



# **Balfour Primary School**

## **Travel Action Plan**

### **2022-23**

Our School Travel Plan is designed to support all members of the Balfour Primary School community in choosing 'active travel' instead of car journeys. We hope that this plan will provide families and staff with information that will allow our community to appreciate the benefits of active, sustainable transport.

By promoting sustainable and safer travel for our whole school community, we hope to achieve:

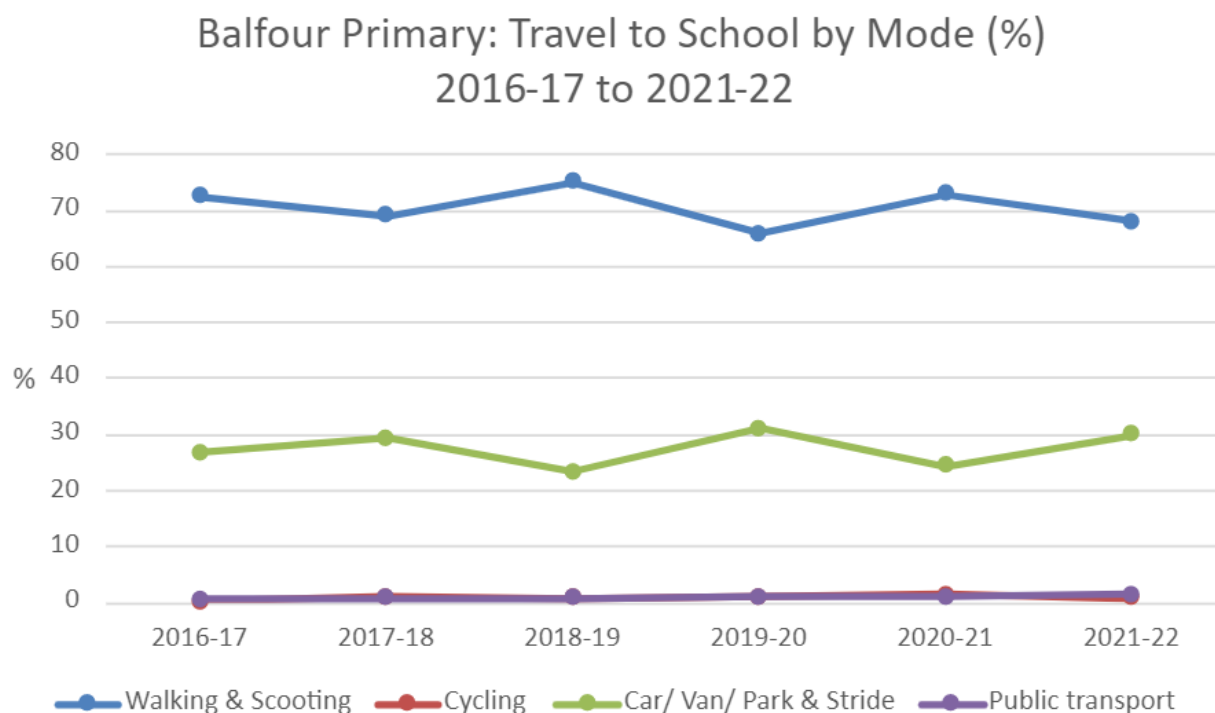
- ✓ Less cars, traffic congestion and illegal parking on Balfour Road and other roads around the school
- ✓ Healthier, happier and more active pupils, families and staff
- ✓ Less pollution around our school
- ✓ Increased walking, scooting and cycling to school.
- ✓ An increasingly healthy and positive learning community



## How we currently travel

The graph and chart below show a summary of the ways children travelled to the Balfour Primary School from 2016-2022.

