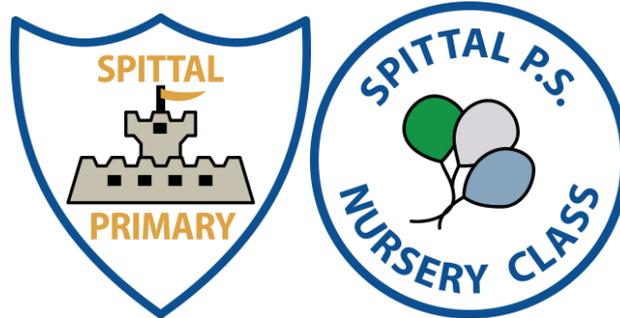


# Spittal Primary School and Nursery Class School Travel Plan



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## Introduction

Spittal Primary School and Nursery Class Travel Plan intends to set out measures and best practice regarding travel arrangements for both staff and pupils. The school recognises the importance of promoting sustainable transport in order to reduce the current trend of car reliance. We believe that a School Travel Plan (STP) will help to address many of our road safety and travel problems and have a very positive effect on the local community as a whole.

The STP has been devised with input from staff, parents, pupils and South Lanarkshire Council's School Travel Plan Co-ordinator. We have carried out a questionnaire survey to obtain an outline of everyone's views. The Junior Road Safety Officers have also been working hard to promote active, safe and sustainable travel.

The main objective of Spittal's STP is:

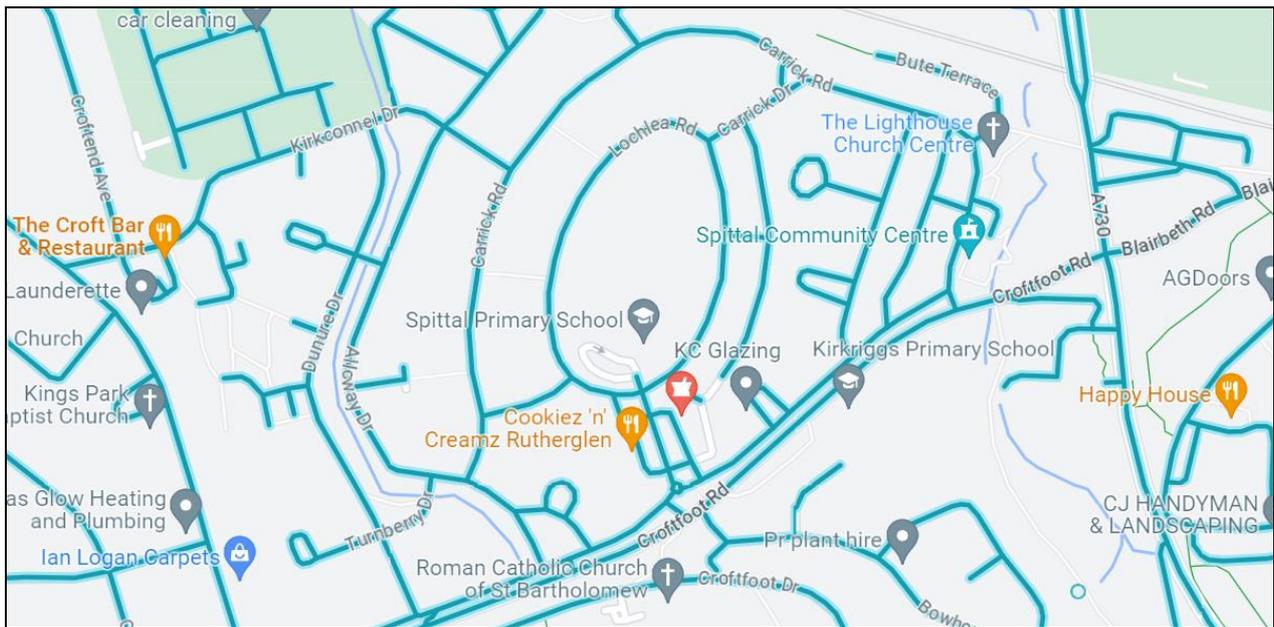
- To reduce the number of pupils travelling to school by car and to encourage those who do, to park a little further away and to do this responsibly.

