

# School travel plan

West Moors Middle School



Approved by:	Full Governing Board	Date: April 2025
Last reviewed on:	April 2025	
Next review due by:	April 2028	

## **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The school travel plan aims to encourage and support safe, healthy and sustainable school journeys and to improve the safety of children travelling to school, both outside and within the school grounds.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL**

West Moors Middle School is a small two-form entry middle school catering for 230 pupils aged 9 to 13. We have many children who suffer significant disadvantage and there is a high proportion of one-parent families. The school has a Resource Provision that has places for 10 pupils with complex communication needs.

School is open from 07:30 when a Breakfast Club is provided and there are several after-school clubs that take place from Monday to Friday until 16.30. The school offers wraparound childcare provision (15.30- 17:30 Monday – Thursday and 15.30-16,30 Friday).

### **Plan of school and surrounding road network**

- Plan of school identifying main entrance gates (Appendix 1)
- Map showing location of school within immediate locality (Appendix 2)
- Map showing location of school and the surrounding area (Appendix 3)

### **Car Park**

There are three carpark areas for 45 cars and as a result there is no overcrowding of the car park. Parents and carers are not allowed to bring their vehicles on the school's grounds unless they have applied and been given a car parking permit. This minimises the risk to children, reducing the potential for any dangerous driving around the car park and/or overcrowding. The car park areas can be seen in Appendix 1.

### **Vehicular access**

There are two double gate entries to allow vehicular access but these gates are secured and only opened by the school's caretaker in exceptional circumstances and under close supervision. Beside these double gates are single gates, which are left unlocked for pedestrian access to the school premises, leading to the school's main entrance and office.

### **Pedestrian entrances**

Children use the single gates next to the double gate entries every morning, leading to the inner gates for entry onto the school's site. Children in Key Stage 2 enter the gate next to the tennis courts and children in KS3 enter the gate next to the school bungalow. In addition, parents and carers use the front gates to enter the premises and go to the school's Reception. Some parents/carers park their cars on the roads near to the gates to drop children off.

### **Zig Zag lines**

Dorset Council painted zigzag lines in front of the school. This was requested to reduce the amount of parking in these areas which would have been dangerous for pedestrians.

### **Staff and other Community users**

Issues are raised at staff meetings and discussed on a regular basis.

### **Community Users**

Other users e.g. school bus company, are consulted before major changes are made.

## **EXISTING TRAVEL PATTERNS**

### **Pupil travel:**

- The majority of pupils walk to school
- A small number arrive in cars which are parked on surrounding roads
- Some children (approximately 15-20) use bikes or scooters
- Resourced Provision children are either brought into school by parents and carers or are taxied in, and use disabled bays for parking.

### **Staff travel:**

There are 56 members of staff. Most staff travel to school by car with the exception of two staff members who walk to work each day.

## **SUMMARY OF TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY PROBLEMS**

### **Problems arising**

1. Some parents/ carers park on the zig zag lines.
2. A small number of parents/ carers and children walk through the double gates to the car park despite there being a safe path adjacent to the drive.
3. Due to the restrictions of the car park, vehicles park on both sides of the road outside school.

## **TRAVEL INFORMATION**

### **Access to the school**

There are two pedestrian entrances to the school premises, one car park entrance and one carpark exit which is separate.

### **Distances travelled**

#### **Pupils:**

Most pupils live near school with a relatively short commute. There are three children taxied into the resource from further afield.

#### **Staff:**

Staff travel varying distances, some of which are significant e.g. Blandford, Christchurch and Poole.