Mode of Travel %	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Walking & Scooting	72.4	69.1	75.1	65.9	73	67.9
Cycling	0.2	0.9	0.7	1.0	1.4	0.8
Car	26.8	29.3	23.4	31.0	24.5	29.9
Public transport	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.1	1.4



Our results show that the number of pupils walking or scooting to school at Balfour in 2021-22 has dropped by 5% compared with 2020-21. Our aim is to promote walking/scooting to school in order to increase this figure to 70-75%, reducing the number of families travelling



to school by car to 25-20%. We hope that by implementing the School Street, families will feel that it is safer and healthier for their children to walk/scoot to school.

## School Context

Balfour Primary school is much larger than average, with four forms of entry in each year group from Year 2 to Year 6 and three forms of entry in Reception and Year 1. We also have a Nursery onsite. It is based on two sites which are adjacent to each other.

The school is situated in a popular residential area in Brighton. There are 708 children in a total of 26 classes. The school is part of a four- school green field campus shared with two secondary schools, a special and a sixth form college.

The school can be accessed by car (staff only) through one main entrance which is also used by pedestrian traffic. It is also accessible on foot, by steep steps on the western edge of the school. This entrance is gated and will only allow a small number of pedestrians at a time, to walk through. There are approximately 110 staff, which includes teaching staff, support staff, the catering, MDSA, administration and premises teams. The staff car park on the Key Stage 1 site has space for approximately 6 cars, with a designated disabled parking bay, whilst the staff car park on the key stage 2 site has space for 10 cars in addition to a designated disabled parking bay.

The school has been carefully adapted to cater for the needs of pupils who are wheelchair users, although currently there are none on roll. Key members of staff have up to date training in using the EVAC chair to ensure that pupils with mobility issues can be safely and quickly evacuated in case of fire.

There are designated cycle and scooter shelters on each site.



## Issues with cars around our school

### CURRENT ISSUES AND PROBLEMS

The main entrances to the school are via Balfour Road, a residential road populated in the main by families with children. The vast majority of parents and carers park carefully and considerately around the school and, in doing so, help safeguard our relationship with local residents. Unfortunately, a few anti-social drivers, who do not consider the whole community, continue to park illegally on yellow lines and in front of driveways. We receive many complaints from neighbours about parked cars, unsafe driving and cars pulling up anywhere along the road to 'drop off' their children. There has been no crossing patrol officer on Balfour Road since 2016 and it has proved extremely challenging for the school to generate interest in this position despite regular advertisements on our newsletters and on our school website. We encourage parents/carers to report unsafe or antisocial parking to [Operation Crackdown](#).

Our second entrance, walking up from Loder Road on the south/west side of the school requires our children and parents to walk through a congested road entrance to one of our secondary schools, along a muddy pathway and up a steep set of steps difficult for parents with young toddlers and/or buggies to negotiate. This is also extremely hazardous for any pedestrians on days when there is rain, frost, ice or snow.

Unaccompanied children crossing Surrenden Road on the way to/from school, are endangered because of the speed and volume of traffic on this road. Adult guidance is needed to negotiate this busy road.

Not enough families/children choose to cross the school campus from their homes as this route, during a large part of the year is muddy. During the winter months this gate is closed due to the condition of the field. Purpose built pathways through this area would encourage more families to take this short route rather than opt to travel the short distance by car, thus adding to the congestion in surrounding streets.

The key stage 1 playground does provide some shelter for parents during inclement weather.

The key stage 2 playground now has a covered shelter where parents and pupils can stand during inclement weather but this is not large enough to enable all families to use it.

