

# Ashford CE Primary School



## School Travel Policy

**Approved by FGB: November 2025**

**To be reviewed by FGB: 2027-2028**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ L Bowman \_\_\_\_\_

Chair of Governors

# School Travel Policy

## Our School Vision

We are a caring Christian community where everyone adopts an “I can” attitude; everyone feels valued, safe and loved by God. We celebrate our God-given individuality, achievements and talents and we aspire, with God’s help, to become the best that we can be. We believe that each one of us has the ability to achieve our highest potential, living and learning in the fullness of God.

I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.

*Philippians 4v13*

## STARS – Sustainable Travel: Active, Responsible, Safe

We are proud to take part in Modeshift STARS, working with Surrey County Council, we have achieved Bronze level accreditation in the summer of 2025 and aim to achieve Silver recognition by the end of the year.

STARS inspires the school community to travel to school sustainably, actively, responsibly and safely by championing walking, scooting and cycling.

STARS supports pupils' wellbeing, helps to reduce congestion at the school gates and improve road safety and air quality.

At the heart of our school are a set of core Christian Values. These underpin our whole ethos, curriculum and school life and aim to ensure our pupils leave Ashford CE Primary School as happy, secure, caring and responsible citizens. The values we promote are important within the school community and are values which will be important throughout life. In all that we do we strive to share, encourage and demonstrate positive values with our children; in order that they understand them and strive to live by them. Our values are:

- Perseverance
- Respect
- Compassion
- Forgiveness
- Courage
- Thankfulness

We are committed to educating our pupils about environmental concerns and the importance of living sustainably. We recognise our responsibility to ensure that pupils have the necessary skills and knowledge to understand environmental concerns, so that they can apply this to their lives and adopt an eco-friendly lifestyle. We encourage both pupils and staff to think about the environment and how their actions will impact upon their local surroundings, as well as the global environment. We encourage pupils, parents and staff to respect and promote travel actively to school by walking, cycling and scooting wherever possible.

We will discuss the policy with pupils and re-visit it periodically to ensure its relevance.

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.

### **What are the benefits of active travel?**

- Improves mental health leading to improved attendance and academic success
- Improves physical health, helping pupils to achieve the recommended minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity per day
- Promotes independence and improves road safety awareness
- Reduces congestion and noise in the community
- Improves air quality around the school
- Reduces the environmental impact of the journey to school.
- Establishes positive active travel behaviour.

In order to ensure as many pupils as possible are given the opportunity to realise these benefits we each have an important role to play:

### **Staff**

**We will encourage pupils to travel to and from school more safely and actively by:**

- Promoting the benefits of active travel
- Celebrating the achievements of those who travel actively to school
- Raising awareness of the air quality benefits of active travel

- Providing cycle and scooter storage on the school site
- Providing cycle training to all pupils who wish to participate
- Ensuring we update our school travel plan annually and that it is accredited under STARS (Sustainable Travel: Active, Responsible, Safe) scheme
- Working with Surrey County Council school travel and road safety officers to deliver interventions and activities that promote active, safe and responsible travel to school

## **Pupils**

**To make active travel a positive experience for everybody concerned, we expect our pupils to:**

- Behave in a sensible, safe and respectful manner and to consider the needs of others when travelling
- Use lights and high-visibility clothing where appropriate and consider wearing a cycle helmet
- Check that their bicycle or scooter is roadworthy and well maintained
- Follow the rules of the road (Highway Code) when travelling

## **Parents and carers**

**For the wellbeing of our pupils, we expect parents/carers to:**

- Encourage their child to travel actively to school
- Consider walking, cycling or scooting with their child
- Encourage their child to take up opportunities to develop their competence and confidence in walking cycling and scooting
- Provide their child with safety equipment as appropriate, which may include high visibility clothing, lights, cycle helmet and a lock
- Ensure that the bicycles and scooters ridden to school are roadworthy and well maintained

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

Ashford CE Primary School would like to thank you in advance for supporting our travel policy. If you have any ideas on how to promote, or provide new opportunities for active travel please get in touch. Additionally, we would be interested to hear your ideas of how to improve safety or air quality around our school. Our contact details are [info@ashford-primary.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@ashford-primary.surrey.sch.uk).

We are proud to have been awarded Bronze Accreditation supported by Surrey County Council through the Modeshift STARS accreditation scheme for our efforts.



### **Children's Rights Article 24**

You have the right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help you stay well.