Further objectives are to:

- Reduce congestion around the school.
- Improve the safety of routes to the school.
- Reduce the detrimental impact that cars have on our environment.
- Improve the health and fitness of staff, pupils and parents.
- Further our school image and develop our school ethos.

We aim to meet these objectives by encouraging staff, parents and pupils to adopt sustainable transport alternatives to travel to school. These are set out and fully expanded in the Key Initiatives with Objectives and Targets and Programme for Implementation sections.

## Brief Description of the School



Reference: <https://www.google.com/maps/@55.8153483,-4.2231691,17z?entry=ttu> (Google Maps – Street View; Postcode: G73 4QJ)

Spittal Primary School and Nursery Class is a non-denominational school situated in the area of Spittal, Rutherglen, South Lanarkshire.

The new school building opened in December 2012 and offers accessible accommodation which is designed for Education in the 21st Century, ensuring a positive learning environment for all learners.

The school is located in a heavily urbanised area, surrounded by narrow streets, this results in high levels of traffic at school start and finish times. We are situated on the border of South Lanarkshire Council and Glasgow City Council and as a result the local/main roads are busy and can be congested. We have a car park that operates as a one-way system, and we also have bike storage facilities to promote alternative means of travel to/from school.

The current school roll is approx. 150 pupils which is split over 6 classrooms. The nursery class holds up to 40 children who have had the opportunity of being in nursery from 9am – 3pm each day as part of Scottish Government's pledge for 1140 hours in Early Learning and Childcare.

At Spittal Primary and Nursery, our school motto is 'We SHINE like Spittal Stars!' and we have five core values that all start with the individual letters of SHINE. These are **Safe**, Happy, Inspiring, Nurturing, Excellence and Equity. We aim to promote these at all times through our culture and ethos. Both the school values and motto underpin our whole school ethos, curriculum and learning environment.

Spittal Primary and Nursery Class is part of the Stonelaw Learning Community and we have developed strong links to enhance transitions and extend opportunities for pupils. The school also enjoys strong partnerships with for example the Chaplaincy Team, Tesco Burnside, The Harry Heaney Day Centre, Active Schools, Operation Play (Outdoors), and Shops in/around Kyle Square. A significant part of learning & teaching involves working alongside these partners. The school is proud to hold a Silver Sports Award and is looking forward to achieving the gold award in the near future, **we are also the proud owners of 5 Eco Green flags as a result of our ongoing focus on sustainability** and have recently attained Silver Reading Schools status.

## Evidence of consultation

A consultation was conducted throughout May-June 2023 and is representative of the current situation.

Below is a summary of the results, full details are available upon request:

### Summary of results

#### Parents Survey Report May/June 2023 – 16 respondents

Distance Travelled:

- 56% less than half a mile
- 38% between half & 1 mile

Current Travel Methods:

- 88% of children walk to/from school
- 38% arrive by car
- 13% scooter to school

Preferred Travel Methods:

- 81% would prefer their child to walk
- 25% would prefer to drive
- 19% would prefer their child to scooter
- 13% would prefer them to take school bus

Park & Stride:

- 38% would support Park & Stride

Priorities in Promoting Walking & Cycling to School:

1. Safer crossing places
2. More road safety education
3. Slow traffic speeds
4. Health benefits
5. Better facilities within school
6. Others walking or cycling the same way

Walking Bus:

- 6% (1 parent) would be interested in supervising a group of children walking to school

Parents:

- 75% would support their child walking to school.
- 56% would support their child cycling to school.

#### Pupils Survey Report – 97 respondents (across nursery to P7)

Current Travel Methods (all that apply):

- 64% walk to school and/or
- 54% arrive by car
- 1% scooter to school

Preferred Travel Methods:

- 44% would prefer to walk
- 22% would prefer to come by car
- 40% would prefer to cycle / scooter

Walking Bus:

- 52% would be interested in walking with a group of children and adults.

Barriers to Walking to School:

- 42% feel main barrier is weather
- 41% feel main barrier is busy road
- 29% feel main barrier is distance
- 29% traffic is too fast
- 21% are scared of strangers
- 17% are not allowed by parents
- 16% don't want to

Park and Stride:

- 66% of children would like to travel by car most of the way and then walk, cycle or scoot.