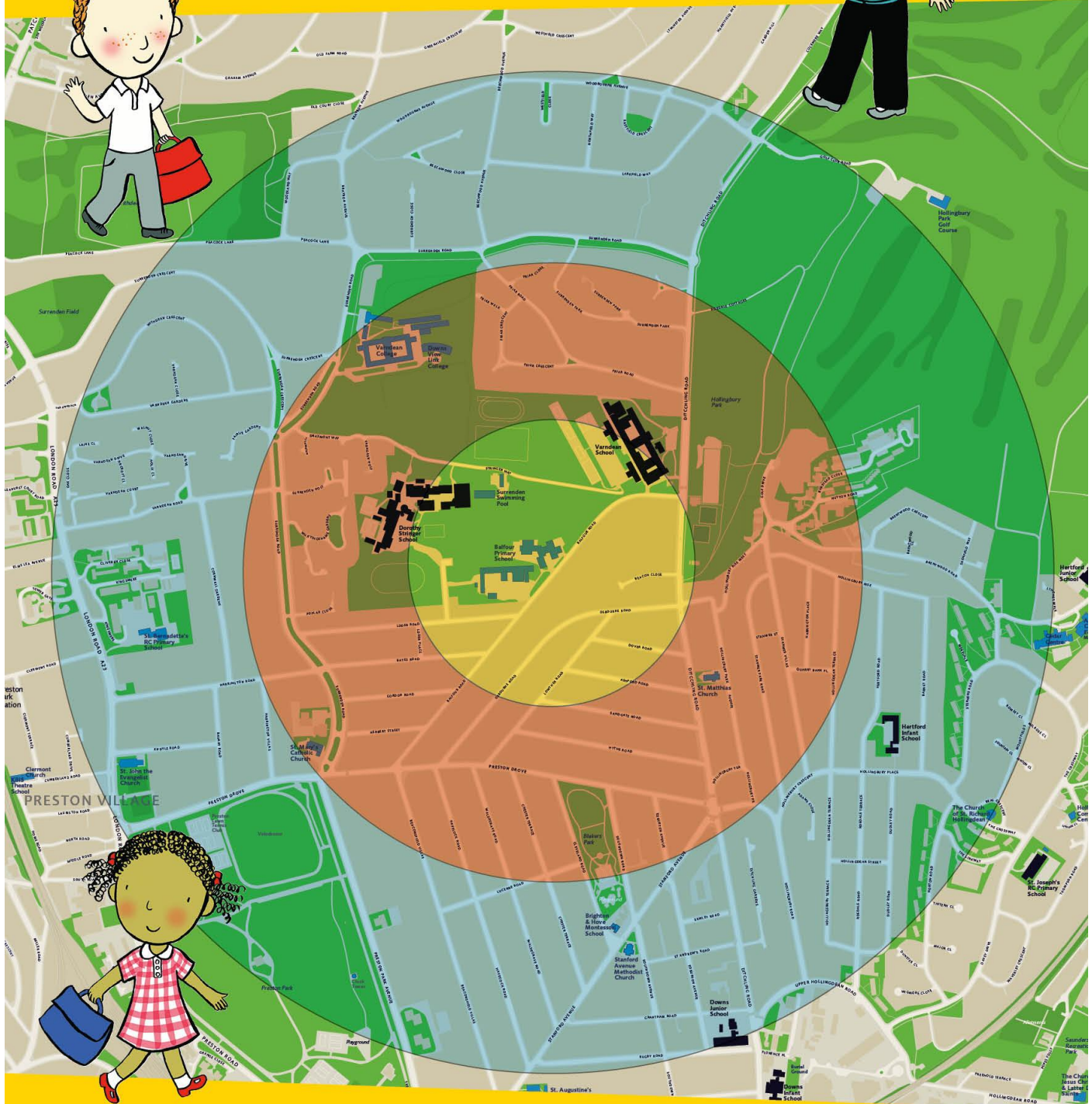






# Walking Zones Map

## Balfour Primary School



### Key

- 5 mins zone
- 10 mins zone
- 15 mins zone

### Scale

1/4 mile

1/2 mile



Brighton & Hove  
City Council

## What we have done:

1. Ongoing promotion of walking to school (assemblies, participation in Walk to School week in May and the school's participation in the LA 'Our City, Our World' project which involves a specific focus on 'Transport' and 'Sustainable Travel' in the spring term including, Steps Challenge, Buying Locally, Learning to Ride a Bike (Bikeability in Y5) and Car Sharing.)



