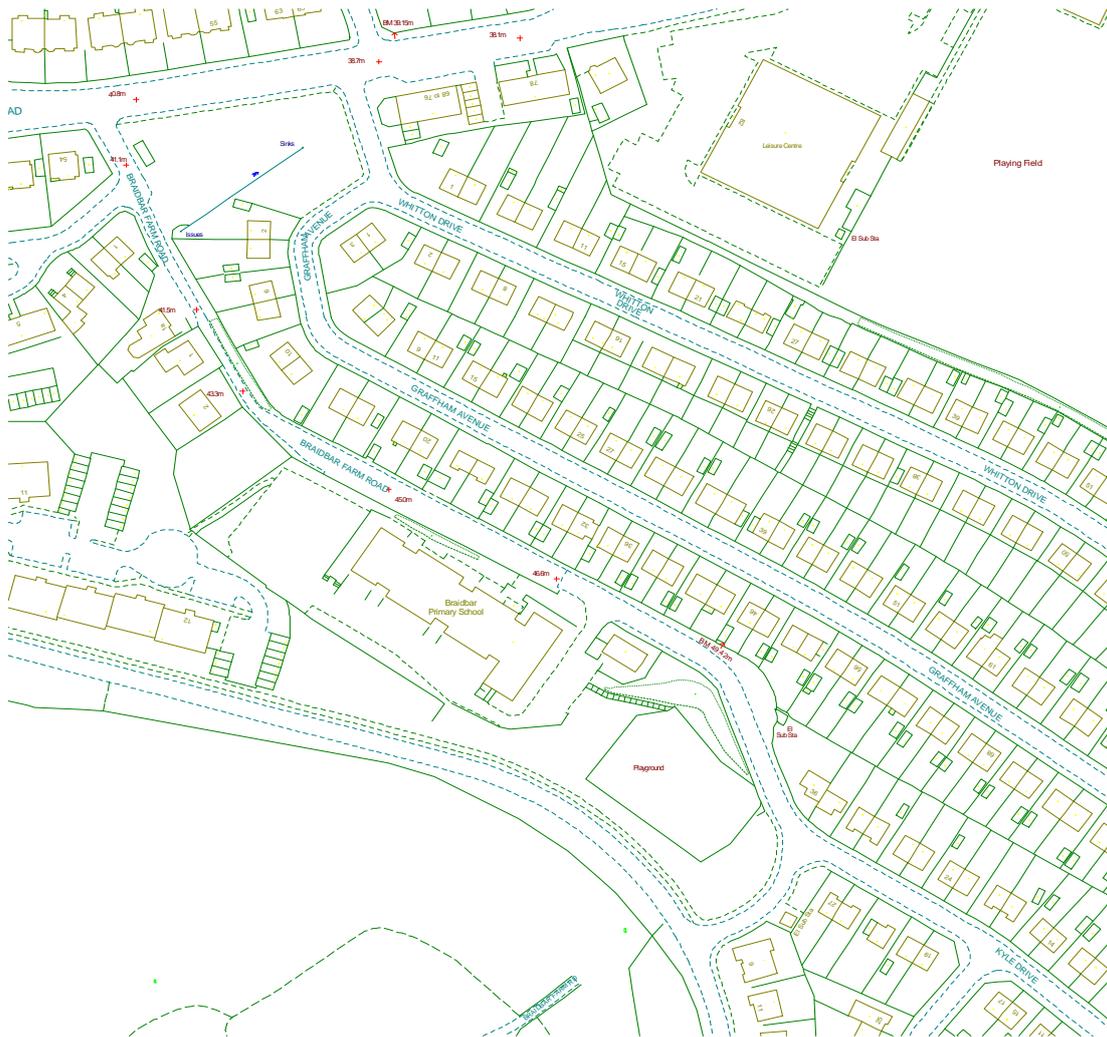


BRAIDBAR PRIMARY SCHOOL, GIFFNOCK

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN VOLUME 1 – FEBRUARY 2006



Introduction

Braidbar Primary, Giffnock

Braidbar Primary School, Giffnock is situated around 500m east of Giffnock town centre and has a school roll of 286 pupils. The school can be accessed from two directions:- its vehicle entrance is off Kyle Drive to the south of the school, and there is a pedestrian footpath to the north of the school that connects Braidbar Farm Road to the busy Braidholm Road. A school crossing patroller currently operates at a pelican crossing on Braidholm Road to assist pupils who walk to school.

