



Worthing High School  
South Farm Road, Worthing.  
Travel Plan

Update June 2018

This document seeks to provide an executive overview of the work and progress to date of the Worthing High School Travel Plan; it is not intended to repeat here the whole of the original document first published in 2008. Therefore any references to the various sections of the original document will only be made where significant change has occurred to ensure accuracy or clarity of detail.

## **Executive Summary:**

Worthing High School was a Travel Mark level 2 school, we are currently working towards Bronze level on the new WSCC **Modeshift Stars** scheme.

Follow this link for details of the scheme:

<https://modeshiftstars.org/>

In 2017 85% of our pupils used sustainable transport means of transport to school including walking, cycling, child scooter, public transport, park and striding or car sharing. This fell slightly to 84% in June 2018.

### **Our Journey so far...**

The school's travel plan was originally researched and developed in 2007 and then published in 2008, a copy of the master travel plan document is available on the school website.

Many of the key characteristics of the school in 2008 remain the same today, in that the school is surrounded by a grid pattern of suburban residential roads. The main entrance to the school, for vehicles and pupils, is situated in South Farm Road, which itself is a key rush hour route through the town. Additional foot access for pupils is available in St Lawrence's Avenue, which helps to spread the footfall of pupils at the start and end of the school day.

The school has a pupil admission number of 1000 and at May 2018 had 960 pupils and 120 staff on roll. Pupils attend the school from across the Worthing borough area, although the majority of pupils do live within the eastern and central areas of Worthing.

The geography of the school's catchment area and the road, footway and cycle way infrastructure around the school does mean that there is often pressure on parents or guardians to use their cars and drive pupils to the school, inclement weather only increases this pressure further.

Fortunately, over the period of the Travel Plan education and peer group pressure from within the pupils has resulted in an increasing number of pupils walking to the school and others who use a car shortening their journey by 'parking short and striding' from locations further away from the school.

Worthing High School are fortunate in their Travel Plan activities to be strongly supported by the pupils, school staff, school governors and other local interested residents.

Since 2008 considerable work and improvements to the local road and footpath network has been achieved. Below are just a few examples of the outcomes that have been achieved since 2008, in full partnership West Sussex County Council, Worthing Borough Council the school staff and

school community that are linked to our Travel Plan and our aim to become a more sustainable school:

- ‘School signs’ erected north and south bound on South Farm Road prior to the school.
- Re-marking of the zigzag lines etc outside the school entrance (2012-13)
- Provision of Pedestrian controlled crossing point (2007)
- Extensive provision of cycle racks and scooter racks at the school for over 200 pupils (2004)
- Staff cycle to work day
- Key members of the EYE project – including committee membership
- Promoted the ‘20’s plenty’ campaign
- Take part in the “Free Your Feet” walk to school week
- Creating an active Eco Committee that has visions of all our students travelling to school sustainably.
- Communication with parents regarding safe parking during congested times.
- Staff on duty on the entrance of South Farm Road and St. Lawrence Avenue when the students are arriving to and leaving school.
- Issuing a transition guide from Sussex Safer Roads Partnership designed to promote the development of independent travel skills.
- Enforcement of a cycle permit to allow students to cycle to school in a safe and responsible manner.

The success of the school’s travel plan is well documented and recognised by the school being accredited the level two Travel Mark award in 2008. As requirement from WSCC the school is now registered with Modeshift Stars, ‘a national schools awards scheme that has been established to recognise schools that have demonstrated excellence in supporting cycling, walking and other forms of sustainable travel’ (Modeshift Stars, 2016). In a change to previous years the travel plan will now be presented as an overview section followed by the PDF output from the active travel plan.

## **What for the Future?**

We have still been unable to appoint a crossing patrol person for St Lawrence Avenue which means our students may not always have a safe place to cross the road. This issue has been logged on the Modeshit Stars action plan and will be discussed further with WSCC and the Highways Agency. The current hope is to ask for a permanent pedestrian crossing to be installed. We have recently received provisional approval for flashing school signs to be installed north and south of the school on South Farm Road and one on St Lawrence Avenue. This will happen in the 2019-2020 year.

There are issues with cars parking on South Farm Road and St Lawrence Avenue in the sections just outside of the zig zag lines. This parking can prevent our students from being able to see clearly when leaving by bike or trying to cross the road. These issues have also been logged on Modeshift Stars as a school concern and hopefully the problems will be rectified by extending the zig zag lines.