2. Members of the SLT are on duty each day to greet families and children at drop off and pick up. They encourage concerned parents/residents to contact [Operation Crackdown](#) if they are concerned about an individual's parking behaviours.
3. Request frequent unannounced visits from the traffic wardens during drop off and pick up times.
4. Ensuring that the newsletter includes a regular section on Health and Safety to encourage families to drive and park safely and considerately around the school to ensure the safety of our children.
5. Scooter and Bikeability training (when possible).
6. Road safety assemblies from the LA.
7. An opinion poll by the School's Eco MPs to canvas thoughts on walking to school. The majority of children liked the 'idea' of walking to school but cited parents as the reason for not doing so. (Green Flag Award with Distinction 2022).
8. Staff car share system implemented to reduce the number of cars parking on the site and on the roads surrounding the school. Staff complete a survey each year including those new to the school stating where they live, how they travel to school, whether they require a parking space and would be willing to car share. The School





Business Manager processes this information and then makes every effort to facilitate this.

9. The 'How to travel to school?' booklet has been published on the school website and hard copies distributed to parents/carers of the new reception classes in September 2021.
10. The school have commenced the consultation process to become a School Street in 2023-24. There will be no access from Ditchling Road to Bates Road, along with Loder Road at drop off/pick up times. However, there will be access to residents, school staff, blue badge holders and emergency service vehicles that need to access the site. We hope that the implementation of the School Street will support our work in keeping our pupils, their families and our staff safe.
11. The school are part of the LA 'Our City, Our World,' project which commenced in April 2022 and aims to put climate change and sustainability at the heart of school development and the curriculum. This will further support our work on safer travel to school and encourage more families and children to walk, scoot or cycle to school.





## Travel Action Plan 2022-23

The Travel Plan is the shared responsibility of a number of staff including Dawn Loader (Deputy Head teacher), Kate Lewis (Pupil Parliament Lead), and Alexandra Witt (Eco Council Lead)

<b>Objective 1: Develop, publicise and review our School Travel Plan</b> <b>Target: The whole school community is aware of the school travel plan and supports its aims and objectives</b>			
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Person responsible in the school</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Monitoring</b>
Take part in the BHCC annual 'Hands up' travel surveys for pupils	Support from School Travel Team	March 2023	DL to ensure that the survey is carried out and analyse and publish the results.
Conduct an annual survey of staff mode of travel	DL/KL/AW Eco MPs to organise	Autumn Term	Results to be used to update the Travel Plan
Form a school travel working group and hold regular meetings Conduct survey of children's opinions	Eco MPs role  Eco MPs	Autumn Term Excellent.  LA Stephen Kelly to support with this.	Pupil Parliament agendas and minutes published on the school website.
Include school travel in agenda for governors' meetings  Travel Plan to be approved by governors	SD	Autumn Term 2022	Agenda and minutes from FGB
Publicise the School Travel Plan on website and/or an active travel board	DL	Autumn Term 2022	Visitors to the website can access the Travel Plan and accompanying documentation.
Review the travel plan every year and send to BHCC.	School Travel Team will comment on annual reviews	Summer Term 2023	Termly review to check progress against targets.
Review the action plan termly	DL/KL/AW	Spring Term 2023	Review and action objectives
Distribute "How Do you Travel to School" booklet	School to send out to pupils once received from School Travel Team	New parents September 2023	PDF version on website and hard copies distributed to new parents/carers of reception.





