

**EARLY YEARS, CHILDREN & YOUTH PANEL
25th NOVEMBER 2013**

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLANS

Introduction

A School Travel Plan (STP) is a working document developed by the school which aims, amongst other things, to:

- reduce congestion at the school gates
- encourage more sustainable forms of transport on the school journey
- promote a healthier lifestyle
- involve the whole school community on a project that can make a real difference on a personal, local, national and international level
- extra funding is available from the Department for Education and Skills for schools that have completed a school travel plan.

Background

Every school in the Bath and North East Somerset has a Travel Plan and was one of the first Local Authorities to achieve this. We also have a shift away from car use from 32.5% in 2006/7 down to 26.7% in 2009/10 throughout Bath and North East Somerset in both rural and urban areas (see Table 1 below). Comparing 2006/7 data with 2009/10 data, more children are cycling, using public transport and car sharing rather than coming by car.

Current School Initiatives

Funding to support a School Travel Plan officer was removed by government in 2010 and consequently there is no school travel plan service available to schools.

However a STP is not intended to be a separate initiative. Instead, it goes hand in hand with many other school projects to help schools become healthier, safer and more sustainable. We are keen for schools to see the linkages of a School Travel Plan with other school initiatives:

- Safe Routes to Schools: (<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/streets-and-highway-maintenance/road-safety/school-crossing-patrols/safer-routes-school>)
- Bikeability cycle training in schools: <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/streets-and-highway-maintenance/road-safety/education-training-and-publicity/cycle-training>

- Healthy Schools initiatives:
(<http://www.directorofpublichealthaward.org.uk/content/healthy-schools-certificate>)
- Go by Bike
<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/latestnews/big-boost-go-bike-project>
- Schools Active Travel Project
<http://www.bathchronicle.co.uk/Wellsway-School-hosts-launch-Councils-Active/story-18278010-detail/story.html>

An example of good practice is the work undertaken at Freshford Primary School (see Appendix A).

Other relevant projects

Bath and North East Somerset Council has been particularly successful in working with Sustrans to bid for grant funding to improve cycle facilities near schools. These projects include 2 Tunnels Greenway (£4.5m) and 5 Arches (£0.9m). The Council was the only authority in the UK to receive funding for 2 projects.

Local Sustainable Transport Fund (available until March 2016) also provides funding for projects such as the Schools Active Travel Project, school bike shelters and Claude Avenue Pedestrian/Cycle Link.

Table 1

Percentages (of all pupils for whom data has been supplied)

	car (including vans and taxis)	car share	public transport	walking	cycling	other
2006/07 data						
Aged 5-10	42.7%	2.1%	4.1%	50.2%	0.7%	0.1%
Aged 11-15	17.4%	0.7%	35.9%	36.0%	1.2%	8.8%
All Ages	32.5%	1.6%	16.9%	44.5%	0.9%	3.6%
2007/08 data						
Aged 5-10	38.3%	2.2%	3.8%	55.1%	0.6%	0.1%
Aged 11-15	19.2%	2.0%	45.8%	28.0%	1.7%	3.3%
All Ages	28.9%	2.1%	24.5%	41.7%	1.1%	1.7%
2008/09 data						
Aged 5-10	37.3%	3.0%	3.3%	55.0%	0.9%	0.5%
Aged 11-15	18.0%	2.7%	44.8%	26.5%	1.5%	6.5%
All Ages	27.2%	2.8%	25.0%	40.1%	1.2%	3.6%
2009/10 data						
Aged 5-10	35.4%	4.0%	3.3%	55.7%	1.3%	0.3%
Aged 11-15	19.1%	3.5%	41.4%	27.2%	1.9%	6.9%
All Ages	26.9%	3.7%	23.1%	40.9%	1.6%	3.7%

