School Travel Plan 2015

Warmington School
School Lane
Warmington
PE8 6TA

DfE number: 9282091
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1. **Introduction**

1.1. **School Information**

The ethos of Warmington School is to enable each individual, with his/her own needs, talents and abilities, to reach their maximum potential. It was rated good, with some outstanding elements, by OFSTED in 2013.

The school serves a mainly rural community taking pupils from the adjoining villages with a few traveling from the west and south of the City of Peterborough, Oundle and villages to the west of Oundle.

50% of children live within the village, the remainder traveling between 3.8 and 17.7 kilometres to the school.

Warmington School is part of the Unity Partnership and has a formal collaboration agreement with Titchmarsh Primary School which includes a shared executive head teacher, staff secondments, cross cover, shared resources, joint planning and unity days were the pupils from both schools join together for special projects.

1.2. **Pupil Information**

The school takes pupils from age 4 (Reception) to age 9 (year 4) and also provides early years’ service from age 3. Warmington School is open from 08.50 to 15.15 weekdays during term times.

There are 48 pupils on the school roll (January 2015) this comprises the following:

- 15 in reception
- 5 in year 1
- 14 in year 2
- 8 in year 3
- 6 in year 4

There are also 14 pupils, age 3 to 4, attending one or more of the five early years’ sessions each week.

1.3. **Wraparound Provision**

The school provides a breakfast club from 07.50 to 08.50 and an after school club from 15.15 to 17.15. There are also a number of extracurricular clubs run at lunchtimes and after school, including an ECO club, sports, dance, ICT and music clubs.
1.4. Location

Located in the northeast of Northamptonshire between the market town of Oundle and City of Peterborough, Warmington is the largest village in the Lower Nene Ward having a population of approximately 1,000.

1.5. Transport Links

Warmington is located immediately to the south of the A605, an important transport route connecting Peterborough and the A1 (M) to the Midlands via the A14 and M6.

The village is directly served by the number 24 Bus service running from Peterborough to Oundle every hour up to early afternoons.

A fast, hourly through bus service from Peterborough to Northampton and Milton Keynes, the X4, stops on the A605, approximately 650 metres from the school. There is no controlled pedestrian crossing on the A605. The nearest rail station is Peterborough, on the main east coast line, 12 miles east.

NCC provides a school bus service for children attending the secondary school in Oundle.

1.6. Existing Travel Facilities

There are uncovered cycle racks and a carpark for six cars plus space for a mini bus. The carpark is separated from the school grounds by a fence and gate which is locked during school hours.

Warmington school is within a 20 MPH zone, is served by a small lay-by on School Lane and yellow zig-zag road markings indicating no waiting or parking by the entrance on Church Street. There are no cycle ways in the village which has mainly narrow but extensive footpaths.
1.7. School Initiatives Participation

The School’s Eco Action Team is in the early stages of working towards Eco-School status, an international award programme that helps to make sustainability an integral part of school life.

The Eco Action Team conducted the formal opening of a new footpath in the village giving direct access from Stamford Lane to School Lane.

Staff and pupils are conducting a self-evaluation exercise to ensure the school meets the requirements of the EQualities Award, a national scheme designed to demonstrate their commitment to equality.

The school has also received awards for healthy eating.

1.8. Community Links

The school has extensive links with the local community and church. The school hall is used by a number of community groups during weekday evenings, including a ladies choir and a keep fit group.

2. Travel and Transport Issues

2.1. Parking

The long-term parking problems, which were also identified in the staff parents and visitors survey results, relate, in the main, to the peak traffic times of the school run and mainly occur in Church Street. These include parking:

- Within the prohibited area in front of the school gates,
- On pavements restricting access for pushchairs,
- Obstructing drivers views of the crossroad junction with School Lane, Orchard Close and Broadgate Way, and
- Obstructing the driveways of local houses.

2.2. Congestion

There is some congestion arising from the parking on Church Street during the school run. This limits the width of the road to a single track and can cause minor delays particularly for the bus service that runs through the village at the same time as the school run.

