Woodland Academy Trust

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Lime Wood Primary School

School Travel Plan

2023-2024

**‘To deliver a curriculum that is provided by good teachers underpinned by an effective blueprint for excellence in culture, behaviour, attainment and wellbeing – to find the champion in everyone’**

Key Facts about Our School

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CEO | Miss Navdeep Sanghara |
| Principal Designate | Miss Claire Ingrams |
| Travel Plan Co-coordinator | Mrs Lida Cunningham |
| Address | Erith Quarry  2 Sandy Road  Erith  Kent DA8 1FJ |
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| Website Address | [Lime Wood Primary School](https://www.limewoodprimaryschool.co.uk/) |
| DfE Number | 303 2070 |
| Number of Pupils on Roll | 60 – 2023 increasing by 60 each year until 2026 when the PAN will increase to 90 per year. |

STP = School Travel Plan

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1.0 Aims and Objectives of the School Travel Plan

Drawing from the experience of achieving ‘Gold’ status at all three schools within the Woodland Academy Trust, this School Travel Plan is intended to address travel and road safety issues occurring within the locality, and any exacerbation of these issues or new issues that may be caused by the development of the proposed three form entry school. It is envisaged that the school will be built in the early phases of the Erith Quarry development, opening to children in September 2023. The school will be at full capacity by September 2032.

The aims and objectives of the School Travel Plan are to encourage the Lime Wood Primary School Community to:

**1.** Be healthy and sustainable; encourage more travel to/from Lime Wood Primary School by healthier and more sustainable means, particularly by walking, cycling or scooters and less travel by car.

**2.** Be safe on the journey to and from Lime Wood Primary School; promote good road user behaviour on the routes to the school and improve road safety conditions immediately outside the school gates.

**3.** Be more aware of transport and travel issues; promote the health and environmental benefits of using sustainable forms of transport and make the School Travel Plan part of the curriculum.

This plan should be read in conjunction with the School Travel Plan prepared by the Anderson Group.

2. Why we need these aims?

Many pupils and staff travel to school by car and this causes congestion, particularly outside the school gates, but also in the wider area. This leads to an increased risk of accidents occurring and pollution.

Children who do not walk to school regularly are unlikely to have good road safety awareness or learn how to cross roads safely. They are also more dependent on their parents/carers and less likely to be fit and healthy.

If more pupils, parents, staff and visitors walk and cycle to the School; there will be benefits for the health of the school community and environment surrounding the school. Congestion, risk of accidents and pollution will be reduced.

If travel issues are more closely linked to the curriculum, children, parents and staff are more likely to make more informed and safer travel choices on the journey to/from the school. The activity occurring at the beginning and end of the school day when pupils are being brought and collected from school will be safer and better managed and will not have an adverse impact on local residents.

The Government, the Mayor of London and London Borough of Bexley have policies which seek to encourage use of sustainable forms of transport – walking, cycling and public transport – and less use of the car, to address problems caused by traffic congestion. The School Travel Plan will ensure that the policies of the school and of the Woodland Academy Trust fit with broader policy objectives.

London Borough of Bexley has embarked on a programme of expanding primary schools throughout the Borough to address increased demand for pupil places. Lime Wood Primary School is a newly developed three form primary school which will grow from 60 children per year from 2023 to 2026 at which point the pupil admission number will increase to 90 children per year. The school will reach full capacity (630 children) in 2032. Each year more pupils will attend and the school will grow and have more staff. The problems associated with travel to school and congestion outside the school gates will get worse as the school expands, unless measures are put in place to encourage the School Community to make better travel choices.

3. Location of the School



4. Description of the School

Lime Wood Primary School is a free school forming part of the Woodland Academy Trust, situated within the London Borough of Bexley. The school will cater for children aged between 3 and 11 years of age. The school is co-educational.

The school opened in September 2023 and consists of a purpose built three-form entry primary school. The entrance on Fraser Road is the main entrance for children with a drop-off/pick-up areas conveniently located near the main gate. A further four separate entrances are located south of the school and off the quieter residential street. These include a secondary entrance for Reception/Nursery pupils with direct access to their classrooms; a visitor and community entrance that leads to the school reception and office and a servicing/loading entrance that leads to the servicing yard with direct access to the kitchen. The site plan incorporates traffic free footway/cycle links. Ongoing reviews take place to ensure that any congestion issues are dealt with promptly.

In line with the Trust’s ethos we are confident that Lime Wood Primary School will be a vibrant, caring and happy place with children from many cultures. There will be 60 children on roll during the academic year 2023/24. The school will have 7 members of staff including support staff.

Many of the children will live locally, within 2 kilometres of the school, as can be seen from the postcode plan provided overleaf. Most children live in the London Borough of Bexley, but the school does accept admissions from neighbouring Boroughs in line with our admission criteria, published on the school’s website. [Lime Wood Primary School](https://www.limewoodprimaryschool.co.uk/)

The Trust has a strong sporting tradition with the schools performing well in our termly intra-Trust sports competitions, as well as in other local league competitions. As part of the Trust the children at Lime Wood Primary School are also part of these traditions.

