



Ysgol Teithio Llesol Active Travel School

School:

Howardian Primary School

Initiative:

Encouraging pupils and parents to walk, cycle or scoot to school to ease congestion at the school gates.

Describe the problem:

- Congestion at the school gates during pick up and drop off times.
- Poor parking behaviour close to the school entrance.

Tell us about the solution:

Closure of the school gates

The main vehicle access gates to the school are closed between 08:45 and 9.15am and between 15:00 and 15:45 ensuring a safe, car-free environment for children as they arrive and leave school.

Sustainable Transport Policy

The sustainable transport policy sets out what the school will do to encourage walking, cycling and scooting for the school journey. A copy is shared with new parents at the beginning of the autumn term.

Working with Sustrans Active Journeys

Working with Sustrans we regularly hold Doctor Bike sessions, bling your/bike/scooter competitions and take part in the Big Pedal and the Big Shift. Sustrans has supported us as a school to work towards our Silver School Mark award. The award recognises our continued commitment to promoting active and sustainable travel.

Advice on Park and Stride

The school's sustainable transport policy identifies four park and stride locations between 5 and 8 minutes' walk away from the school. This information is shared with parents at the beginning of every term.

Scooter Training

Working with Cardiff Council's Road Safety team scooter training has been delivered to all pupils at the school. Scooting has been so popular at the school, Cardiff Council are now assisting with the provision of scooter parking to meet demand.

Cost (if any):

N/A

Benefits:

Pupils

The pupils are very proud of the initiative - this was highlighted in our recent Estyn inspection! Our Active Journeys Crew enjoy delivering assemblies to raise awareness and promote events. Encouraging active travel has benefits for the health and wellbeing of our pupils and increases their independence. The pupils also have increased road safety awareness. Regular scooter training and cycle training has been very beneficial for our pupils' confidence.

School

Positive relationship building and additional opportunities have followed. The school is currently working with the Council's Active Travel and Road Safety Team. The Active Travel Team are helping us to develop a plan of action for the next 12 months and helping us to engage parents. The Road Safety team are also working with us to plan a cycle training session for staff.

Parents

Our parents are very supportive of the initiative. We have a great response when taking part in events such as the Big Pedal and the Big Shift. Sharing Park and Stride advice with the parents has been beneficial.

If another school is interested in following your experience, what would you recommend as the next step?

Contact Cardiff Council's Active Travel Team – they have been so helpful and have provided lots of different opportunities for our pupils.