2.3. Speeding

The school is within a 20 mph zone which covers the centre of the village. Speeding vehicles have been identified as a problem by a number of respondents due to the lack of universal compliance with the speeding restrictions around the school.

2.4. Pedestrian Access

Parking along Church Street during the school run can create an obstruction to pedestrians crossing the road. There is no pavement on the opposite side of Church Street to the school.
2.5. Site Access

At present the main access to the site is from Church Street supplemented by a small side gate from School Lane. The Church Street entrance is used by the majority of people, particularly those arriving by car.

During school hours access to the building is via the locked gate on Church Street. This creates additional work for school staff and has been identified as a weak point in the school’s security although access to the building is also controlled by an electronic lock.

The NCC development plans for expanding the school includes the creation of a dedicated entrance from School Lane which will include a controlled access point, beyond the entrance lobby, which will be under the direct observation and control of the school Bursa. This will reduce or eliminate the limited visitor parking on Church Street during the school day.

2.6. Local Road Network

The village roads are all single carriageways but in some places are very narrow. On road parking reduces access in some places and can be a problem for buses and larger agricultural vehicles.

2.7. Day Time Journeys

Day time journeys by pupils include:
- Travel by coach to a local swimming pool during the summer term,
- Travel by mini bus to Titchmarsh School for the Unity Days one or two times a year, and
- Walking around the village to visit the Church, local allotments and deliver harvest festival parcels to elderly residents.

2.8. Other School Users

All staff travel to school by car, some being required, on occasion, to travel to the partner school in Titchmarsh for part of the school day or to other locations for training sessions and meetings.

There are specialist teachers, volunteers and visitors who visit the school the majority traveling by car.

2.9. Future Developments

Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) is currently undertaking a project to convert the local education system from three tier to two tier. This will mean Warmington School taking year 5 pupils from September 2015, year 6 pupils from September 2016 and will increase pupil numbers by a maximum of 30.

There are no major development zones within the village or plans for significant housing developments.
3. Travel Surveys

3.1. Introduction

Surveys of the major stakeholders were undertaken by the school during March and April 2015. Copies of the questionnaires are provided in Appendix A.

3.2. Pupil Survey

The pupil survey was conducted during a school assembly with the assistance of members of the school’s Eco Club, using the ‘Hands Up’ method.

Of the 42 pupils present;
- 9 walked to school,
- 14 travelled by car,
- 9 shared a car with another pupil,
- 1 travelled by scooter.

Pupils were then asked how they would prefer to travel to school;
- 9 would like to travel to school by bus,
- 10 would like to arrive on their scooters,
- 17 would cycle to school if it was a practical option,

The remaining did not wish to change their method of travel.

Pupils were also asked if there was anything they did not like about walking to school, none expressed any concerns.

When asked what prevented them for walking or cycling to school pupils mentioned the following;
- Two pupils stated they had limited time available so travel by car,
- One pupil said they did not feel safe cycling through the village in the mornings.

3.3. Parents Survey

All parents were sent a survey form, 25 were returned covering 29 pupils. Not all parents who returned a form completed all the questions. The results and given in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method of Travel</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Preferred</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On Foot</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both on foot and car</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car Share</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of those parents who travelled by car 12 continue on to their place of work.
Seven parents would consider using a car sharing scheme, eight would not consider a car sharing scheme, some noting the need to travel to work and take children to different schools.

The problems parents experienced when traveling to the school are given in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Number of Parents Considering it a Problem</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speed of traffic too fast</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed of traffic too slow</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too much traffic</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem crossing the road</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking problems at the school</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking problems near the school</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parents also commented on;
- vehicles parking on the yellow zig-zag zone in front of the school gates on Church Street,
- parking too close to the cross-roads creating a blind spot, and
- The lack of a safe crossing on Church Street,

Suggestions for ways to improve the situation included;
- Addition of a footpath along Church Street on the side opposite the school,
- Reduce the speed of traffic along Church Street by installing traffic calming,
- Provision of a drop-off point on Church Street or other location supervised by school staff,
- Installation of a Zebra Crossing,
- Extend the no parking area along Church Street, and
- Encourage parents to use the village hall car park and walk to school a distance of 140 metres.

