



# SPRINGHILL PRIMARY, BARRHEAD

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN  
VOLUME 1 - MARCH 2011



## **Introduction**

Springhill Primary School is a non-denominational primary school run by East Renfrewshire Council. The school teaches Primary 1-7 pupils from age 5-11. The school has a roll of 140 pupils and is a feeder school for Barrhead High. The school works hard on the Eco Schools Project and has appointed Junior Road Safety Officers. The school is supported by an active Parent Council which meets monthly.

Springhill Primary School is situated in the Arthurlie area on the south-west corner of Barrhead and can be accessed from the north and south via the busy Springhill Road. A School Crossing Patroller currently operates on Springhill Road outside the school.

## **What is a School Travel Plan?**

The way we travel has a huge impact on our economy, health, environment, and the resources available for future generations. In 2007 road transport in Scotland accounted for approximately 25% of Scotland's carbon dioxide emissions. The transport sector also generates other environmental impacts like airborne and waterborne pollutants. For these reasons it is easy to understand why encouraging more efficient, convenient and sustainable travel is important.

It is estimated that one-fifth of all vehicles on our roads at 8.50am are involved in school travel and of course, the challenge is to put sustainable transport measures into practice - for example; by providing the information, support and infrastructure to help those travelling to and from school to choose to walk, cycle, take public transport, or trip share more often than they currently do.

School Travel Plans are not just about transport though, they are also 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, raising awareness, training and so forth.

## **Access to School**

Springhill Primary School can be accessed on foot, by bicycle, public transport and by car, or by a combination of these modes of transport. The normal school day starts at 9:00am and finishes at 3pm with school activities occasionally running until 5pm.

Pedestrian provision within Barrhead and in the immediate vicinity of Springhill Primary School is generally good. Local streets generally have well lit and well maintained pedestrian footways. There are also a number of local off road footpaths which may provide convenient routes to school.

For more information see:

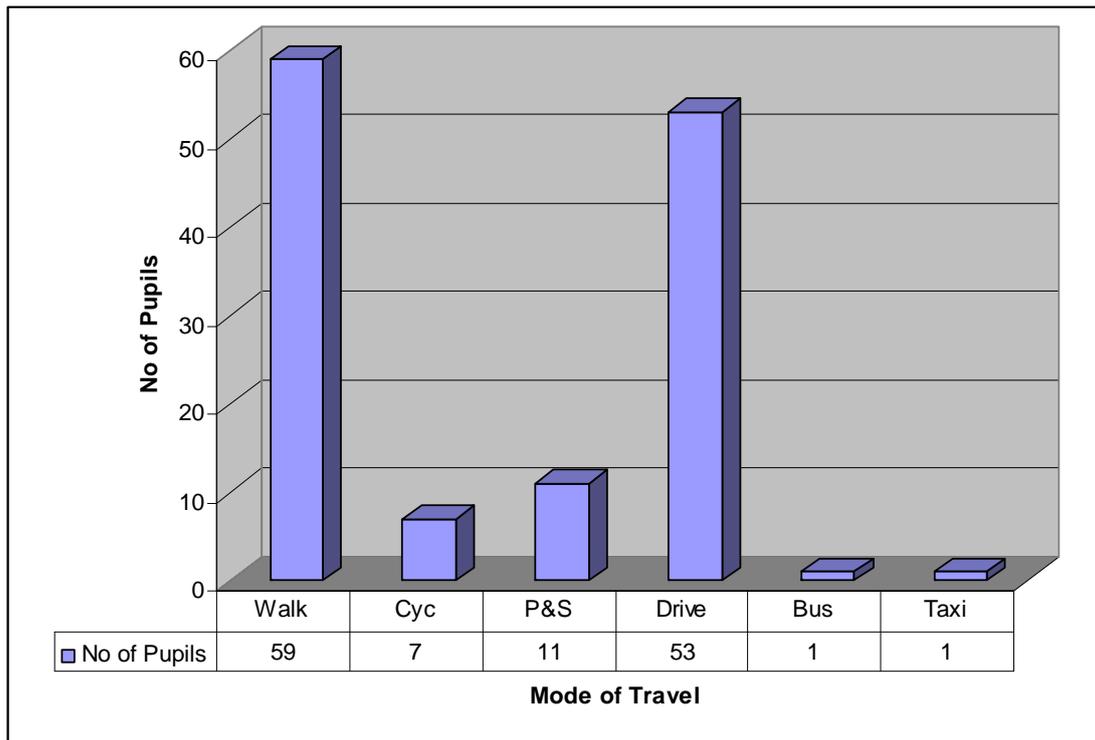
[http://www.gobarrhead.co.uk/assets/GoBarrhead\\_MapLeaflet\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.gobarrhead.co.uk/assets/GoBarrhead_MapLeaflet_WEB.pdf)

