



## Active Travel Policy

Written by:	Lucy Garrard and Iona Jennings – Sustainability Champions	September 2024
Approved by:	Trish Watt -Headmistress	September 2024
Governor Approval:	Professor Mark Bailey	September 2024
Next Review Date:	September 2025	

### Introduction

At Eaton Square School we encourage pupils, parents and staff to travel actively to school by walking, cycling and scooting.

This School Active Travel Policy explains how Eaton Square School encourages active travel. This policy will be discussed with all pupils, staff and governors and it will be re-visited periodically to ensure its relevance.

For pupils and staff who are unable to walk, cycle or scoot their whole journey to and from school, we encourage the use of public transport, car shares and park and stride.

What are the benefits of active travel?

- Improves mental health leading to improved attendance and academic success.
- Improves physical health, helping pupils to achieve the recommended minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity per day.
- Promotes independence and improves road safety awareness.
- Reduces congestion and noise in the community.
- Improves air quality around the school.

To ensure that as many pupils as possible are given the opportunity to realise these benefits, we each have an important role to play:

### Staff

Will encourage pupils to travel to and from school more safely and actively by:

- Promoting the benefits of active travel.
- Celebrating the achievements of those who travel actively to school, through events such as Walk To School Week.
- Raising awareness of the air quality benefits of active travel.
- Providing cycle and scooter storage on the school site.
- Ensuring the school travel plan is updated annually and that it is accredited under the TfL Travel for Life scheme.
- Working with our borough school travel and road safety officers to deliver interventions and activities that promote active, safe and responsible travel to and



from school.

### Pupils

To make active travel a positive experience for everybody concerned, we expect our pupils to:

- Behave in a sensible, safe and respectful manner and consider the needs of others when travelling.
- Use lights and high-visibility clothing where appropriate and consider wearing a cycle helmet.
- Check that their bicycle or scooter is roadworthy and well-maintained.
- Follow the rules of the road (Highway Code) when travelling.

Pupils at Eaton Square School have many opportunities to travel actively in the school week. Nursery pupils walk between school buildings and enjoy local parks and forest school opportunities daily. Pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 have an hour of indoor PE lessons a week (Year 1 and Year 2 have half an hour PE), an hour and a half at a local outdoor sports area as well as a half an hour swimming lesson each week. Pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 walk to and from the church assembly every Tuesday afternoon. Children from Year 1 to Year 6 walk to and from the school playground, which is located off site (this is a brisk 10-minute walk).

### Parents and carers

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

- Encourage their child to travel actively to school.
- Consider walking, cycling or scooting with their child.
- Encourage their child to accept opportunities to develop their competence and confidence in walking, cycling and scooting.
- Provide their child with safety equipment as appropriate, which may include high-visibility clothing, lights, cycle helmet and a lock.
- Ensure that the bicycles and scooters ridden to school are roadworthy and well-maintained.

*Parents and carers are reminded that they are responsible for the safety of their child on the journey to and from school.*

Eaton Square School would like to thank you in advance for supporting our School Active Travel Policy. If you have any ideas on how to promote or provide new opportunities for active travel, please get in touch. Additionally, we would be interested to hear your ideas of how to improve safety or air quality around Eaton Square School. Our contact details are Lucy Garrard ([l.garrard@eatonsquareschools.com](mailto:l.garrard@eatonsquareschools.com)) and Iona Jennings ([i.jennings@eatonsquareschools.com](mailto:i.jennings@eatonsquareschools.com)).