<b>Objective 2: Encourage more pupils and their families as well as staff to travel actively, in particular to walk to school.</b> <b>Target: Increase the number of children/staff walking to school by 7% to 75%</b>			
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Person responsible in the school</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Monitoring</b>
Take part in Walk to School Week in May	Resources from School Travel Team	May 2023	DL to ensure that the school signs up for these activities and that the events are published through the school newsletter and messaging service (Weduc)
Half termly-class/team-based competition. Reward extra playtime.	Lucy Dance to lead assemblies to support pupils walking/scooting/cycling to school.	January 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2023	
Assemblies delivered on Sustainable Travel/link with Climate Change for children in KS2	LA Stephen Kelly to plan content and deliver	November 2022	DL: to coordinate Stephen Kelly to plan and deliver assemblies.
Purchase balance bikes for EYFS to encourage early cycling skills.	DL and Lucy Dance	December 2022	DL
Take part in Child Pedestrian training	Contact BHCC Child Pedestrian Training Team for availability	Spring 2023	DL to coordinate
Promote the 5 ways to happiness using the 'SMILE' (promoting health and well-being) resources	Request resources from School Travel Team LA Stephen Kelly to update on the availability of resources in the New Year.	Spring 2023	DL to use in weekly assemblies with KS1 and KS2.
Explore use of transition to next school resources for older pupils	Contact School Travel Team	June 2023	DL to contact the School Travel Team to view resources before sharing with the Y6 Team.

<b>Objective 3: Encourage more pupils and their families as well as staff to cycle and scoot to school (explore any barriers relating to cost for PP children)</b> <b>Target: Increase the number of children/staff cycling to school by 5% once Balfour becomes a School Street.</b>			
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Person responsible in the school</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Monitoring</b>
Take part in Bikeability cycle training, Bikeability Plus, Bikeability balance	Contact BHCC Bikeability Team	Summer 2023	DL to coordinate



	Liaised with Emily Tester in Oct 22 to look at dates etc.		
Take part in Scooter training for year 2s	Contact Bikeability Team  This service is currently being reviewed and is not being offered at present.	Summer 2023	DL to coordinate



<b>Objective 4: Promote safe and legal parking outside the school, whilst awaiting the School Street implementation.</b> <b>Target: All cars parked legally at drop off and pick up times - no parking across driveways, on double yellow lines or school zig-zags</b>			
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Person responsible in the school</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Monitoring</b>
Request Civil Enforcement Officer. Report anti-social parking to 'Operation Crackdown' (Sussex Police)	Request for enforcement to BHCC, Parking Team	As often as possible on rota.	Enforcement Officers to monitor and record dates when they visit Balfour?
Promote considerate parking using BHCC resources/own resources	Request resources from School Travel Team	Commitment to display banners outside the school fence.  Autumn Term 2022	Check that banners with key messages around considerate and safe parking are displayed on the perimeter fences.
Promote Park and Stride (using a walking map)	Advice from BHCC School Travel Team	Spring 2023	AW/Eco MPs.
Run a campaign led by school travel ambassadors	Advice and resources from BHCC School Travel Team	Spring Term 2023	AW/Eco MPs.
Design personalised parking resources such as banners	Advice from School Travel Team	Homework activity for children in the Spring Term 2023	A selection of posters designed by the children to be displayed around/on the perimeter fence.
Implementation of the 8 'A-boards' outside the school to discourage people from parking outside the school.	AG Headteacher, DL and BM Premises Team to coordinate.	Autumn 2 2022	A-boards to be taken out at 8.30 and put away at 3.45 each day by the admin team.

## Useful websites

### Brighton and Hove City Council

#### School travel

<https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/parking-and-travel/travel-transport-and-road-safety/school-travel>

[website being up-dated in Spring 23.](#)

[www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/parking-and-travel/travel-transport-and-road-safety/park-safe-walk-safe](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/parking-and-travel/travel-transport-and-road-safety/park-safe-walk-safe)

#### Road Safety

<http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/parking-and-travel/travel-transport-and-road-safety/road-safety>

#### Public transport and buses

[www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/publictransport](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/publictransport)

#### Bikeability cycle training

<http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/parking-and-travel/travel-transport-and-road-safety/cycle-training-children-and-young-people>

### Sustainable Travel for School

<http://www.sustrans.org.uk/what-you-can-do/children-and-families/school-run>