## Staff Survey Report - 5 respondents

### Distance Travelled:

- 40% over 3 miles
- 20% each – less than half a mile/ half a mile to 1 mile/2 to 3 miles.

### Current Travel Methods:

- 20% walk to school
- 60% drive to school
- 20% get taxi/bus/other means to school

### Concerns About the School Journey

- Parking/roads are congested and tight/limited in space this is a real safety issue for children, parents and staff.

### Car Sharing

- 67% would consider car sharing
- 33% wouldn't/couldn't consider it
- 0% already car share

### Preferred Travel Methods:

- 23% would prefer to walk
- 68% would prefer to drive
- 5% would prefer to cycle

## **Summary of Spittal PS & NC Travel and Road Safety Problems**

With a roll of near 200 pupils (including nursery) and being located in a heavily urbanised area, Spittal Primary School and Nursery Class has a lot of congestion and some road safety issues that those on the school run have to deal with.

To add to the problems, the road going into the school, Lochlea Road, and surrounding area is narrow which results in bottlenecks at the start and finish of each school day. Kyle Square can become quite congested, and it has been reported by residents that some parents park irresponsibly – across zig zag lines, driveways etc...

There is a drop off zone and car park, this eases congestion somewhat at peak times.

Mandatory keep clear markings are on one side of Lochlea Road, however, cars have been seen to be parked across these or across the road and/or double parked. Parking Attendants have the powers to enforce the parking restrictions that are in place.

We have a School Crossing Patroller who is situated at Croftfoot Road. This road remains a key concern as it is a busy road but also has fast-moving traffic. Banners, parking buddies and leaflet distribution have helped to raise awareness of the issues facing our school.

Pupils are encouraged to walk to school or for their parents/carers to park away from the school and walk the remaining distance. Parking in nearby streets is limited, however, due to the school being located within a residential area – Kyle square is often seen as the nearest/safest drop-off area (out-with the school's own drop-off zone).

Cycling to school is a concern due to the congestion/parking on pavements and highly pedestrian/car areas. However, the school has always participated in Bikeability training. A cycle shelter is already provided for within the school grounds. The school also has a healthy number of bicycles to allow greater participation in cycling safety lessons.

Disabled parking bays are present within the school car park. These are mostly used responsibly.

## **Key Initiatives with Objectives and Targets**

### **Walking**

From the questionnaires issued to parents, the survey report showed that 94% of children live within a mile of the school and currently 88% of children either walk to school or park and stride to school. We are pleased with this number, therefore, intend to continue to encourage walking to school, where possible, and will continue to promote walking campaigns and initiatives e.g., Walk to School Week etc...

The school does not have a walking bus/cycle train, and this may be something to give further consideration to, however the limited parent respondents interested in doing so could potentially limit the success. We will further explore this with our Parent Council representatives to explore this with the wider Parent Forum.

### **Park and Stride**

We recognise that a lot of parents and carers have other commitments and often need to drive to school en route to work or elsewhere. We, therefore, plan to promote a Park & Stride initiative whereby parents are encouraged to park further away from the school and walk the remaining distance with their child. This would help keep congestion away from the school gates and give the children a little exercise. The survey report showed that 38% of parents would support Park & Stride.

Consideration will be given to launching a Park & Stride initiative, initially, this could be suggested as Kyle Square with further possibilities of park and bike/scooter to school to instil these patterns from an early stage.

### **Car Sharing**

From the survey of the parent respondents (75%) said they were unsure about car-sharing, with 25% saying 'No' and no-one said 'Yes'. This is indicative of the high numbers already walking to school and therefore walking initiative and/or cycle/scoot to school initiative should be encouraged further.

### **Cycling/Bikeability and Scooter Travel**

The survey report shows that 1% of pupils currently cycle/scooter to school but 40% say cycling/scootering would be their preferred method of getting to school. There are no designated cycle routes to school and the densely populated urban situation means that there's little room for cycling on pavements. Despite this, the school will continue to take part in the Bikeability cycle training scheme each academic year to give pupils the opportunity to develop their cycling skills and road safety awareness. In light of the information within, we will engage in further staff training to ensure that stage 2 (on-road) Bikeability is also taught to teach better on-road, traffic and pedestrian safety/awareness whilst cycling.