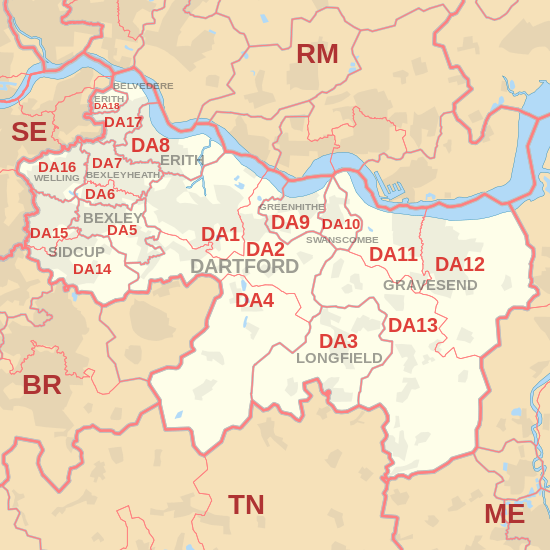
The expansion of the school will occur gradually, with an additional 60pupils joining the school each year between September 2023 and September 2026, when the PAN will increase to 90 pupils each until the school has a total of 630 pupils. Additional staff will also be employed, with on average three new members of staff for each additional class.

No change to the catchment area of the school is planned; it is expected that the majority of pupils will come from the immediate area surrounding the school, with a limited number from the wider area or outside the Borough.

On opening the school, the plan provided overleaf will show the spread of pupil home addresses in relation to the location of the school.

Postcode Plan

(Pupils, Academic Year 2023/2024)



**Lime Wood Primary School**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Postcode** | **No of Children** |
| DA8 | 44 |
| DA17 | 2 |
| DA7 | 0 |
| DA1 | 0 |

5. Ethos of the School

The aims of the Trust will influence and affect the outcomes at Lime Wood Primary School. Lime Wood Primary School is set within a diverse community which will seek to provide a happy environment where all children achieve their full potential.

***‘To deliver a curriculum that is provided by good teachers underpinned by an effective blueprint for excellence in culture, behaviour, attainment and wellbeing – to find the champion in everyone’***

For all teachers to deliver quality first teaching enabling all children to:

* be excellent learners
* be self-motivated, resilient and articulate
* to fulfil their potential

We believe children learn best when:

* learning activities are well planned, ensuring progress in the short, medium and long term
* high expectations are in place for all learners
* teaching and learning activities enthuse, engage and motivate children to learn, and foster their curiosity and enthusiasm for learning
* assessment informs teaching so that there is provision for support, repetition and extension of learning for each child, at each level of attainment from their starting points
* the learning environment is ordered, the atmosphere is purposeful, and children feel safe
* there are strong links between home and school, and the importance of parental involvement in their children’s learning is recognised, valued and developed

6. What we provide

* Covered and secured long term cycle parking spaces are provided for use by staff, pupils and visitors within the main car park and is subject to CCTV surveillance.
* The accesses to the school all feature lockable gates which will ensure a greater level of security and safety.
* The school will finance individual cycle-training sessions for up to 5 staff per year.
* The school will hold competitions in relation to the School Travel Plan.
* The school will encourage children to cycle to school and will promote ‘Bikeability’ to ensure children are safe on the roads.
* The school will have a strong environmental focus. Early Years will be frequent users of the Forest School.
* Linking exercise with general diet to maintain good health will be key and linked to use of our allotment area.
* The school will have School Travel Plan specific assemblies.
* ‘A-Z Traffic Tales’ and ‘Just A journey’ resources will be purchased for the school.
* Other curriculum work – PE will be a strong focus and will work alongside both PSHE and the Travel Plan Co-ordinator to encourage healthy, safe travellers.
* The school will be working towards accreditation for the Healthy School and Eco School awards.
* The school will be promoting the WOW scheme including the Walk to School and Walk on Wednesday initiatives.
* Looking ahead, as the school grows the school after school activities for pupils will reduce congestion as pupils attending are dismissed later than the main school.

7. Transport problems and issues

The site is a new development and as such there is no existing information regarding travel patterns specific to the site. Baseline travel surveys will be undertaken within three months of the school opening. These surveys will establish travel patterns for both staff and pupils.

The school will work with the Borough to ensure effective measures are put in place to tackle any transport problems and issues arising from these surveys.

The school will also ensure that road safety is taught to every child attending the school.

From the Travel Plan prepared by the Anderson Group we are aware that the site is within walking and cycling distance of the main residential areas of Erith and will be built within close proximity to 600 new homes.

Additionally, the site is bounded on each side by a bus corridor each providing frequent bus services within a five minute walk from the centre of the site.

As such this Travel Plan has identified a framework of initial measures to be adopted by the school which seek to capitalise on the proximity of amenities and availability of existing public transport services.

8. Results of Surveys

# Pupils

Once the school is in session the results of the pupil travel habits will be established by way of a ‘Hands Up’ survey.

Travel habits are influenced by weather and daylight conditions so during the winter months it is expected that more pupils will be brought to school by car than other times of the year. The results will be shown in the format of the example graph below. The survey template that will be distributed to each class is included in Section 13 of this School Travel Plan. This will provide evidence of consultation.

