

Bike Safety Policy

At Reddish Vale High School we recognise the many positive benefits of pupils cycling to and from school. We therefore look to encourage this form of travel behaviour in as many ways as possible. We aim to encourage children to cycle and scoot to school so that it becomes the norm for travel to Reddish Vale, **creating a long lasting and durable cycling culture, quieter, safer roads and happy, healthy children.**

This policy details why / how we encourage active travel to school. We will discuss the policy with the children and periodically revisit it to ensure its relevance.

If you have any ideas of how to further increase the numbers of children coming to school by bike or scooter or suggestions of how to improve the area around school for pedestrians then please get in touch with the pastoral team.

Some of the benefits of cycling to school include:

- Improving health through physical activity
- Establishing positive active travel behaviours
- Promoting independence and improving safety awareness
- Reducing congestion, noise and pollution in the community
- Reducing the environmental impact of the journey to school

To encourage children to cycle / scoot to school we aim to:

- promote cycling as a positive way of travelling
- celebrate the achievements of those who choose to cycle to school
- provide cycle storage on the school site
- provide high quality cycle training to all children who wish to participate

To make cycling / scooting to and from school a positive experience for everybody concerned, we expect our children to:

- ride sensibly and safely and to follow the Highway Code
- take responsibility for checking that their bicycles are roadworthy and maintained regularly
- behave in a manner which shows them and the school in the best possible light
- to consider the needs of others when cycling / scooting
- consider seriously, wearing a cycle helmet
- ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using bicycle lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.

For the well-being of our children, we expect parents and carers to:

- encourage their child to take up opportunities to develop their competence and confidence in cycling;

- provide their child with the appropriate safety equipment such as high-visibility clothing, bicycle lights and cycle helmet as appropriate;
- ensure that the cycles / scooters ridden to school are roadworthy and maintained regularly.

Health and safety considerations

The decision as to whether a child is competent to cycle / scoot to and from school safely rests with the child's parents/carers and the school has no liability for any consequences of that decision. Parents are advised to take out appropriate insurance cover as the school's insurance does not cover loss or damage to bicycles / scooters.

Should pupils fail to follow the expectations of safe travel to and from school with their bicycle, they will no longer be permitted to store their bikes on the school site. Please can you take the opportunity to discuss this with your children, so that they are aware of the expectations.