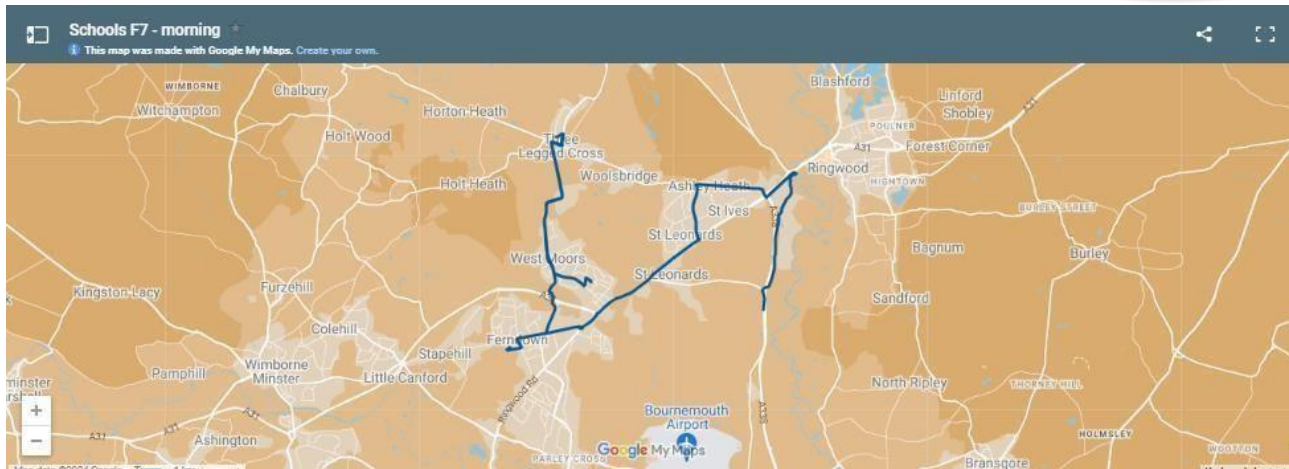
### **On site provision for pedestrians/cyclists**

Bicycles: There is storage for cycles in the bike shed.

For pupils and staff who are unable to walk, cycle or scoot their whole journey to and from school, we encourage the use of public transport, car share and park and stride.

## Using public transport to get to school

**By school bus (Excelsior): F7 - Ashley Heath and Three Legged Cross to Ferndown Upper and West Moors Middle Schools**



***Parents and carers are reminded that they are responsible for the safety of their child on the journey to and from school.***



We would be interested to hear your ideas of how to improve safety or air quality around our school. Please email your suggestions to our Travel Plan Co-ordinator, Dr Craddock, at [office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sck.uk](mailto:office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sck.uk).

West Moors Middle School would like to thank you in advance for supporting our active travel policy which has been agreed by the school's Strategic Leadership Team and approved by our school governors.

## **SCHOOL TRAVEL/ROAD SAFETY PRACTICE AND POLICY**

### **Road Safety Training:**

We involve the Dorset Police Safer Schools and Communities in road safety training for pupils.

### **Cycling Proficiency:**

Pupils in Year 5 take part in a cycling proficiency programme delivered by Bikeability.

### **Management of parent and carer parking**

There is limited parking for parents and carers in the car park if they have been issued with a car parking permit. Pupils who arrive by car are not permitted to bring their vehicles onto the grounds unless they are issued with a parking permit. This is supported by the school's caretaker on duty every morning and at the end of the school day.

### **Travel to before and after school clubs and off-site activities**

Children attending Breakfast Club are fully supervised.

Children are always collected by an adult when the after school clubs have finished unless otherwise directed.

**Swimming** – the bus waits outside the school’s reception and members of staff escort children on and off the vehicle.

## **MEASURES AND INITIATIVES**

### **Education and Training**

- Pedestrian training for all pupils during Health and Safety Week
- School Council are consulted to identify danger areas around school
- Bikeability training is arranged at the start of the Autumn term each year.

### **Initiatives**

- cycling to school

### **Information and promotion**

- Participate in ‘Walk to School Week’ in May and October
- Participate in ‘National Bike Week’ in June
- Continue to provide information to parents about safe travel to school and within the school grounds through school newsletters and signage

### **Infrastructure and facilities**

- Cycle storage currently inside the school’s grounds next to the tennis courts

## **OBJECTIVES**

- Develop a cycling policy
- Develop a road safety policy
- Walking target: to maintain existing percentage of pupils walking to school
- Cycling target: approximately 20 children to cycle to school

## **MONITORING AND REVIEW**

The Travel Plan will be reviewed every 3 years in consultation with all stakeholders