The school will look at whether we can house a safe space for scooters and/or target younger children by creating/providing scooter pods for storage whilst children are in school.

### **Park Smart and Publicity/Awareness Raising**

The school will promote the Park Smart campaign, designed to encourage parents/carers to park away from the school entrance and think about the safety of all children when parking their car. The campaign also encourages walking to school where possible. Leaflets have been given to every child in the school. We will raise the profile of the School Travel Plan and gain positive press coverage through the school app for parents, school website and social media. We will

display banners provided by South Lanarkshire Council at the school gates and will arrange for Parking Buddies to be situated on the Zig-Zag areas across from the school (provided for by SLC).

### **Air Quality - Car Idling**

It has been reported that 'car idling' has been observed as being 'on the increase' – we have requested signage and banners from SLC School Travel Plan department and will raise awareness of the issue through our Junior road Safety Officers, our school app/website and information will be contained within the school newsletters.

Our Parent Council (and volunteers within the Parent Forum) and Janitor will take on the role of carpark monitors – regularly reinforcing expectations regarding responsible parking, engine idling, and littering (previous issues discussed within Parent Council meetings).

### **Road Safety Education and School Activities**

*Road Safety and Curriculum for Excellence, JRSO, Bikeability, Assemblies and Local and National Campaigns*

We will continue to talk about Road Safety as part of Health and Wellbeing within a Curriculum for Excellence. This will be taught and discussed as part of our approach to our teaching and learning.

Our elected Junior Road Safety Officers will work with the school and will organise input at school assemblies to raise awareness or engagement with Road Safety initiatives. They will organise competitions, will seek feedback etc... all in an effort to continue the current momentum and to create a 'buzz' (increased engagement and participation) within Spittal Primary School and Nursery Class.

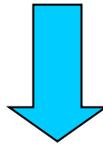
The school will promote Road Safety and/or alternative means to travel through Local and National campaigns such as 'Go Safe with Ziggy, Roadstars, Sustrans: Hands-Up Surveys, Walk to School Week, and Park Smart' to name a few.

## Programme for Implementation

We have created a timeline to show our proposed action plan to implement these short-, medium- and long-term measures.

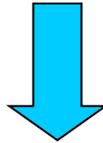
### September 2023

School Travel Plan complete.



### September - June 2024

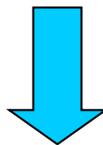
Pedestrian improvements investigated for Lochlea Road. Including signage, leafleting and Parking Buddies.



Investigate Bikeability Training.

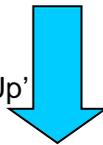
### October 2023

Consider Park and Stride initiative.  
Elect JRSO's within P5/6 class to focus on Travel Safety – further exploring cycle/scoot to school.



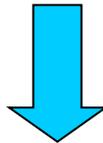
### On-going

Take part in road safety/ sustainable travel focus weeks/ events i.e., Sustrans 'Hands Up' School Travel Survey, Be Safe – Be Seen Campaign in October and Walk to School week in May 2024.



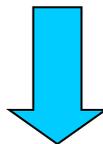
### November 2023

Promote safe driving practices.  
Have Parking Attendant/volunteer parent monitors to enforce restrictions in place.



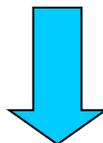
### May/June 2024

Bikeability initiative whilst also exploring Scotter pods/ secure storage.



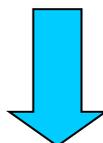
### On-going

JRSOs will continue to promote road safety through competitions, assemblies and Health/Eco Weeks.



### On-going

Promote Park Smart Campaign to encourage safe and considerate parking at the school.



We will also be involving the parents, Parent Council and pupils in this process and encouraging them to do all that they can to help us develop our School Travel Plan.

## **Plans for Monitoring and Review**

The plan will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. As with all of the processes to implement our ideas, the pupil's views will be represented by our Junior Road Safety Officers at the meetings they attend.

A copy will be made available in the school for parents, pupils and local residents to browse, further copies will be distributed via our School App for Parents and electronically on our school website.

This is not a prescriptive plan, and it is by no means complete. We are intending to treat this as an active, ongoing 'work in progress' and add to the plan when we can – continuing to seek stakeholder viewpoints.

*Last updated by Stephen Miller (Head Teacher), October 2023 - Version 2.0*