



Cycling to School Policy

“When the spirits are low, when the day appears dark, when work becomes monotonous, when hope hardly seems worth having, just mount a bicycle and go out for a spin down the road, without thought on anything but the ride you are taking”. -Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Lowbrook Academy recognises the many positive benefits of pupils cycling to and from school. We therefore look to encourage this form of travel behaviour in as many ways as possible.

Benefits of cycling to school include:

- Improving health through physical activity.
- Establishing positive active travel behaviour.
- Promoting independence and improving safety awareness.
- Reducing congestion, noise and pollution in the community.
- Reducing environmental impact of the journey to school.

Role of the pupil:

1. To ride to school sensibly and safely following the Highway Code
2. To take responsibility for checking that their bicycle is roadworthy and regularly maintained.
3. Behave in a manner which shows them and the school in the best possible light and to consider the needs of others when cycling.
4. To correctly wear a **cycle helmet** to and from the school site and whilst walking through the playground.
5. To ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using bicycle lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.
6. To dismount upon entering the school site and walk their bicycles to the storage area
7. To be aware of other pedestrians when wheeling the bicycle through the playground.
8. To use the bell as a warning when approaching pedestrians
9. To lock the bicycle securely to the bike pod, with a lock provided by the parents
10. To safely store the cycle helmet in the class cloakroom
11. To travel to and from school via the agreed route with parents or caregivers

Role of the school:

1. To provide Bikeability Training during the Autumn/Spring term in Years 5 and 6.
2. To provide and maintain cycle pod storage (located at the far end of the car park).
3. To actively promote cycling as a positive way of travelling.
4. Lowbrook Academy is not responsible for bicycles brought on to or left on school premises and is therefore not liable for pupils' bicycles being stolen or damaged by a third party but will do its best to provide secure storage.



5. The Principal will notify parents if children do not adhere to the School Bicycle Policy and permission to ride will be withdrawn until the issues identified have been satisfactorily addressed.

Role of the parent:

While this school wishes to encourage an increase in the number of pupils cycling to school, we strongly recommend that pupils wishing to cycle to school have undertaken the necessary Bikeability training available through school. More information on the Bikeability training syllabus is available at www.bikeability.org.uk

It is advised that you note the RoSPA advice that children below 11 years of age have not normally attained sufficient cognitive hazard perception skill. For children who are below the age at which on road cycling training is offered (Years 5 and 6) or who have not undertaken the necessary training and still wish to cycle to school, we recommend that these children are accompanied by their parents.

Parents must request permission, using the school proforma, for their children to bike unaccompanied. The school will risk assess these requests and provide permits where it deems cycling to school is appropriate. Please note, the school can only be responsible for your child when they enter the school grounds and cannot take responsibility or liability for children once they have left school at the end of the day.

Although the school provides appropriate cycle storage, parents are advised to take out appropriate insurance cover as the school's insurance does not cover loss or damage to bicycles.

Conditions for cycling to Lowbrook Academy

To ensure the bicycle is in good working order, well maintained and the correct size.

1. To fit the bicycle with a bell and a working light.
2. To complete a Cycle Permit giving permission for the child to cycle to school alone.
3. To provide a named cycle helmet and encourage their child to wear bright and or reflective clothing on the journey.
4. To provide a sturdy lock to secure the bicycle to the bike pod at school.
5. To note that all bicycles and helmets are brought and stored on school grounds at the owners risk.

This school reserves the right to refuse a child cycling to school if it deems it is putting them at risk.

Signed:

Chair of Governors

Signed:

Principal

Date:

Cycling to School