3.4. **Staff Survey**

There are three full time and 13 part-time members of staff at the school. All staff were sent survey forms and ten were returned. Of these;
- Nine travel by Car,
- One walks to school,
- Two would prefer to walk to school,
- One would prefer to cycle to school,
- Two would prefer to travel by Bus.

Six members of staff said they would consider using a car sharing scheme if one suited their needs and work times.

The other comments made by staff on travel and access problems reflected those made by the parents.
3.5. Governors Survey

The governing body has 12 members with seven living in the village and walking to the school. The remaining five governors travel by car and considered car sharing or bus transport would not meet their travel requirements.

3.6. Visitors Survey

The travel survey and the survey forms were prominently displayed next to the visitors' book. Visitors were encouraged to complete a form and hand it into the school office.

Six visitor survey forms were received. Three visitors walked to school and three travelled by car. Only one car driver preferred to walk but noted the distance was too far.

There were no additional comments to those already raised by parents.

4. Objectives and Targets

4.1. Main Objectives

The main objectives of the travel plan are to reduce the number of car journeys by encouraging those who live in the village to walk to school and facilitating greater car sharing for those who travel by car from outside the village.

4.2. Travel Plan Targets

The targets for the travel plan are to,

- Reduce the percentage of parent journeys by car for those that live in the village to less than 20%, and
- Reduce the problem of parking adjacent to the school by 30%.

5. Proposed Measures

5.1. School Access

To reduce the problems identified through the travel survey by asking the local authority to consider the introduction of parking restrictions at peak times along Church Street from the school entrance to the junction with School Lane.

On completion of the expansion of the school in summer 2016 ensure all daytime visitors use the new entrance off School Lane.

5.2. Initiatives

For those who live within the village the school will organise Walk to School Weeks during the Spring and Summer terms.

For those who currently travel to school by car the school will;

- Promote a Park and Stride scheme utilising parking opportunities at the village hall and local public house,
- Encouraging car sharing by providing opportunities for people to share information on journey routes and times, and
- Publicising the need, when parking near the school, to take care not to obstruct the pavements or access for parents and neighbours.

With the school taking year five pupils in 2015/16 and year six pupils in 2016/17 it will be possible to introduce Bikeability training to encourage older pupils to cycle to school.

The School’s ECO Action Team will undertake a series of projects to encourage more sustainable forms of transport and organise a competition for the most novel form of un-powered transport to school.

Information on the travel plan and the initiatives will be included in the school’s newsletter to parents and the school website.

6. **Timetable for Implementation**

6.1. The first Walk to School Week will take place during the start of the Summer term and will be repeated in the Autumn and Spring terms.

6.2. The other initiatives in the travel plan will be implemented during the 2015/16 academic year in conjunction with new pupil intake and the redevelopment of the school.

7. **Evidence of Consultation**

7.1. In addition to the travel survey of pupils, parents, staff, visitors and governors, see Appendix A, the 32 residents living within the proximity of the school were asked for their opinions on the proposed expansion of the school and any problems they experienced with traffic and parking around the school. See Appendix B.

7.2. Residents were also given the opportunity to visit the school to see the development plans and discuss their implications on traffic and access.

7.3. A written submission was received from one neighbour pointing out the ongoing problem of parking on Church Street restricting access to their driveway.

7.4. One neighbour in School Lane visited the school to review the development plans and expressed no concerns over the change in daytime access from Church Street to School Lane.

7.5. Discussions were held with the chair of the parish council who was also provided with copies for the development plans. No issues of concern were raised.

7.6. The local police community support officer, Mr T Button, was consulted on the matter of parking on Church Street near to the crossroads with School Lane. He was supportive of the plan to seek parking restrictions on this section of road during peak times.
8. Monitoring and Review

8.1. Monitoring

There will be a multi modal approach to monitoring progress that include:

- Repeating the surveys of parents, staff, visitors and governors,
- Census counts of parking levels around the school undertaken by the Eco Action Team, and
- Census counts of the mode of transport used by parents and pupils during the morning and afternoon school run.

