



Cycling Policy

January 2024

Approved by the Governing Body Strategy Group 18/01/24

**This Policy is due for renewal in Term 3
2025–26**

CYCLING POLICY

OF

GODINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Godinton Primary School 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.

SECTION ONE – BENEFITS OF CYCLING

Some of the benefits of cycling to school include:

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

The children are taught about these benefits in PSHE lessons, science lessons and through school assemblies.

SECTION TWO – ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CYCLE

To encourage as many pupils to cycle to school as we can, the school will:

- Actively promote cycling as a positive way of traveling.
- Celebrate the achievements of those who choose to cycle to school.
- Provide cycle storage on the school site.
- The school participates in Bikeability training levels 1 and 2 which follows national cycling standards and is undertaken in Years 4, 5 and 6.
- The school currently funds Balance Bike sessions for our younger children
- The school currently funds Cycle ready sessions for our younger children to provide them with the necessary skills to ride a bike independent of stabilisers.
- Year 6 children are offered the opportunity to participate in a Cycle Confidence week towards the end of the academic year, currently funded through sports premium.
- Arrange cycling activities which encourage children to develop their cycling skills and which involve parents, such as weekend family bike rides, virtual bike ride competitions and ‘learning to ride’ sessions.

To make cycling to and from school a positive experience for everybody concerned, we expect our pupils to:

- Ride sensibly and safely and to follow the Highway Code.
- Take responsibility for checking that their bicycle is roadworthy and regularly maintained.
- Behave in a manner which shows them and the school in the best possible light and to consider the needs of others when cycling.
- Consider wearing a cycle helmet.
- Ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using bicycle lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.
- Ensure that bicycles are secured within designated cycle storage. Bicycles and scooters are left in storage areas at the owner's risk.

For the well-being of our pupils, we expect parents and carers to:

- Encourage their child to take up opportunities to develop their competence and confidence in cycling.
- Provide their child with the appropriate safety equipment such as high-visibility clothing, bicycle lights and cycle helmet as appropriate.
- Ensure that the cycles ridden to school are roadworthy and regularly maintained.
- Ensure that cycles are securely locked in school cycle storage racks. Bicycles and scooters are left in storage areas at the owner's risk.

The decision as to whether a child is competent to cycle to and from school safely rests with the parents/carer and the school has no liability for any consequences of that decision. Children and adults must dismount from bicycles and scooters on entering the school grounds.

SECTION SEVEN – CHILDREN IN CARE (formerly Looked After Children)

As for all our pupils, Godinton Primary School is committed to helping every Child in Care (CIC) to achieve the highest standards they can. To this end staff will ensure that in delivering the curriculum they set suitable learning challenges of CIC, respond to the diverse learning needs of CIC, and help to overcome the potential barriers to learning and assessment for CIC.

SECTION EIGHT – EQUALITY STATEMENT (Refer also to specific policies for equal opportunities and racial equality)

At Godinton Primary School, we are committed to ensuring equality of opportunity for all members of our school community irrespective of race, religion or belief, gender, gender reassignment, disability, sexual orientation, age, pregnancy or maternity, marriage and civil partnership or socio-economic background. We are determined to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected to the school feel proud of their identity and ability to participate fully in school life.

We tackle discrimination through the positive promotion of equality by challenging stereotypes and by creating an environment that champions respect for all. At Godinton Primary School, we believe that diversity is a strength that should be respected and celebrated by all those who learn, teach and visit us.

All school policies have an explicit aim of promoting equality and will be reviewed in terms of their contribution and effectiveness in achieving this aim.