## **Existing Infrastructure**

Local streets already have a number of measures in place in to help ensure a safe environment for pedestrians, cyclists and children travelling to school. These measures include:

- 20 mph speed limits on a number of local streets. The chance of a child being seriously injured or killed if hit by a car travelling within the speed limit is significantly reduced compared with a car travelling at 30 mph or more;
- A part time 20 mph is in effect outside the school during school peak hours;
- Keep Clear road markings to discourage drivers from parking near the school crossing patroller;
- A school crossing patrol operates outside the main entrance to the school;
- Bollards to prevent cars from mounting the footway.
- Cycle shelters have been installed at the school.

## Current Travel Trends



The above table shows results of the 2010 'Hands Up' survey data. The data is collected over one day in September, therefore providing a snapshot of travel habits.

The data shows that 59 (45%) of pupils walked to school on the day of the survey, 7 (5%) cycled, 11 (8%) parked remotely from the school and walked the rest of the way (park & stride), 53 (40%) were driven to school.

The above table will be used as base figures to set targets and objectives for the travel plan. The annual 'Hands Up Survey' will be used to monitor progress that has been made.



## Summary of the School's Transport and Road Safety Concerns

The main problems identified by the pupils are:-

- 21 pupils noted that congestion around the school gates was a problem. This congestion decreases visibility for pupils attempting to cross the road:- 13 pupils said visibility was a problem.
- 21 pupils noted that speed / traffic danger is a problem outside the school.
- Other things noted by pupils were:- parked cars encroaching on School Crossing Patrol location (6 pupils), cars parking in the bus stop (5 pupils) and localised pollution (1 pupil).

The current level of vehicular traffic on Springhill Road and the associated safety risk may be preventing more pupils from walking and cycling to school.

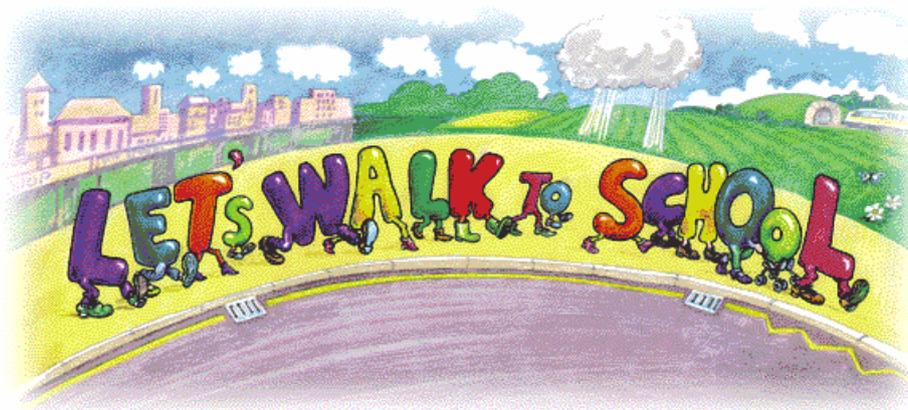
## Aims of the Springhill Primary School Travel Plan

- To improve pedestrian safety in and around the school.
- To encourage more pupils to walk and cycle to school.
- To discourage indiscriminate parking around the school and encourage parents who drive to park away from the school gate (park and stride).
- To raise awareness amongst pupils, parents and staff of the health benefits of walking, and cycling to school.
- To ensure those pupils, parents and staff are supported and encouraged to make positive, healthy travel choices.



## Springhill Primary - School Travel Policy

- Springhill 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.
- Junior Road Safety Officers to produce leaflets outlining 'park + stride' sites, encouraging car sharing and raising awareness of forthcoming school travel and sporting events.
- Parents are encouraged not to park on footways, as this can be dangerous for pupils walking on footways. Parking on the zig-zag markings or bus-bay is prohibited. Parking close to the school can restrict visibility for pupils crossing the road.
- Pupils who have undertaken their cycling proficiency training are encouraged to cycle to school with consent of their parent / guardians.
  - Reflective, high visibility tabards, and other reflective / fluorescent equipment will be provided to those wishing to cycle on request.
  - All cyclists are encouraged to wear a helmet.
  - Pupils must cycle responsibly and dismount on approach to the school. No cycling in the school grounds.



