has been chosen as part of the evidence of good practice for the inquiry.

The present Travel group is a small group of parents and governors led by Co-ordinator Angela Matthews. We try to provide fun activities for the children to encourage, where possible, walking, scooting and cycling to school. If you would like to join the group please contact Angela Matthews via the school.

Our Travel Plan

The aims of our School Travel Programme are to:

1. Significantly reduce the number of car trips on journeys to and from school.
2. Remove the barriers, both perceived and actual, to walking, cycling and using public transport for school journeys
3. Increase the number of young people and adults choosing 'active travel' options over that of the car
4. Increase understanding in our school community of the travel options that are available
5. Provide information for all involved with HCJS to understand the benefits of active, sustainable transport
6. To provide fun activities for the children to encourage sustainable travel to school.



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