8.2. Review

In addition to the continuous review of the survey and census data as they are completed, the governing body will also undertake a formal review of progress as part of their annual performance review process.

9. Sign Off

9.1. The aims and objectives of the travel plan were adopted by the governing body at their meeting on 1 June 2015.

9.2. School staff have discussed the travel plan and have given their support to its aims and objectives. Where necessary these have been integrated into the planned action days and activities of the school.

9.3. The School Council has discussed the aims of the travel plan and given their support to its implementation.
10. Appendices

    A. Travel Plan Survey Questionnaires
Hands Up Travel Survey Spring 2015

Date: ____________________________________________________________________________
Class/Form Years: __________________________________________________________________

How many pupils are there in the class today? __________________________________________

In the morning, how many pupils travelled to school (for the main part of their journey)?

On Foot ☐ In a Car ☐ Shared a car ☐ Bicycle ☐ Scooter ☐ Bus ☐

Other means of travel ________________________________________________

If pupils were able to choose how they travelled to and from school, how many would
like to travel?

On Foot ☐ In a Car ☐ Shared a car ☐ Bicycle ☐ Scooter ☐ Bus ☐

Other means of travel ________________________________________________

What do the pupils not like about walking to school?

I don’t like to walk to school when it’s raining ☐ It is too far to walk ☐

There are too many cars parked around the school ☐ I have problems crossing the road
by the school ☐

Can the pupils suggest any improvements to make walking or cycling safer or more
attractive?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________
NB. The total number of answers to the second and third questions should equal the number of pupils in the class.
14 April 2015

Dear Parent

You will already be aware of Northamptonshire County Council plans to expand Warmington School to take year 5 children in September 2015 and year 6 children in September 2016. Details of the plans and the additional classroom required are available at the school should you wish to see, in detail, how the school will be expanded and the view of the building from School Lane will change. An artist’s impression of the new building is below.

Before Northamptonshire County Council can submit the planning application we need to update the travel plan for the school as this will need to accompany the planning application. On the reverse of this letter is a short questionnaire which I would be grateful if you could complete and return to the school.

The information you provide will help to inform the travel plan which will aim to promote safe and healthy journeys to school which in turn can also reduce car use and the impact of the ‘school run’ on local residents.

Thank you for your help with this survey.

Derek Thomas
Chair of Governors
Parent Travel Survey Spring 2015

How do you normally take your child to school?

- On Foot
- Car
- Car Share
- Bicycle
- Bus
- Other

If you normally take your child to school by car where do you go next?

- Return home
- Travel on to work
- Other

If appropriate how would you prefer to take your child to school?

- On Foot
- Car
- Car Share
- Bicycle
- Bus
- Other

Do you experience any of the following problems in the vicinity of the school?

- Speed of traffic is too fast
- Speed of traffic is too slow
- There is too much traffic
- Problems crossing the road by the school
- Parking problems at the school
- Parking problems near the school
- Other problems (please give details) _____________________________________________

Would you consider using a car sharing scheme?

- Yes
- No

Please give details of any particular places which you think are unsafe;

Location (Name of road) | Problem (e.g. no safe place to cross)
------------------------|--------------------------------------
A. _____________________ | ____________________________________
B. _____________________ | ____________________________________
C. _____________________ | ____________________________________

Can you suggest any improvements to make walking or cycling safer or more attractive?

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
Thank you for your time. Please return the questionnaire to the school by 20 April 2015.

Staff Travel Survey Spring 2015

How do you normally travel to school?

- On Foot
- Car
- Car Share
- Bicycle
- Bus
- Other

If appropriate how would you prefer to travel to school?

- On Foot
- Car
- Car Share
- Bicycle
- Bus
- Other

Do you experience any of the following problems in the vicinity of the school?

- Speed of traffic is too fast
- Speed of traffic is too slow
- There is too much traffic
- Problems crossing the road by the school
- Parking problems at the school
- Parking problems near the school

Other problems (please give details) _________________________________________________

Would you consider using a car sharing scheme?