## Proposals to Improve Road Safety

- A map outlining the best walking and cycling routes to school is being created by the Junior Road Safety Officers to hang in the school. This map will identify footpaths, school patrol locations and the quietest routes to take to school.
- A part-time 20mph speed limit has been introduced on Springhill Road. The reduction in the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph will apply when pupils are either going to or returning from school. Road users will be alerted to the change in the speed limit by flashing amber lights in the corners of the 20mph part-time speed limit signs. This is an enforceable speed limit.
- 'Park and Stride' - Parents who drive to school are encouraged to drop pupils off remote from the school to reduce congestion levels around the school gates (improving road safety for other pedestrians) and to improve the fitness of the children. The bowling green car park, Arthurlie Park or local residential roads remote from the school are options.
- Guard-rail, bollards and lining will be considered to reduce the conflict between pedestrians and vehicles where required.
- Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSO's) will maintain school travel / sports notice board + promote safe travel initiatives such as 'Walk to School Week' and 'Park and Stride'.
- Pupils to design banners to hang from the school railings to remind parents to park responsibly.



## Summary of Objectives and Proposals

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>How</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Who</b>
Continue to build on the success of on-road cycle training.	* Teachers and parent helpers will assist pupils with training prior to cycle tests.  * Maintain trainer to pupil ratio.	Ongoing	Lucy Murdoch, Teachers  Greg Brown – Road Safety Training Officer (RSTO)
	Cost:- N/A		
Raise awareness of sustainable travel initiatives and encourage new ideas from the pupils.	* Create and update section on school wall for school-travel issues + health.	Ongoing	J.R.S.O's.
	Cost:- N/A		
Increase walking levels to over 50%.	* JRSO's to identify and promote 'Park & Stride' drop-off and collection zones.	Ongoing	JRSO's, School via newsletters
	* Whole school take part in 'Walk to School' week events.	Twice annually (May and October).	Whole School
	* Look into setting up pedometer projects.	Ongoing	Gary McGunnigle, Active Schools Co-ordinator (ASC),
	* Maintain 'Walking Wednesday' project. Introduce participation awards.	Ongoing	Whole School
	Cost:- To be met by East Renfrewshire Council		

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>How</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Who</b>
To improve road safety around school.	* Install Zebra Crossing on Springhill Road.	April 2011	ERC – Roads Department
	* Consider guard-rail / bollards / additional road markings on Springhill Road as required.	Ongoing	Greg Brown – STC
	Cost:- To be met by East Renfrewshire Council		
To encourage pupil, parent and teacher awareness of road safety and safe travel to and from school.	* Develop school policy and programme of study for P1 to 7 on road safety, establishing links curriculum for excellence.	Ongoing	Teachers, Greg Brown to provide materials / advice.
	* Continue with 'Junior Road Safety Officers' project.	Ongoing	Lucy Murdoch
	* Whole school 'health promotion week'.	Ongoing	Teachers and pupils, partner agencies
	* Pupils to design a banner to discourage school-gate parking and promote healthy travel.	Ongoing	RSTO, Pupils
	Cost:- To be met by East Renfrewshire Council		
Encourage an increase in the numbers of pupils cycling to school	* Install cycle shelters.	Complete	ERC
	* Set up 'Cycle Skills' training for P5 pupils.	Ongoing	Lucy Murdoch
	* Supply reflective tabards and snap-wraps to cyclists.	Ongoing	RSTO, ASC
	* Janitor to assist in bike maintenance	Ongoing	Janitor
	* Apply for 'Cycle Friendly Schools' status.	Ongoing	Lucy Murdoch
	Cost:- To be met by East Renfrewshire Council		

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>How</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Who</b>
Park & Stride	* Identify and promote locations where pupils can be dropped off to walk remainder of the way to school eg. Arthurlie House car park.	Ongoing	JRSO's
Car Share	* Encourage parents who drive to school to share lifts to reduce congestion around school gates and reduce vehicle emissions.	Ongoing	Pupils, Parents
	Cost:- N/A		
Primary to Secondary Transition:- Ensure effective continuity between P7 pupils going to S1.	* Campus Policeman at Barrhead High to discuss travel / personal safety issues involved in moving to High School.	Ongoing	Campus Policeman at Barrhead High.  Involve S1 pupils who previously attended Springhill.
	Cost:- N/A		

### **Evaluation and Monitoring**

- The annual national 'Hands Up Survey' data will be used to gauge whether progress has been made and targets have been met.
- 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 as necessary.