We are continuing to inform and encourage our pupils and their parents or guardians in the value of walking, cycling, park and stride, car sharing or using some other form of sustainable transport for their journeys to and from school.

Where a car must be used we will always encourage parents or guardians to park/drop-off that little bit further away from the school and walk the last part of the journey to minimise the number of cars the roads immediately surrounding the school, thus maximising the safety of our pupils and other pedestrians outside the school entrance and minimising the impact on our neighbours.

The school participates in the 'Free your Feet' Challenge, providing students with an opportunity and incentive to increase the amount of time they spend walking to school. The majority of students get involved in the Challenge, completing a record of the length of time they have walked to and from school each day.

All new parents to the school are provided with information in our intake packs on sustainable transport methods.

In addition the benefits of sustainable travel are covered in curriculum time both from an environmental perspective and also relating to personal health. The benefits of an active lifestyle are also discussed during tutor and assembly time. Currently the Geography curriculum covers issues ranging from environmental impact of transport to congestion and its associated impacts.

We will continue to use assemblies and form tutor time to promote targeted activities when relevant i.e. Free your Feet Challenge and the Biannual Charity Walk event.

We are planning to hold an annual cycle to school week, where we are hoping to work in association with a local cycle store or charity to undertake free safety checks on student cycles to encourage participation. The safety of our students is paramount so all students are required to apply for a cycle to school permit and to agree to wearing a cycle helmet.

Our Eco Club runs on a Tuesday lunchtime. The group consists of 15 very keen and dedicated students who are passionate about improving the environment around the school and wider community. Together we are seeking to explore new ideas and initiatives that will ensure the journey our pupils take to and from school continues to be via sustainable means.

We have recently undertaken a Living Streets Audit of the roads and pavements around our school. The report will highlight areas for us to focus on over the next academic year and will provide valuable evidence to present to WSCC and the Highways Agency in support of our infrastructure requests.

***Anna Gannaway***

Geography Teacher/Eco Lead

***Mark Bideleux***

Governor

## **Forward**

Worthing High School, with pupils aged 11 to 16 years is very well placed to teach our students about the importance of sustainable travel, and to help influence their behaviours well in to their later lives. The more we can encourage them to use sustainable transport methods now, the more they are likely to continue to do so in the future, and enjoy a healthier life style.

Since 2008 our Travel Plan has been a key part of the school ethos and continues to develop in line with the school curriculum.

We understand there are times when parents need to use their cars to bring their children to school. However, we would be grateful that where possible you use and encourage your children to use sustainable transport methods.

**Pan Panayiotou**

Headteacher

**Tony Cohen**

Chair of governors

*June 2018*

## **Introduction**

### School Mission Statement

#### **‘Always pursue excellence’**

At Worthing High we value our students as individuals. They come first in all of our planning and deliberations.

We have five core values: Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, Commitment and Kindness. If we can encourage all our students to live life according to these expectations then they will leave us as individuals with a clear sense of purpose. The expectations describe a school where children come to learn in an environment, which makes this pleasurable. Learning should be fun and fulfilling, we aim to make that so.

*(January 2014)*

### **General description of Worthing High School**

Eco-school award (Bronze) achieved in 2008

Eco-school awarded (Silver) achieved in 2009

Eco-school award (Green) applied for in 2012 (aiming to reapply in Summer 2018)

Modeshift Stars applying for Bronze status

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As at May 2018:

Pupil on roll	926
Teaching staff	56
Non-teaching staff	64

The school maintains 200 covered storage spaces for students’ cycles and 30 spaces for staff cycles.

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### **Plan of school site**

No new developments

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### **Physical features off-site around the school**

We still do not have a school crossing patrol operating in St. Lawrence Avenue in the morning.

Staff are allocated duties on both entrances to the school during the mornings and afternoons when pupils are coming in to school, and leaving the school.

No other significant changes

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### **Overview of movements in and out of school**

The School's core hours are Monday to Friday 8.40 – 15.15. However there are regular extra teaching sessions and extra-curricular clubs operating every afternoon and evening. In addition the school premises lettings attract public use most evenings and on Saturday and Sundays.

