

Compassion – Courage – Hope – Integrity – Justice  
Respect – Responsibility - Wisdom



**Herne Bay Junior School**

# Bicycle & Scooter Policy

**Policy Agreed: Sept 2019**

**Review Date: Sept 2021**

At Herne Bay Junior School we recognise both the environmental and health benefits of cycling/scooting to school and wish to promote safe cycling to school. Cycling gives children freedom as it provides an opportunity for independent travel. The School encourages Cycling as a safe and affordable means of getting to and from School with minimal impact on the environment. Parents are responsible for the safe transport of children to school. We strongly recommend that children who cycle to school are accompanied by an adult, until such time as the parent is confident the child has the knowledge and skills to be allowed to cycle unsupervised.

Our school promotes cycling in the following ways:

1. All pupils are encouraged to:

- undertake cycle training if they have not already done so. The school arranges cycling proficiency courses annually for all pupils in Years 5 and 6.
- be part of the curriculum on health, safety, environment and welfare.
- provide and be responsible for their own bicycle/scooter, helmets and lock.
- wear clothes that are visible to other road users.
- to be courteous roads users and to cycle/scoot in accordance with the Highway Code.
- wear a helmet.
- Investigate a suitable cycle route for their journey to and from school.
- Let parents/guardians know the route they will be using.
- Report any problems with their route to either the school or their parents/guardians.
- Dismount on arrival at the school gate.

2. In order to help with this cycle policy the school provides a safe place for bikes and scooters to be stored. **(Pupils/parents/guardians are responsible for the locks for the bike and scooter).**

3. Any issues regarding pupils cycling/scooter to and from school are to be raised with the Headteacher.

### **Guidance**

Partnership with parents and a clear understanding of responsibilities will help to support safe cycling/scooting. While the school provides a cycle and scooter storage area and cycle training for older children, the decision to allow a child to cycle to school rests with parents. **We strongly recommend that all children who cycle/scoot to school are accompanied by an adult, until such time as the parent is confident the child has the knowledge and skills to be allowed to cycle unsupervised.**

### **Liability and insurance**

The school is not liable for any property brought onto their premises, and are therefore not liable for pupils' bicycles or scooters, helmets and/or locks being stolen or damaged by a third party while they are at school.

The school's insurance does not cover cycles or scooters on the premises. Parents are advised to make their own arrangements.

Responsibility for children while they are on their way to or from school rests with parents. The school can take no responsibility for the safety of children outside school.

We recommend that cycles are clearly marked or post-coded and that all equipment is named.

### **Storage**

The cycle and scooter racks are available on school premises on a first come first served basis. We recommend that all cycles and scooters are securely locked to a stand.

## **Training**

All pupils will be encouraged to undertake cycle training if they have not already done so. The school arranges cycling proficiency courses annually for all pupils in Years 5 and 6.

## **Maintenance checks**

Cycles ridden to school should be fully roadworthy and properly maintained.

Regular checks should include:

- both brakes working
- tyres pumped up, and wheels not wobbling sideways
- handlebars and saddle straight and tight
- front and rear reflectors and wheel reflectors
- both lights working

## **Safety**

We strongly recommend that all children wear helmets when cycling/scooting. These should fit well and conform to current British standards. We also recommend the use of high visibility garments such as jackets or tabards. Lights should be in good working order.

All cyclists should be aware of the rules of the Highway Code that relate to cycling and should follow these at all times. We suggest that parents identify the safest cycling route to school with their children and point out particular hazards and danger points.

## **Useful Website**

[www.bikeability.com](http://www.bikeability.com) [www.transportforlondon.com](http://www.transportforlondon.com)

## **Aims**

- To encourage environmentally sustainable transport to school and children's fitness, bicycle and scooter storage spaces are located at the front of the school where pupil's bicycles and scooters can be locked to storage brackets.

## **Expectations & Procedures**

- Children who cycle/scoot to school should always wear a suitable safety helmet while riding their bicycle and their bicycle will be roadworthy and in good working order; brakes and steering are sound.
- Children who ride their bicycles to school will be familiar with basic Highway Code road regulations (e.g. is it illegal to cycle on the pavement) and are always mindful of pedestrians and whenever possible receive cycling training e.g. 'Cycling Proficiency Awards'.
- **Children need to dismount when entering onto school premises**