



Active Travel Policy

At Damers First School we encourage pupils and parents to travel to school by cycling, scooting and walking (active travel) wherever possible. We work with Sustrans, a UK charity, to make sustainable and active travel easier for children, parents and staff.

This school travel policy explains how we will encourage active travel to and from school. We will discuss the policy with the pupils and re-visit it periodically to ensure its relevance. For pupils unable to travel to school actively, we encourage use of public transport, car-share or parking a distance away from school so you drive for some of the journey, then walk at least a few minutes for the remainder.

We want to work with our community and welcome your feedback to share what has worked well and offer suggestions or support for future plans. If you have any ideas to improve things in or around school (or have questions about travelling to school), please get in touch with class teacher Lydia Baker or our Sustrans Schools officer, Charlotte Sullivan (Charlotte.Sullivan@sustrans.org.uk).

Some of the benefits of active travel include:

- Improving mental and physical health through physical activity
- Establishing positive active travel behaviour
- Promoting independence and improving safety awareness
- Reducing congestion, noise and pollution around the school and in the community ultimately helping to make the streets safer
- Reducing environmental impact of the journey to school

To encourage pupils to cycle or scooter to school frequently the school will:

- Actively promote cycling, scooting and walking as a positive way to travel
- Celebrate the achievements of those who cycle, scoot and walk to school
- Provide cycle and scooter storage on the school site
- Provide high quality cycle training to all* pupils who wish to participate (*age restrictions apply)

To make cycling and scooting to and from school a positive experience for everybody, we expect our pupils, parents and staff to:

- Ride sensibly and safely and to follow the Highway Code
- Check that their bicycle or scooter is roadworthy and regularly maintained
- Behave in a manner which shows them and the school in the best possible light and to consider the needs of others when cycling or scooting
- Consider wearing a cycle helmet
- Ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate

For the wellbeing of our pupils, we expect parents and carers to:

- Encourage their child to walk, cycle or scooter to school whenever possible
- Encourage their child to take up opportunities to develop their competence and confidence in cycling or scooting
- Consider cycling or scooting with their child on the school run; possibly joining with other families as a 'cycle train'
- Provide their child with equipment such as high-visibility clothing, lights, a lock and cycle helmet as appropriate
- Ensure that the bicycles and scooters ridden to school are roadworthy and regularly maintained

Please note: The decision as to whether a child is competent to cycle, scooter or walk safely to and from school rests with the parent(s)/carer(s). The school has no liability for any consequences of that decision.

This policy covers the journey to and from school where the school has no responsibility or liability. When walking, scooting and cycling activities are being led by the school there may be additional rules and guidance concerning equipment such as use of helmets, high visibility clothing, etc.

Parents are advised that the school's insurance does not cover any loss or damage to pupils' bicycles and scooters (or other accompanying equipment) left on the premises.

Date effective	June 2022	Approval	Finance / Environment Committee
Maintenance	SLT	Role/responsibility	Tony Misun - Class Teacher
Date of next review	June 2025	Date of last update	June 2022