# Staff

Once the school is in session the results of the staff travel habits will be established by way of a survey.

This information will be key in ensuring this School Travel Plan caters for the school’s staff in its attempt to encourage healthy and safe travel.

Example format graph of staff travel

# Residents

Local residents were invited to a public consultation event in March 2015 to view the designs associated with the proposed development of the Erith Quarry site. The residents that attended indicated that they were not supportive of the proposals of the development and raised the following issues with regard to transport and travel:

* Concerned about parking and traffic at the school access.
* Some traffic may travel too quickly past the school, endangering children.
* Double parking and parking across driveways at school times.
* Residents do not wish to see strange cars parked outside their homes.
* Traffic on local roads and car parking.
* Parking problems at drop-off and collection times and during school events.

The results of the public consultation demonstrated that parking is of concern to residents, followed by traffic and road safety.

This feedback provides the school points of concern which will be addressed through measures put in place through the School Travel Plan.

9. Targets

Long term targets for the reduction of the number of pupils and staff travelling to/from school by private car have been identified for the period of growth between 2023 and 2032.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Baseline** | **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 4** | **Year 5** |
| Staff Car driver modal  share | 45% | 44% | 43% | 42% | 41% | 40% |
| Pupil walking  and cycling modal share | To be  identified | Baseline  +1% | Baseline  +2% | Baseline  +3% | Baseline  +4% | Baseline  +5% |

In the event that initial monitoring shows a lower staff car driver modal share than that identified within **Table 3.1** the travel plan targets will be revised to reflect this.

The Travel Plan targets will be reviewed in detail at the end of the five year period and the requirement for onward targets will be discussed with the Local Planning Authority.

10. Action Plan – Academic Year 2023/2024

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Objective** | **Target** | **Measure** | **Timescale** | **Responsibility** | **Monitoring** |
| To reduce travel by  car | To reduce the proportion of staff  driving to work by  1% each year of the five year  Travel Plan period from a  baseline of 45% | Provide site specific  information on non-car modes of travel | Ongoing from opening | Management/ TPC | Initial travel survey  (within three months of  occupation) and  within annual travel survey |
| Personalised  Travel Planning  Advice | Ongoing from  opening | TPC/Human  Resources staff | Record of offer to  new members of staff/record of take- up/feedback from staff member |
| Detailed consideration of participation in  Cycle to Work  Scheme | Within 1.5 years of opening | Management/ TPC | Within meeting minutes; |
| Provide showering and  changing facilities within the building design | During design and  construction | Developer | Shown on site plans |
| Provide a budget for cycle training | Ongoing from opening | Management/ TPC | Evidence that training has been  offered to staff;  record of take-up |
| To encourage  walking and cycling | To increase the proportion of  pupils travelling to and from school on foot, scooter  and cycle by 1%  each year from the identified  baseline | Develop a school  Travel Policy | Autumn | Management/ TPC | Details of policy to be available on  school website |
| Arrange on-site  Bikeability training | Ongoing from  Opening, likely to be more from KS2 | Teaching  staff/TPC | Evidence that  courses have taken place/take up |
| Provide covered cycle parking for pupils | During design and construction | Developer | Shown on site layout plan |
| Incorporate sustainable travel  themes into school curriculum | Ongoing | Teaching staff/TPC | Keep a record of examples |
| Take part in sustainable travel  events | Ongoing | Teaching staff/TPC | Record of events  (posters, press releases,  newsletters.  Record of level of participation and  feedback |

11. Risks to Implementation

The following risks to the implementation of the measures contained in the Action Plan 2023/2024 have been identified:

* Head Teacher/ School Travel Champion have insufficient time and resources to implement the measures.
* Reluctance amongst staff to volunteer to manage activity outside the school gates.
* Limited resources at Bexley to provide road safety and cycle proficiency training.
* Funding shortages at DfE for funding the Healthy Schools programme.

12. Monitoring and Review

Baseline surveys of pupils, parents and staff will be undertaken and reviewed on a regular basis.

* Hands up surveys of pupils each term will track progress against targets and also gauge how travel behaviour of pupils varies at different times of the year due to weather and daylight conditions.
* Annual surveys of staff and parents as part of the school’s annual consultation process will provide progress against targets.
* Monitor informal feedback from residents that is communicated to the school directly by individual residents and establish regular communication with the local residents association.

Formal resident surveys will be carried out in January 2024 to gauge whether residents have seen benefits of the measures introduced as part of the Action Plan. A further resident survey should be undertaken at the end of the time period to which this School Travel Plan relates (September 2024) during consultation for the subsequent School Travel Plan.

The School Travel Plan will be updated annually following consultation/discussion with TfL, the STAR accreditation scheme and other schools within the Trust.

Following the end of the period to which this School Travel Plan relates to a School Travel Plan review will be produced on the basis of a comprehensive consultation exercise with pupils, parents, staff and residents. The School Travel Plan review will contain targets for the remainder of the period of expansion.

This will ensure that the school is on track to meet it targets.

13. Evidence of Consultation

To be added to during 2023/2024.