



# School Travel Policy

Person responsible: Liz Richards  
Date adopted: June 2019; reviewed  
March 2021, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022  
Date of next review: February 2023  
Governor's Signature: Michael York

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. York', written over a faint horizontal line.

## Overall

We actively encourage our students and staff to walk, scoot or cycle to school as they:

- Keep us fit and healthy.
- Help our students develop road safety skills, which will keep them safe as they travel further afield and more independently.
- Help keep our local air clean, and our streets free from congestion.
- Are life skills that everyone should be able to benefit from.

## What we do

- We use Modeshift STARS - Part of the National School Travel Awards, to update and monitor our School Travel Plan. Last year we completed Bronze Level. This year we are working towards our Silver.
- We have recently been selected for a SRTS scheme – Safer Routes to School. This funding will be used to improve the safety for our students, parents/carers and staff. Subject to consultation, we hope to reduce the speed limit around school to 20mph. Introduce double yellow lines and bollards at the entrances to school.
- We promote safe and active travel as much as possible by using our noticeboard, displays, newsletter and website at [www.queensburysch.com](http://www.queensburysch.com) or Twitter @Queensburysch (Main school) @schQueensbry (Specifically for Travel and Staying Safe in the community)
- We encourage all members of our School community to walk, cycle or travel by public transport for the journey to school. To support this, we currently provide:
  - Independent Travel Training for students, bespoke to students individual journey needs.
  - Safe Pedestrian/Road Safety Training, run throughout the whole school curriculum, especially in Life Skills.
  - Cycle parking
  - Parent/Carer covered seating area
  - Scooter parking
  - Public transport information, applications for Centro Concessionary bus passes can be found in reception along with local bus time tables.

We are currently providing cycle training with Bikeability. This term we will be having bike maintenance and Level 1 courses.

- Local school trips are made by public transport where possible, or on foot if the destination is close by. This encourages the students to put their classroom learning into practice.

- We let all new students and their parents/carers know that we promote healthy and sustainable travel to school before their child starts at our school. This is facilitated during coffee mornings, open events and meetings before their child begins with us.

### Independent Travel Training

Queensbury School's Policy and Aim is to support our students in becoming independent when they leave school or before, depending on their individual needs. School has a very strong Independent Travel Training Programme; we aim to develop independent skills suitable to each and every student in Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. We offer a bespoke Independent Travel Training package for those students wishing to travel to and from home to school or college. Our training consists of Individual Risk Assessments and Individual Ability Assessments to ensure the safety of the students, prior to them becoming independent travellers. These skills are vital for many of our students who seek mainstream college placements upon leaving Queensbury.

### What we ask of parents.

- Please encourage your child(ren) to walk, scoot or cycle to school whenever possible
- Ensure your child(ren) walk or ride sensibly and safely on the way to and from school
- Ensure that bicycles and scooters are roadworthy and properly maintained. If in doubt consult a qualified mechanic
- Consider providing your child(ren) with a cycle helmet
- Ensure your child(ren) can be seen by fitting lights to their bike by supplying them with high-visibility clothing
- Make sure your child(ren) has a lock for their bike or scooter and that they know how to use it
- Ensure you have appropriate insurance cover for your child(ren)'s bicycle or scooter as the school is not liable for any loss or damage to cycles or scooters on the premises or being used on the way to or from school
- If you travel by bus, can you get off the bus at least two stops early and walk the last part of the journey?
- Please note that the decision on whether a child is competent to walk, cycle or scoot to school is for the parent(s) or carer(s) to make. The school has no liability for any consequences arising from this decision.

We understand that sometimes there is no alternative to driving to school.

- Where a car must be used we ask parents with students who are safe to, to drive only part of the way, so that some of the journey can be walked or scooted



Queensbury School Main Entrance



- If you do have to drive your child and stop in the near vicinity please do so legally, safely and with respect for our neighbours and local residents. There is **no** parking on the school site.
- **It is not acceptable to park, turn around or wait on our school driveway, on the school zigzags or across residential driveways for any period of time.** At Queensbury, student safety is a high priority with this action plan being part of a package of risk assessments and health and safety across the school. As part of those safety plans we have members of staff at the school gates to ensure the safety of our students.



Queensbury School Driveway

#### What we ask of pupils

- Ask your parents if you can walk, scoot or cycle to school.
- Behave in a way that shows you and the school in the best light whether walking, scooting, cycling or using public transport.
- Ride or walk courteously, sensibly and safely on the way to and from school.
- Push bikes and scooters on school grounds.
- Check that your bike or scooter is roadworthy and properly maintained.
- We strongly advise that you provide your child(ren) with a cycle helmet.
- Make sure you can be seen by using lights in the dark or bad weather and by wearing high-visibility clothing.
- Make sure you have a lock for your bike or scooter and that you use it.

## Transport Assistance

Transport Parents /Carers are responsible for getting their child (ren) to and from school. **Travel Assist, Birmingham City Council are responsible for organising transport arrangements and not the school. You can find more information from [www.birmingham.gov.uk/school-travel](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/school-travel)**

Those who are unable to get their child (ren) to school can be considered for travel assistance through Birmingham City Council. Queensbury School, are currently provided with minibus transport. If you feel that your circumstances are exceptional, you should initially speak to school, explain your circumstances and provide evidence. School may support your request, and be willing to help you complete and submit an online Transport Referral form. The Local Authority will determine what level of assistance will be provided and notify you in writing. Should your application be declined then you have the right to appeal.