Braidbar Primary School is one of the first schools in East Renfrewshire to undertake their School Travel Plan. The Council is offering support to the school in terms of personnel and funding for road safety improvements.

What is a School Travel Plan?

A School Travel Plan (STP) is a document written by the school with input from interested parties, such as teachers, pupils, school travel co-ordinator, Police, Councillors and the school board. The document outlines the school's needs and problems regarding travel to school.

School Travel Plans are not just about transport but about improving health, broadening education, improving the environment, contributing to the community and combating social exclusion. Improvements may therefore cover a range of areas including physical changes to the area around the school, curriculum work, promotional events, training and so forth.

Aims of Braidbar Primary's School Travel Plan

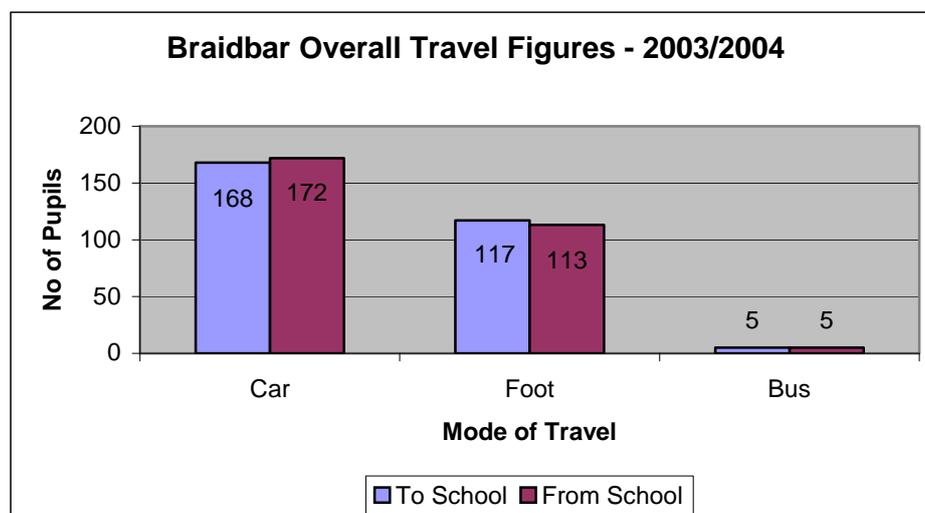
- To improve pedestrian safety in and around the school.
- To encourage more local pupils to walk and cycle to school.
- To raise awareness amongst pupils, parents and staff of the wider health and environmental problems associated with increased car use.
- To raise awareness amongst pupils, parents and staff of the health benefits of walking, and where feasible cycling to school.
- To ensure those pupils, parents and staff are supported and encouraged to make positive, healthy travel choices.
- To improve the local environment for everyone by reducing pollution, reducing congestion and addressing safety issues around the school.
- To improve relationships between the school and local residents by encouraging parents who drive to school to park considerately.