- Yes
- No

Please give details of any particular places which you think are unsafe;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location (Name of road)</th>
<th>Problem (e.g. no safe place to cross)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Can you suggest any improvements to make walking or cycling safer or more attractive?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

Thank you for your time. Please return the questionnaire to the school by ____________
Visitor Travel Survey Spring 2015

How do you normally travel to school?
- On Foot
- Car
- Car Share
- Bicycle
- Bus
- Other

If appropriate how would you prefer to travel to school?
- On Foot
- Car
- Car Share
- Bicycle
- Bus
- Other

Do you experience any of the following problems in the vicinity of the school?
- Speed of traffic is too fast
- Speed of traffic is too slow
- There is too much traffic
- Problems crossing the road by the school
- Parking problems at the school
- Parking problems near the school

Other problems (please give details) ________________________________________________

Would you consider using a car sharing scheme?
- Yes
- No

Please give details of any particular places which you think are unsafe;

Location (Name of road) | Problem (e.g. no safe place to cross)
--- | ---
A. | ________________________________
B. | ________________________________
C. | ________________________________

Can you suggest any improvements to make walking or cycling safer or more attractive?

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________
Thank you for your time. Please return the questionnaire to the school by ___________
Dear Neighbour

You may already be aware of Northamptonshire County Council plans to expand Warmington School to take year 5 children in September 2015 and year 6 children in September 2016. Details of the plans and the additional classroom required are available at the school should you wish to see, in detail, how the school will be expanded and the view of the building from School Lane will change. An artist’s impression of the new building is below.

One element of the expansion project will be the provision of new pedestrian entrance to the school, off of School Lane, immediately next to the small lay-by. The overwhelming majority of children arriving and leaving the school will continue to use the main gate on Church Street with a small number using the side gate on School Lane as they do now. However, throughout the school day, 9am to 3.15pm, the few people who visit the school will use the new entrance on School lane. This will make the school far more secure and remove the need for school staff to unlock and lock the main gates to provide access to the school building.

Before Northamptonshire County Council can submit the planning application we need to update the travel plan for the school as this will accompany the planning application. If there is anything you would like us to consider in relation to access and traffic serving the school I would be delighted to hear from you. Please send any comments you may have to myself at the school.

The information you provide will help to inform the travel plan which will aim to promote safe and healthy journeys to school which in turn can also reduce car use and the impact of the ‘school run’ on local residents.

Thank you for your help.

Derek Thomas
Chair of Governors
These photographs were taken on the morning of 15 June 2015. With the exception of the coach arriving to take the pupils on a school trip, is typical of the vehicle activity during the morning school run.

Observations commenced at 08.35 when there were no vehicles parked along Church Street in the vicinity of the school and five vehicles parked in the school car park.

Ten pupils, 20% of the school roll, had arrived at the school at 08.00 to attend the breakfast club.

The main school run commenced at 08.44 and ended at 09.02. During this time 14 vehicles parked in Church Street in the vicinity of the school, four remaining after the end of the school run. 16 cars, one lorry two small vans and one bus passed along Church Street during the school run.

A coach arrived at 08.55 to pick up the pupils for a school outing and left at 09.10.

08.35 – Looking up Church Street from the cross roads towards the school entrance just beyond the house on the right.
08.35 – Looking down Church Street towards the cross roads and the school entrance.

08.37 The school entrance on Church Street.
08.37 – The school car park which has capacity for seven vehicles.

08.44 – The start of the main school
08.49 – Parking towards the cross roads is full.

08.52 – Ten cars are parked on Church Street in the vicinity of the school. This was the highest number at any time during the school run.
08.55 – The coach for the school trip arrives.

08.56 – Two people bringing pupils to the school parked on the service road on the opposite side of Church Street to the school.
08.59 – One person bringing a pupil to the school parked in School Lane. The lay-by provides off road parking for delivery vehicles to the school. The new day-time entrance to the school building available from 2016 is also located here.

09.01 – This is the time there were most vehicles (10) parked along Church Street in the vicinity of the school.
09.10 – The number 24 Bus from Oundle to Peterborough passes through the village.

09.11 – End of the school run.
09.12 – Four cars remained parked in the vicinity of the school after the school run.