

Cycling Policy

The School actively encourages a healthy lifestyle. As part of this, the school has developed a School Travel Plan which has recognised that cycling to school has benefits to the individual and the community. The policy outlines the expectations for children cycling to school.

Equalities

At Courtland School we believe it is the right of all the pupils, regardless of their gender, ethnicity, physical ability or linguistic, cultural or home background to have access to high quality learning experiences in stimulating and supporting environment where prejudice and stereotyping are challenged. Therefore all of our pupils will have the opportunity to cycle to school, should they meet the given criteria.

Liability for bicycles on the school premises

The school is not responsible for bicycles stored on the premises and therefore not liable for cycles damaged or stolen by a third party. It is up to the individual pupil/parent to ensure that cycles are securely stored in the designated area. Parents/carers are advised to take out appropriate insurance for loss or damage to cycles, as the school's insurance does not cover this.

Pupil safety on the school journey

The school is only responsible for safety on the school journey where the school has specifically arranged the transport - therefore the school is not responsible for the safety of the children who choose to cycle to school. The school cannot legally prohibit cycling for the school journey, but can refuse cycles on the school grounds if it feels that the conditions for cycling have not been met. Children who have

not completed the training from Bikeability should always be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the journey. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to provide appropriate safety clothing.

Recommended route

It is strongly advisable that parents/carers identify and recommend the safest routes to school to their children, and equally, those routes best avoided by their children.

The Barnet Road Safety team also recommend that where possible the route should be off-road.

Pupil behaviour

Pupils using the permit scheme should be encouraged to consider the needs of others when cycling, particularly when children are riding in the same area as pedestrians.

If a child is seen riding to school inappropriately; two people on a bike; cycling in the school grounds; holding or carrying objects on handlebars; riding too fast or skidding, permission to use cycle parking facilities at the school will be withdrawn.

Training

The School actively promotes children to attend the bikeability scheme which is open to all pupils in Year 6. Children who have not completed the training should be accompanied by an adult for the duration of their journey.

Cycle maintenance

It is the responsibility of the parents/carers of a child to ensure the cycle is safe and roadworthy. The school will arrange for Barnet Road Safety Team to make regular checks.

Cycle Permit Scheme

- A pupil may only bring a cycle on to school premises when permitted to do so by the Headteacher. All cyclists should dismount before entering school premises.
- Cyclists, if not accompanied by their parent/carer, should have completed a Bikeability Course
- Cyclists are expected to maintain their cycles in good working order. Checks may be carried out at any time.
- A helmet, which meets current safety regulations, should be worn when cycling.
- Cyclists should be encouraged to wear bright and conspicuous clothing.
- The security of the cycles is the responsibility of the individual and measures must be taken to protect against theft. The school accepts no responsibility for the safety of the cycle/cycle equipment whilst on school premises.
- The cyclist must have a valid permit to ride to school, which will be issued by the Headteacher. The permit will be issued following the receipt of a satisfactorily completed form of application. This permit can be withdrawn at any time if the cyclist disregards the guidelines.

Cycling Policy

Drawn up: (C Iddon May 2009)
(Discussed with all staff June 09)

Date of next review: May 2011

COURTLAND'S CYCLING TO SCHOOL GUIDELINES

The Barnet Road Safety Team does not recommend that children under the age of 10 Years cycle to school ON THE ROADS. This is based on research data which shows that children under the age of 10 do not have the ability to accurately judge speed and distance. Their spatial awareness skills have advanced to the point where their safety is sufficiently assured, even when accompanied. With this in mind the recommendations should be considered but ultimately cycling to school by children is the parents' responsibility.

In accordance with our Cycling Policy, cycling permits will be issued by the school if the following guidelines have been adopted and agreed by the parent and child.

1. A pupil may only bring a cycle to school when permitted to do so by the Headteacher.
2. The cyclist must have a valid permit to ride to school, which will be issued by the Headteacher. This permit can be withdrawn at any time if the cyclist disregards the guidelines.
3. Cyclists, if travelling independently, should have completed a Bikeability Course which is available in Year 6.
4. All untrained pupils must be accompanied by an adult for the whole journey.
5. Cyclists are expected to maintain their cycles in good working order and insure them correctly. Checks may be carried out at any time.
6. A helmet should be worn when cycling, which meets current safety regulations. Cyclists should be encouraged to wear bright and conspicuous clothing.
7. All cyclists should dismount before entering school premises. NO cycling is permitted on the school premises.
8. The security of the cycles is the responsibility of the individual and measures must be taken to protect against theft.

I accept the above conditions and will try to encourage safer cycling at all times.

My Child.....will always cycle with an adult to school/
has completed the Bikability course in.....and will travel independently to
school. (Delete as appropriate).

Parent/carer name..... Signature.....
Date.....

COURTLAND CYCLE PERMIT

..... is authorised to cycle to school and promises to abide by the guidelines issued.

If these guidelines are not met, then this permit will be withdrawn.

Signed.....(Headteacher) Date.....

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