

**Introduction**

Lumsden Primary School is a small rural school, set in Upper Donside. The school is located in the village of Lumsden which lies 35 miles west of Aberdeen and mid way between Alford and Huntly.

The school roll is currently sitting at 13 pupils, we have 1 class P1-7 and we are 1 of 13 schools within the Alford cluster.

There are a number of concerns that families raise about the journeys they take to school. Our main aim is to keep everyone safe, therefore we have developed this plan to provide information on how to travel to the school safely. Please read this document carefully and consider your travel options to school.

**Lumsden Primary**

**School Travel Plan 2017**

**What is a Travel Plan?**

A Travel Plan is a document which encourages people to travel to our school in a sustainable, active and safe way. The travel plan supports walking and cycling as the most sustainable forms of transport.

Although walking and cycling are a good choice for the environment, and improves air quality at the school gates, there are lots of other benefits too –

* **Fitness.** Leaving the car at home and walking, or cycling to school will provide great health benefits for all family members.
* **Road safety skills.** Being able to make the journey on foot or bike will provide ideal opportunities to learn essential road safety skills that many young people who are driven by car are lacking.
* **Social skills.** Walking to or from school, provides a great opportunity to talk; either to friends or family members; about what pupils have been up to or if anything is bothering them.
* **Safety.** More people walking and cycling means less cars on the road and at the school gate making a much safer environment for everyone.

This document has been created to make it clear the expectations Lumsden School holds in relation to travel to their site. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to read and understand this information. Anything that is not clear can be discussed with the school.

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| Action | How to achieve this | **Action Plan** - This document is a living document and will be reviewed and updated annually.  By whom |
| Encourage responsible parking | Communicate with parents over appropriate parking locations in order to create a safer school gate environment. | HT/PC |
| Encourage safe, sustainable and active travel to school | Tap into existing resources and events such as Walk to School Week, bike week, road safety week, bikeability. | Teaching staff/ Parent support |
| Encourage cycling/ scooting | Obtain cycle shelters and scooter parking | Eco Group/ LA |
| Monitor travel to school | Take part in annual Hands Up Survey and review travel patterns during the course of the year | HT/ Teaching staff/Eco Group |

**Lumsden Travel Plan published: June 2017 Review date: June 2018**

**Tips to keep you safe when walking to school.**

* Plan your route to school at home first.
* If you can please try and walk, don’t let poor weather put you off.
* Main street through the village can be busy and cars can go quite fast, please be careful if you have to cross this road, think about where the best place to cross would be.
* Finding a good place to cross should be away from parked cars and have good visibility in both directions.
* Be bright and be seen, the more you stand out the more drivers will see you and slow down.
* Be careful of driveways and narrow entrances - Stay alert and pay attention at all times.
* Crossing the street safely 1) Stop at the curb or edge of the street. 2). Look right, look left then right again. 3) Wait until no traffic is coming and begin crossing. 4) Keep looking for traffic until you have finished crossing. 5). Walk, don’t run across the street.

**Tips to keep you safe when cycling and scooting to school.**

Where children can do so safely, we actively encourage children to bike or scoot to school. Please feel free to bring your bike to scooter, we hope to have some new cycle and scooter parking facilities soon. However, the school cannot take any responsibility for any bikes or scooters left here so you will need to bring a lock.

* **Please** wear a helmet and wear something bright.
* Ride in a position you can see and be seen.
* No cycling or scooting in the playground and consider other pedestrians around the school gate.
* Maintain your bike. Check your brakes and tyre pressure, some good guides can be found online by Cycling Scotland.
* Be considerate of others on the paths around the school, use your bell on your bike if necessary to warn pedestrians you are there.

**If you are taking the car, you can help by:**

* Planning ahead and giving yourself plenty of time in order to account for any unexpected delays, please give yourself time to find a responsible place to park.
* Park and stride – parking 5 or 10 mins away from the school will hugely help in tackling congestion.
* Please park in the layby just south of the school, there are great parking facilities with a safer path leading up to the school, this will help reduce congestion directly outside the school.
* Benefits of reduced congestion outside the school:
  + make it more accessible for emergency vehicles who may need to get to the school
  + make it easier for the school bus to get through and
  + make it a safer environment for everyone.
* Keeping your speeds low.
* Do not park in yellow lines or other parking restrictions, in front of people’s driveways or on grass verges.

Thank you for reading our travel plan, we hope it helps you think about how you travel to our school

**Head teacher: Joanne Brown, Lumsden Primary School, Lumsden, Huntly, AB54 4JR, Tel. No. 01464 635150**

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