Evidence of Consultation

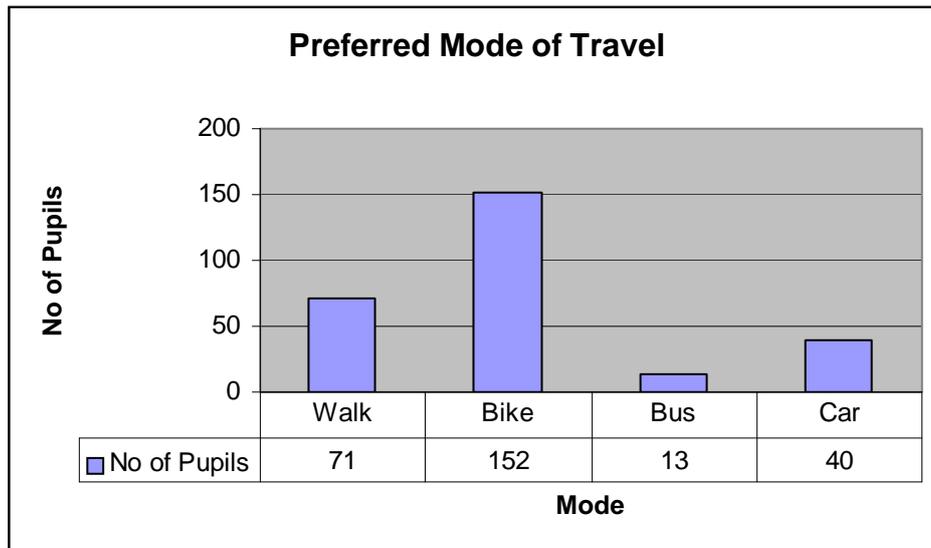
In March 2004 all the pupils in the school carried out a travel survey questionnaire which asked about their existing and preferred mode of travel, distance travelled to school and safety concerns on the school run. Below is a brief summary of the main findings of the survey:-

Of the respondents currently 170 (58.6%) pupils are currently driven to/from school, 115 (39.7%) pupils currently walk to/from school and 5 (1.7%) pupils are bussed to school. The walking percentage is lower and the driven percentage is higher than the national average. This may be due to the number of pupils at Braidbar who are on placement requests and travel from outside the school catchment area. 79% of pupils of p4-p7 pupils live within 1 mile of the school.

The pupils were asked what their preferred mode of travel to school would be and interestingly, the results are as follows:- 71 (25.7%) pupils would like to walk to school, 152 (55.1%) pupils would like to cycle to school, 40 (14.5%) pupils would like to be driven to school. The remainder would like to travel to school by bus or train. There is a clear demand amongst the pupils to cycle to school. Cycle racks have recently been installed at Braidbar Primary with the capacity to hold 20 bikes.



The above table will be used as base figures in order to set targets for the travel plan. It is proposed to re-survey the pupils in the future once travel initiatives outlined in this document are up and running in order to gauge the progress that has been made.



Summary of the School's Transport and Road Safety Concerns

- The high number of pupils being driven to school makes it more dangerous for pupils who currently walk to school. The current level of vehicular traffic and the associated safety risk may be preventing more pupils from walking to school.
- Conflict between pedestrians and vehicles on Braidbar Farm Road (north-end).
- Traffic congestion at both entrances to the school.
- Residents of Parkgrove Avenue, Brisbane Court, Melbourne Court and Kyle Drive have expressed concern that parents on the school run are, on occasion, restricting access to their properties.
- Lack of segregation between vehicles and pupils in school grounds.
- Volume of traffic parked around the school at peak times makes it difficult for pupils who currently walk to school to cross roads safely.

Proposals to Improve Road Safety

- It is proposed to construct a footpath link from the pedestrian crossing on Braidholm Road to the footpath at the rear of the school to encourage more pupils to walk to school and reduce parking levels in the immediate vicinity of the school. The Council has established ownership of the land and aims to implement this footpath by March 2007.
- It is proposed to try and reduce the congestion levels around the school gates by attempting to initiate walking bus and car sharing schemes. Parents who currently drive will be encouraged to consider parking further from the school.
- An enforceable part-time 20mph speed limit will be implemented on Kyle Drive by April 2006. Road users will be alerted to the change in speed limit by flashing amber lights in the corners of the 20mph part-time speed limit signs.
- Two sets of two speed cushions are proposed to be installed on Kyle Drive around the school entrance by July 2006.

Braidbar Primary - School Travel Policy

- Braidbar Primary would like to reduce levels of car emissions around the school. Parents who drive to school are encouraged to switch off their engines whilst waiting for pupils.
- Large vehicles and 4x4's are not the most suitable vehicle for the school run. Parents who have to drive to school and have access to two cars are encouraged to use the smaller car on the school run.
- Park and Stride:- Older pupils are expected to walk at least part of the way to school to reduce congestion around the school gates.
- Parents are encouraged not to park on footways, as this can be dangerous for pupils walking on footways. Parking close to the school also restricts visibility for pupils crossing the road.

