



# GUILDFORD HIGH SCHOOL

## GUILDFORD HIGH SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN

### Introduction

Many Surrey schools struggle with congestion at their gates, giving rise to concerns about the health and safety of pupils, parents, staff and local residents.

There is now greater awareness of the effects of air pollution and sedentary lifestyles on our health.

As a school, we focus on developing healthy, lifelong habits through the curriculum and our Aspire programme.

Having a Travel Plan allows us to address specific issues.

This document identifies the journeys made to and from school and looks for ways in which these can be made safer and more sustainable for pupils, parents and teachers.

### Aims:

- to reduce congestion at the school gates and the volume of traffic on the school run
- to improve road safety on the school journey
- to encourage active, healthy and environmentally friendly travel choices

We are using the Modeshift S'TARS (Sustainable Travel Accreditation and Recognition for Schools) which is an accreditation system which enables schools to produce their travel plans to a nationally recognised standard.

There are three levels of accreditation:

- Bronze: for schools that promote sustainable transport by conducting an annual survey, identifying travel issues and solutions and delivering a range of travel initiatives
- Silver: for schools that reduce car use on the journey to/from school and deliver above and beyond what is normally expected of a school
- Gold: for schools that have achieved a significant reduction in car use on the journey to school by fully embracing sustainable travel throughout the entire school community.

Our travel plan involves the whole school community, with strong backing from Headmistress, Mrs Fiona Boulton, and the SMT and our Local Governing Body.

## **Travel Plan Co-ordinator and Working Group**

The GHS travel plan coordinator is Mrs Sharon Howitt. She is responsible for the development and the day-to-day management of the school travel plan, including organising travel surveys, ensuring the travel measures are implemented and reviewing the school travel plan.

The GHS Travel Plan Working Group includes people who are passionate about walking, improving health and fitness or environmental issues. The Working Group meets twice annually, in May and October and they report annually to the LGB in October.

## **Travel surveys**

Travel Surveys are an important part of our school's Travel Plan because the figures gathered here are monitored over the life of the Travel Plan.

- Pupil surveys are undertaken by teachers in the classroom in the Junior School (with supporting survey data from home)
- Pupil surveys are undertaken online by pupils in the Senior School
- Staff surveys are undertaken online.

The Travel Plan Coordinator and pupils analyse the results of the Travel Survey, make comparisons with previous data and set appropriate targets under the heading 'Actions'.

## **Issues**

One travel related issue we want to focus on is traffic congestion. A second issue we wish to address is that of safety for pupils accessing school.

## **Objectives**

We aim to increase 'Park and Stride' by 25%.

We aim to encourage pupils to make informed, safe, healthy sustainable choices about their journeys to and from school.

## **Actions**

- Sustainable, active travel is promoted, through assemblies and within syllabuses.
- The school's aim to increase the take up of sustainable travel is published in the school prospectus and welcome pack.
- Initiatives for getting pupils, parents, students and staff to walk, scoot, catch the bus/train or share lifts to school are being launched. Eg We are encouraging alternative modes of transport for pupils, parents and staff through 'Walk & Wildlife Challenge' days and Active Travel breakfasts.
- Cycle parking security is increasing on site.
- We are making and publishing a 'Pindar Map', showing walking times to school, drop off zones, park and stride options and key routes.
- We are relaunching our Train Buddy Scheme for Year 7 pupils.

- Pupils are encouraged to 'Park and Stride' where driving cannot be avoided, to ease congestion around the school and build in exercise.
- The Green Team are carrying out the STARS routes to school audit.
- Pupils are analysing Travel Survey data showing change in transport choices and preferred modes of transport over time.
- We have launched an Anti-Idling Campaign to encourage cleaner air.
- Regular reminders about considerate parking and pupil drop offs to be included in the newsletter.
- Advice on sustainable travel initiatives are sent in the school newsletter.
- The travel plan is published on the school website.
- Any traffic complaints or concerns are recorded in school in the Complaints and Concerns Log.
- The local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) and GBC (the STT) can be contacted on 03456 009 009 (8am-6pm weekdays) ) will be contacted for advice when required.