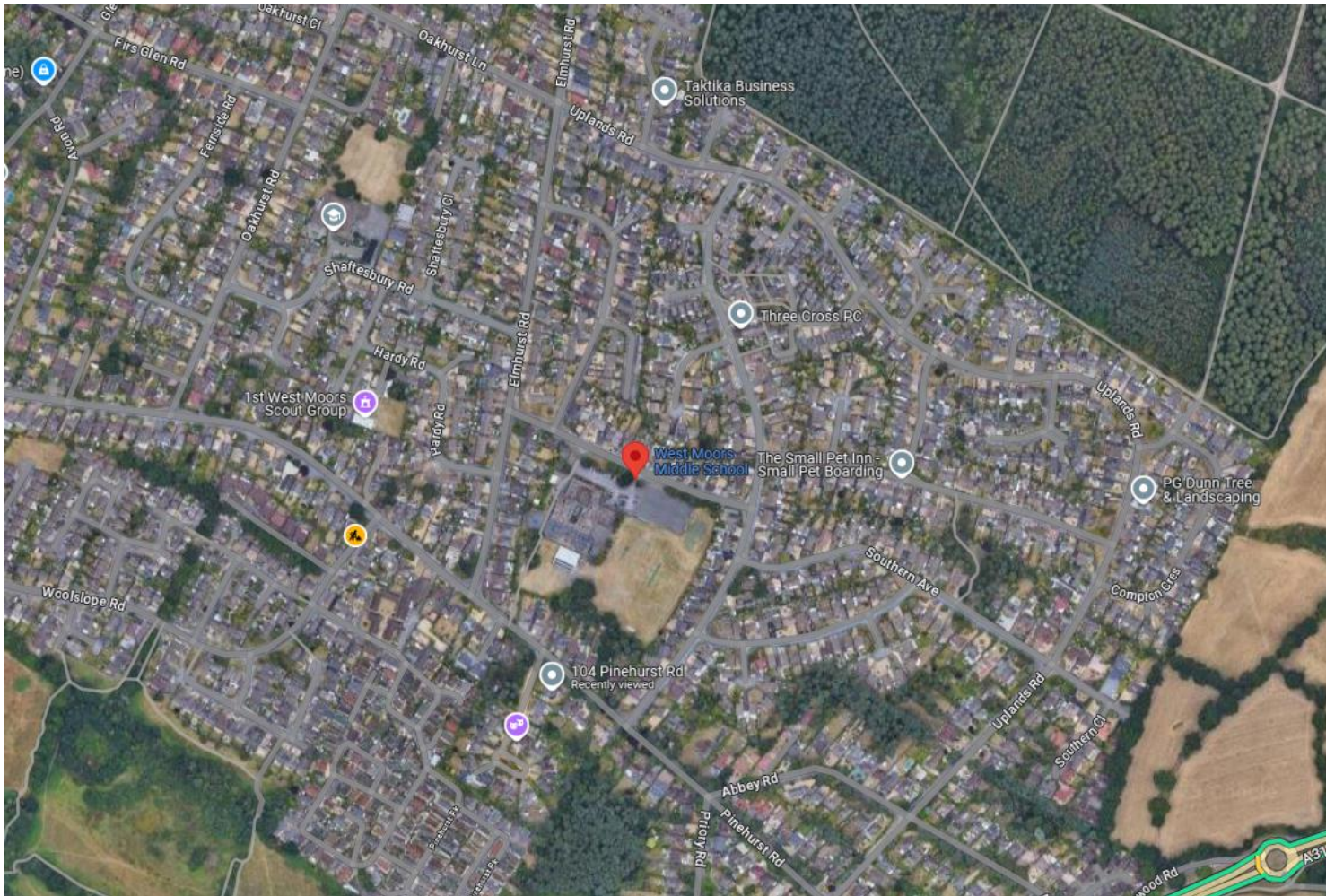
- Progress/evaluations of actions and initiatives
- Feedback from pupils and parents

Appendix 1: Ariel Plan of school showing two entrance gates from Heathfield Way.





Appendix 2: Map showing location of school within immediate locality





Appendix 3: Map showing location of school and the surrounding area

