

ST MATTHEW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

TRAVEL PLAN

2014



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Introduction

This school Travel Plan documents the measures and initiatives that will be implemented by St Matthew's Primary School to reduce unnecessary car use, encourage healthy and sustainable travel options and increase safety for children getting to and from school. This is fully in accordance with the school's vision, which states that it aims, "to provide and resource an environment....which encourages each pupil and staff member to achieve their full potential in all aspects of life and to work as effective contributors and responsible citizens." The measures will include walking and cycling initiatives as well as educational programmes.

School Description

St Matthew's Primary School is a denominational school situated in Carnethie Street, Rosewell. Our present building was opened in 1894, making our school now 120 years old. Although old the building is in a good state of repair. Our current school roll is approximately 25 pupils in one class.

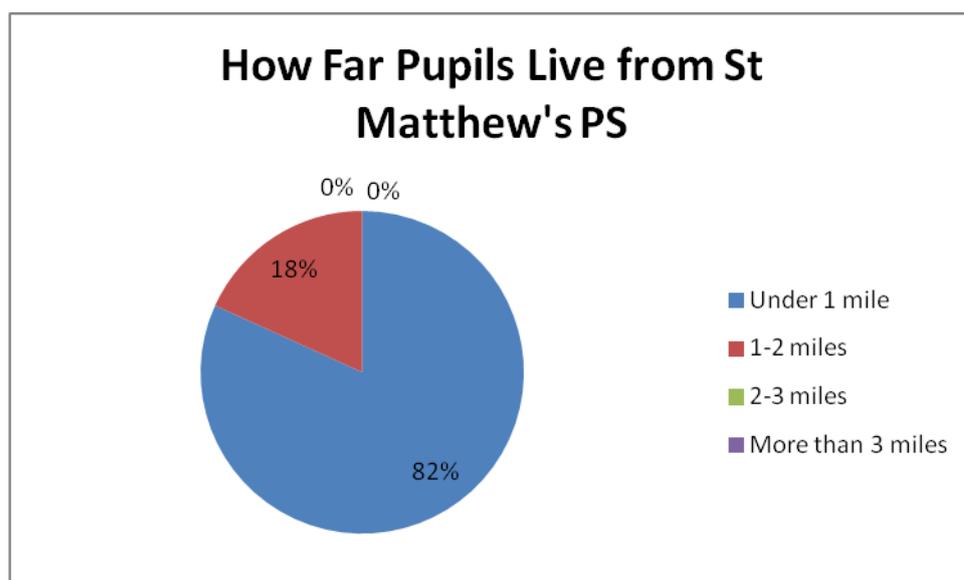
All pedestrians enter from the same location, the main gate on Carnethie Street. We do not have a vehicle entrance or a school car park. The school day starts at 8.55 am and finishes at 3.20 pm.

Current School Travel Information

Pupil/Parent Travel Survey Results

11 parent questionnaires were analysed - these will be used as representative of parental views. When questioned about how they currently travel to school, answers showed the following:

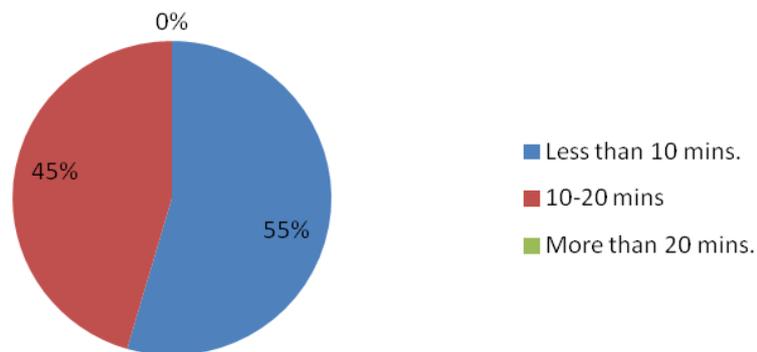
How far do you live from the school?



82% of pupils live under 1 mile from school. 18% live under 2 miles from school, making a total of 100% of pupils within acceptable walking/cycling distance to school.

How long does the walking journey to school take children?

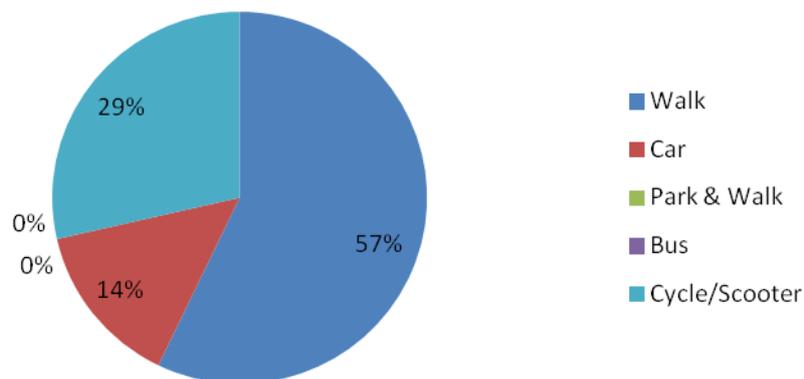
How Long is Walking Journey to St Matthew's



55% of pupils have a walking journey time of 10 minutes or less. A further 45% have a journey time of fewer than 20 mins, with no pupils having a walking journey of more than 20 mins.