Summary of Objectives and Proposals

Objectives	How	By When	Who
<p>Improve cycling standards.</p> <p>Cycling proficiency training moved to P6 pupils.</p>	<p>* Active schools co-ordinator, to assist P5's in cycle skills training.</p> <p>* Teachers and parent helpers to continue to assist P6 pupils with Scottish Cycle Training Scheme.</p> <p>Cost - N/A</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Melanie Neef – Active Schools Co-ordinator.</p> <p>Parent Volunteers.</p> <p>Teacher Volunteers.</p>
<p>Increase levels of pupils cycling to school.</p>	<p>* Increased training levels (see above).</p> <p>* Provide pupils who are cycling to school with reflective tabards.</p> <p>Cost – To be met by ERC</p>	<p>Easter 2007</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>As above</p> <p>School Travel Co-ordinator</p>
<p>To encourage an improvement in the number of pupils, parents and teachers walking to and from school.</p> <p>Target = 5% increase in walking by summer 2007.</p>	<p>* Set up a 'walking bus'.</p> <p>* Identify 'Park & Walk' or 'Park & Stride' drop-off and collection zones. (Au Natural or Greens?)</p> <p>* Upgrade walking routes to school eg. proposed footpath off Braidholm Road.</p> <p>* Whole school take part in 'Walk to School' week events.</p> <p>Cost - To be met by ERC</p>	<p>Spring / Summer 2006.</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Twice annually.</p>	<p>Margaret Ward, Greg Brown, Parent Volunteers</p> <p>Greg Brown – Schools Travel Co-ordinator.</p> <p>School Travel Co-ordinator Active School Co-ordinator Pupils</p>
<p>To reduce level of traffic congestion around school at the beginning and end of the school day.</p>	<p>* Encourage participation in walking and cycling.</p> <p>* Reduce parking on footways surrounding school by educating parents / engineering measures.</p> <p>* Education of parents and pupils.</p> <p>Cost – To be met by ERC</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>School / Pupils / Parents</p> <p>Teachers East Renfrewshire Council</p> <p>School, Materials from East Renfrewshire Council</p>

Objectives	How	By When	Who
To improve access to school.	* Installation of footpath off Braidholm Road.	March 2007	East Renfrewshire Council
	Cost - To be met by ERC		
To improve road safety around school.	* Install part time 20 mph speed limits and traffic calming measures on Kyle Drive.	March 2007	Greg Brown East Renfrewshire Council
	* Educating parents / pupils.	Ongoing	School
	Cost - To be met by ERC		
Continue effective liaison with all partners and stakeholders with regard to school travel	* By keeping an eye on school travel issues and ensuring all partners work in tandem to achieve goals.	Ongoing	Margaret Ward, Pupils Council, Teachers, School Board, Community Police, School Travel Co-ordinator, Education and Roads Departments, Cllr Steele, Active School Co-ordinator, Parent volunteers
	Cost – To be met by ERC		
To encourage pupil awareness of road safety and safe travel too and from school.	* Develop school policy and integrate school travel into curriculum	Ongoing	Margaret Ward
	* Continue to run school travel notice-board	Ongoing	Teachers at Braidbar
	* Promote sustainable travel through educational theatre.	Ongoing	Pupil Council
	Cost – To be met by ERC		

Evaluation and Monitoring

- In order to gauge progress and to see if targets have been met, it will be necessary to re-survey the pupils during the summer term 2007 and every subsequent year. It will not be necessary to complete questionnaires in the future; a simple 'hands-up' survey will be adequate to compare travel figures with our existing figures.
- Following each annual survey, a meeting should take place between all interested parties and a brief progress report compiled identifying where actions have been completed and the impact of these in meeting targets. If a target is not met, the school will review that section of the plan and revise it if necessary.