No other significant changes

### **Objectives**

The school Travel Plan will continue to seek to meet the various criteria set by the West Sussex Travel Plan and national guidance and best practice.

Within the school we seek to deliver this in three ways:

The objectives of our Travel Plan 'action plan' fall into broadly three categories – curriculum, environmental and 'hearts and minds'.

**Curriculum** – The geography department has developed two schemes of work to promote student awareness of the consequences of humans' actions



on the environment. In Year 7 students learn ‘Environmental Concerns’, in which they are taught the impact we are having on the environment through our use of non-renewable resources like oil and gas. In Year 9 they learn about how different Ecosystems and Biomes are affected by human activities including transport. We have also developed links with The University of Brighton who have run master classes for our students on Sustainability.

**Environmental** – by participation in the ‘Free you Feet’ challenge and biannual walk to Cissbury Ring. Also, the promotion of sustainable transport modes, especially cycling, to school by holding a cycle to school week.

**Hearts and Minds** – through our intake packs to new parents and carers, encouraging staff to be positive role models by using sustainable transport methods, utilising our School Council and Eco-Club to create pupil ‘peer group’ pressure to promote healthy means of transport. Use of regular assemblies and tutor time to cascade key messages.

### **Working group**

The membership of the working group has changed over time, but the core groups that are represented remains consistent.

Today the working group is considerably smaller in size as work has been completed or integrated into core business.

The current working group consists of:

Business Manager – Mrs Karen Hayler (chair)

Teacher of Geography – Mrs Anna Gannaway (lead officer)