How Does Your Child Travel to & From School?

How Pupil's Travel to St Matthew's



Results from respondents show that 57% of pupils walk to St Matthew's. A further 29% come by bike or scooter. 14% of respondents reported arriving by car; this equates to 2 pupils. We are keen to encourage these pupils to Park & Walk if the car is their only option?

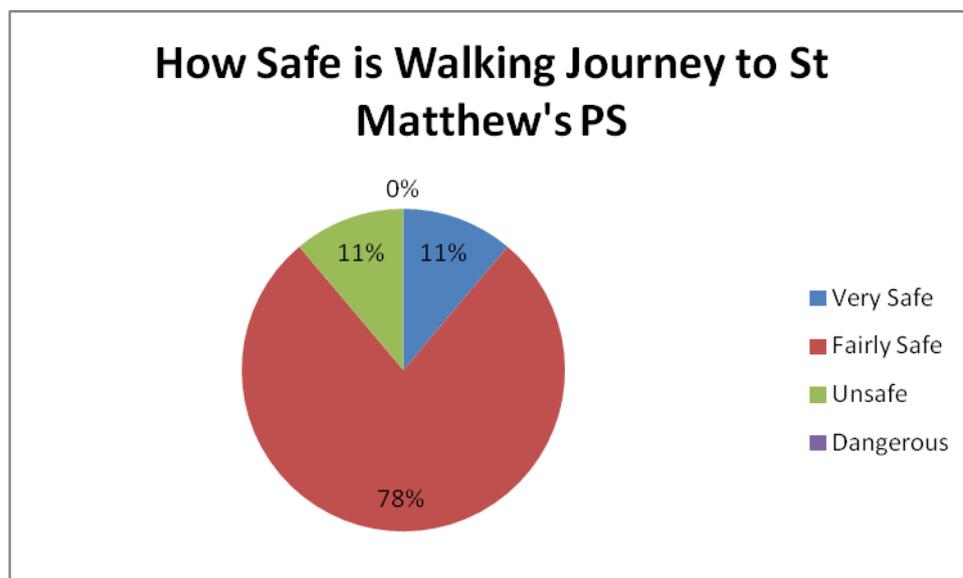
If you could choose, how would parents prefer their child to travel to school?

Walk	60%
Bike/Scooter	40%
Car	-

No parents who responded prefer their child to come by car. 40% would prefer them to cycle or scooter (up on the 29% that currently do) with 60% stating walking as their preferred mode of travel to school.

For parents whose children walk/cycle to school only

How Safe Do You Consider Your Route To Be?



The majority of parents, 89%, consider their child's walking journey to school to be either fairly safe or very safe. However, 11% feel that there are unsafe elements to their child's journey. No respondents actually consider their route to be dangerous.

Improvements parents recommended to make walking/cycling to school safer (noted where reported by more than 1 respondent)

There was no item mentioned by more than 1 respondent.

Aims and Objectives

As with most schools in Midlothian, even though our numbers are small, parking at the school gate at peak times can be a problem at St Matthew's Primary School. It is considered that the level of congestion caused by unnecessary car use presents a significant risk to the health and safety of our pupils. We are really pleased with the number of children using sustainable and healthy modes of transport and plan to continue this good work and to reduce the number of parents who park too close to the school gates. We would prefer that, if it is absolutely necessary to travel by car, they park a little way away and allow their children an opportunity to walk at least some of the way to school.

Roles and Responsibilities – Mrs Young (Head Teacher) will assume main responsibility for implementing the School Travel Plan.

Programme of events/initiatives selected

Solution	Target	Undertaken by	timescale
Walking solutions	Walk to school week	School and School Travel Co-ordinator (STC)	May 2015, Oct. 2015
	Kerbcraft Road Safety programme	School, parental volunteers	Annually
	Walk & Win Scheme	School, Midlothian Council	As available
Cycling solutions	Cycle training for P6	School with Active Schools	Biannually
Car solutions	Display of Smart Parking Banner	School/School Travel Co-ordinator	6 monthly
Education solutions	Road Safety Awareness	School, JRSO and RSO (Steps to safety)	Ongoing
	Health promotion	School (part of Health promoting project)	Ongoing
	Citizenship	school	Ongoing
Traffic management	Ask authority to look at any measures highlighted by parents	STC, Midlothian Council	
Promotional	Travel plan launch	School, RSO and STC	
	Updating school information booklet to inform parents of travel plan	School	
	Update of travel plan	School Travel Co-ordinator, Pupil Council, PTA and parents	Next plan due, Oct. 2016

Monitoring and Evaluation

Regular updates reported at staff meetings

Data concerning perceptions of safety about school travel to be collected from JRSO children and Pupil Council members.

School Travel Plan to be reviewed every second year - next due Oct. 2016.