



Road Safety Policy

Approved by:	FGB	Date: April 2025
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Last reviewed on:	April 2025
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Next review due by:	April 2028
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Reviewed by:	Lisa Hillman (Headteacher)
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At Slimbridge Primary School, we believe that good road safety practice begins as soon as children start school. It is an ideal time for learning new skills and influencing behaviour by effective and practical learning. We have a duty to help prevent accidents involving members of our community on their journeys to and from school. We also have a duty to contribute to the effective road safety education of all students in our care, throughout their time at our school.

Aims

1. To encourage and maintain a school ethos that promotes safer journeys to school. This incorporates:

- promotion of other (non-car) forms of transport for school journeys; with walking to school as the preferred means of travel;
- congestion-free school gates and safer parent parking.

2. To educate families about road safety issues; including increased awareness of the dangers of road traffic around the school environment.

3. To encourage children to transfer road safety lessons into other areas of their lives (e.g., around their home environment etc.).

Pedestrian Journeys

1. We stress to parents that the preferred means of travel to school is walking. This is done by:

- publishing this policy on the school website;
- providing regular reminders of road safety issues in the school newsletter;
- explaining the safety, health and educational benefits of walking to school;
- participating in national events such as Walk to School Week.

2. Children are educated in pedestrian skills and road safety (in accordance with the relevant sections of the Highway Code) throughout their school careers.

3. Parents and children are encouraged to wear or carry bright or reflective items on their school journeys, especially in poor weather conditions.

4. Parents are encouraged to use approved crossing sites where appropriate.

Car Journeys

For those parents and carers for whom the use of the car is unavoidable, the following measures are taken:

1. Parents are strongly encouraged to avoid parking near the school gates and to park away from the school at the British Legion. Parents are then encouraged to

walk the final part of their journey through the recreation ground, leading to the school back gate. An all-weather track has been provided to facilitate this walk, to help keep all members of our school community safe. Drivers are asked to park legally and in accordance with the Highway Code, especially in respect of parking on verges or near kerb edges.

2. Drivers are reminded to drive at a sensible speed and be aware of other road users and pedestrians in accordance with the Highway Code.

3. The school promotes car sharing amongst those who rely on the car as their only viable means of transportation.

Road Safety In General

1. Parents are encouraged to notify the school of any potential road safety issues.

2. The school works in partnership with Slimbridge Parish Council, Stroud District Council, Gloucestershire County Council and the Community Police to ensure road safety.

3. Frequent reminders of the school's road safety policy and ethos are provided to parents via the school newsletter and the school website and handouts where necessary.

Road Safety In The Curriculum

1. Time is devoted to the topic of road safety and school travel in PSHE lessons.

2. Road safety issues are raised on a regular basis during school assemblies.

3. The issue of road safety and school travel is part of the school's 'Personal, Social, health and economic education'.

These lessons improve children's basic road awareness and help them to develop safe behaviours when crossing roads.

Advice For Parents

When the time comes to teach your child about crossing the road, remember the following:

- always set a good example by choosing a safe place to cross and explaining what you're doing
- let your child help you decide where and when it's safe to cross
- tell your child that it's safest to cross at a pedestrian crossing or a crossing patrol

- tell your child not to cross where they can't see far along the road
- explain that they should not try to cross a road between parked cars; drivers won't be able to see them very well and the cars might start moving
- use the Green Cross Code with your child; explain that you have to stop at the kerb, then look both ways and listen for traffic before crossing
- when it's safe to cross, walk straight across the road and keep looking and listening out for traffic
- remind your children to concentrate - they may be easily distracted, forget what they have been taught and dash out into the road
- make sure that anyone else looking after your child follows the same road safety rules that you do

Useful website resources

<https://www.think.gov.uk/>