Facilities and Community manager – Mr Richard Beasley

School Council members – 2 members per year group

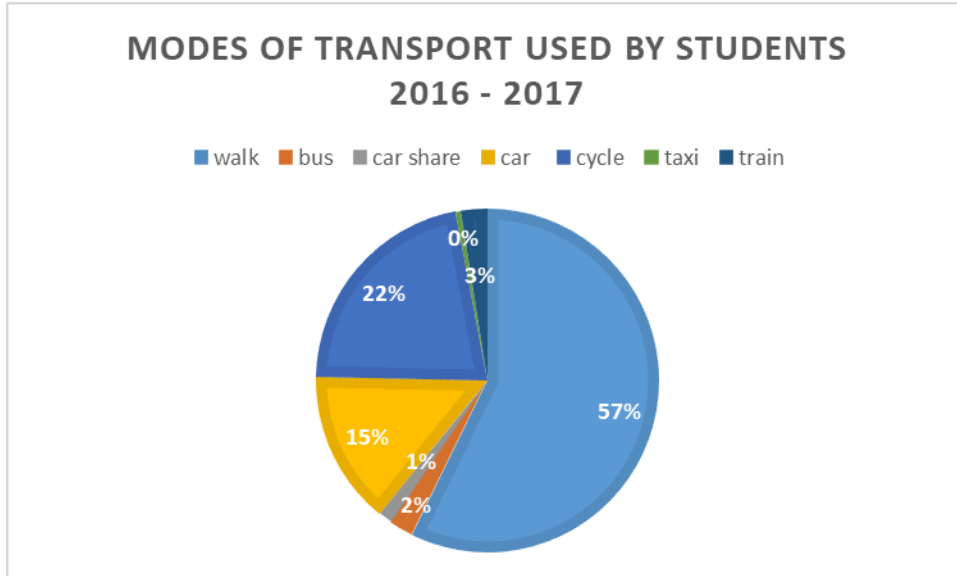
School Governor/s – Mr Mark Bideleux

ECO Club students

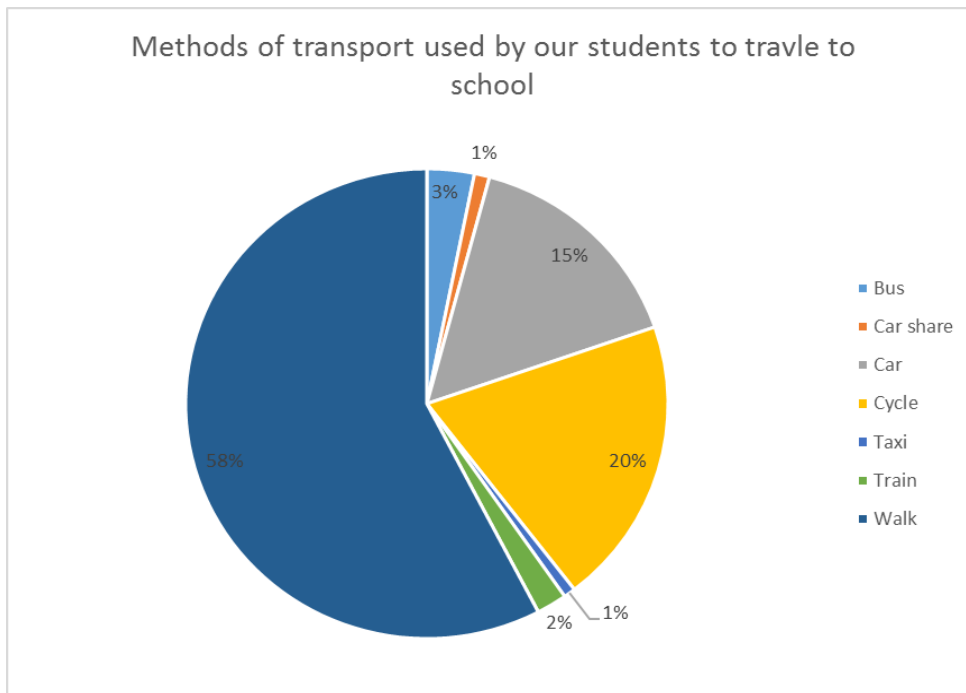
The working group aims to meet once a term to review the Travel Plan.

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Mode of transport used on journey to / from school



Our data for 2016-2017 showed another increase in the percentage of students using a sustainable mode of transport to school to 85%. Our current data for 2017-2018 shows that 84% of our students use sustainable transport methods.



However we have seen a slight increase in the number of students taking a bus to school, up from 2% to 3%.

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### Travel / Route problems

See issues recorded in the Modeshift Stars plan attached.

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### Targets

The West Sussex County Council headline target for school travel is for 80% of school pupils to be travelling by sustainable modes of transport. We have met and exceeded that target.

This can be either by walking, cycling, scooter, public transport, car sharing or by park and stride.

Objective	Action	Owner	Target date	Progress
To monitor Traffic issues around the school outside schools	Monitor school entrances in South Farm Rd & St Lawrence's Ave for issues	Facilities and Community manager	Ongoing	Staff on duty daily by both entrances
To respond to concerns raised by residents	Contact with resident and use of communication systems to parents as appropriate	AHT	Ongoing	
Maintain and seek to increase at least 85% of pupils using sustainable transport methods	Take part in National Walk to School Week or 'Free your Feet' Challenge.  Take part in International Walk to School week	Eco Lead & AHT	May  October	

	Complete the data collection requirements for the events.			
Increase number of students Cycling to 25%	Use of SIMS travel to school data June 2018: 20% cycling to school.  Hold cycle to school week with free cycle safety checks. Possible reward of Stamp Card 3 times for free breakfast.	Eco Lead  Eco Club	Jan          Oct	
Support the transitioning students to cycle to school.	Work with feeder schools as part of transition meetings to identify students who wish to cycle to school and support them to do so.	CAHT	Summer term	
Encourage students to walk to school and for leisure.	Hold a biannual sponsored walk to Cissbury Ring which raises money for a local charity.	Staff project team	Sept biannually	

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### Curriculum Links

#### Geography:

Environmental concerns – taught to year 7 and 8 including evaluation of our impact on the environment through our use of non-renewable resources. We have looked at the impact our reliance on cars is having on our planet. Students have looked at the use of renewable energy to power vehicles and machinery.

Ecosystems – taught to Year 9 including an evaluation of how human activities adversely affect the environment.

Climate Change – taught to year 10 GCSE students including a review of the impacts different industries and transport methods have on our environment.

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### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Travel Plan working group will aim to meet once a term in the year 2018-2019

The Travel Plan working group will report to the school governors annually (June 2019)

The Travel Plan working group will undertake an annual travel survey (October 2018)

The Travel Plan working group will provide feedback to WSCC School Travel Advisor (ongoing)

The Travel Plan working group will use Modeshift Stars to record, monitor and earn recognition for the schools promotion of sustainable forms of travel (ongoing)

Updated by Anna Gannaway, June 2018