

Travelling to School

When choosing a new school it is good to also consider how your child will travel to school. Each school has a School Travel Plan (STP) which explains what the school is doing to encourage pupils and their families to travel more sustainably, such as walking, cycling or using public transport. You can ask to see a copy of the school's travel plan or you may find it on the school's website. To find out more, email: schooltravelplans@barnet.gov.uk or phone 020 8359 7603.

Walking

It is recommended that adults and children take 10,000 steps a day. Walking to school can contribute to this, as well as allowing them to develop road safety skills and the chance to talk and socialise with families and friends. For directions and a map showing how to walk to any location go to <http://walkit.com/>

Walking bus

Some schools run a walking bus where adults supervise groups of children as they walk along a set route.



Public transport

Under 11s can travel free on buses at all times and on the tube when accompanied by an adult. 11-15 year olds can travel free on buses at all times but need an 11-15 Oyster photo-card called Zip. Further details can be found on the Transport for London website www.tfl.gov.uk as well as a travel planner that can help you to plan your route to school.

Cycling and scootering

Contact the school to find out if they encourage cycling / scootering and whether there is cycle and scooter storage available. The school may have a cycling / scootering policy explaining rules for children who wish to cycle or scooter.

You could also ask the school if they will be organising any cycle training for pupils and /or their families. If they are not, email cycling@barnet.gov.uk or call 020 8359 4972 for advice on receiving cycle training, as well as information about local led rides and other cycling activities.

Before a child can cycle on the road they should have passed at least level 2 of the Bikeability course.



If you have to drive to school perhaps you could car share or park and stride:

Car sharing

Some schools coordinate car sharing lists so you could enquire if the school can help you find another family to car share with. Information about appropriate car seats for children and how to fit them can be found at: <http://think.direct.gov.uk>

Park and stride

Many schools have identified possible park and stride locations where parents/carers can park their cars and walk the final part.

Walk on Wednesday (Wow)

Some schools reward children who walk, cycle, use public transport or park and stride at least once a week with Wow badges or in other ways. These schools often have a walking zone map showing where children who usually come by car should walk from to qualify for a reward.

Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (for children and young people)

The Council has a legal duty under the Education and Inspections Act (2006) to promote sustainable travel. The Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (for Children and Young People) can be found at: <http://www.barnet.gov.uk/smots>