

Action	How will we achieve this?	By when?
Encourage Active Travel to school, and increase park and stride	Walking Bus, Cycling to school.	
Encourage responsible parking	Park Smart Pledge, police support	
Investigate infrastructure options	Discuss options with Aberdeenshire Council Roads.	

South Park School Travel Plan

About our school

South Park School is situated on Philorth Avenue in Fraserburgh. The present school roll is **390 in the primary and 40 in the nursery**. We are 1 of 4 primary schools in Fraserburgh with our catchment being for the south-west of the town.



What is a Travel Plan?

A Travel Plan is a document which encourages people to travel to our school in a sustainable, active and safe way. The travel plan supports walking and cycling as the most sustainable forms of transport.

Although walking and cycling are a good choice for the environment, and improves air quality at the school gates, there are lots of other benefits too -

- **Fitness.** Leaving the car at home and walking, or cycling to school will provide great health benefits for all family members.
- **Road safety skills.** Being able to make the journey on foot or bike will provide ideal opportunities to learn essential road safety skills that many young people who are driven by car are lacking.
- **Social skills.** Walking to or from school provides a great opportunity to talk. Pupils could be talking to their friends or families, discussing what they have been up to, or raise any problems they may be having.
- **Safety.** More people walking and cycling means less cars on the road and at the school gate making a much safer environment for everyone.

Overall Aim - to create safer journeys for those travelling to Fraserburgh South Park Primary



Tips to keep you safe when walking to school.

- Plan your route to school and discuss this with an adult.
- Find a good place to cross, this should be away from parked cars and have good visibility in both directions. Always cross with the Patroller on Strichen Road or West Road if coming in that direction.
- Be bright and be seen, the more you stand out the more drivers will see you and slow down.
- Be careful of driveways and narrow entrances.
- Stay alert and pay attention at all times.
- Crossing the street safely
 - 1) Stop at the curb or edge of the street.
 - 2) Look right, look left then right again.
 - 3) Wait until no traffic is coming and begin crossing.
 - 4) Keep looking for traffic until you have finished crossing.
 - 5) Walk, don't run across the street.

Tips to keep you safe when cycling and scooting to school.

Where children can do so safely, we actively encourage children to bike or scoot to school. Please feel free to bring your bike or scooter and make use of the bicycle and scooter storage facilities located in the playground. However, the school cannot take any responsibility for any bikes or scooters left here so you will need to bring a lock.

- **Please** wear a helmet and wear something bright.
- Ride in a position you can see and be seen.
- Use your bell if necessary to warn others you are there
- No cycling or scooting in the playground and consider other pedestrians around the school gate.
- Maintain your bike. Check your brakes and tyre pressure. Guides can be found online from Cycling Scotland to help you check these.
- Plan your route to school at home first - avoid main roads and busy junctions.
- **TAKE CARE AND STAY SAFE!** Where we see pupils cycling to school dangerously or without a helmet, we will work with parents to ensure the safety of all.

Note for Parents / Carers

Parents often ask what age children need to be to cycle to school or if children need to have completed their Bikeability training first. It is not for us to say when your child can safely cycle to school. This is a decision for parents. Bikeability training is offered in P6 and provides on road training, however, when a child is ready to cycle lies with the parents. We have young, experienced cyclists who would be safe to cycle to school before Bikeability training and we have beginner cyclists in P7 who would not yet be able to safely cycle to school. This decision is entirely with parents and the school cannot accept any responsibility for injury or damage to bikes on the way to or from school.

**South Park Primary School,
Hands Up Travel Survey**

Walk - 48%
 Cycle/ Scooter - 10%
 Park and Stride - 24%
 Driven - 17%
 Bus/ Taxi - 1%

Travel to school. To the left you can see the travel to school data for our school, we record this annually going back to 2006.

Walking levels have fluctuated over the years but remain high at 48%. Cycling and scooting levels are at their highest of 10%. Driving levels have seen a steady decrease, dropping from 52% in 2006, to 31% in 2014 to 17% in 2016.

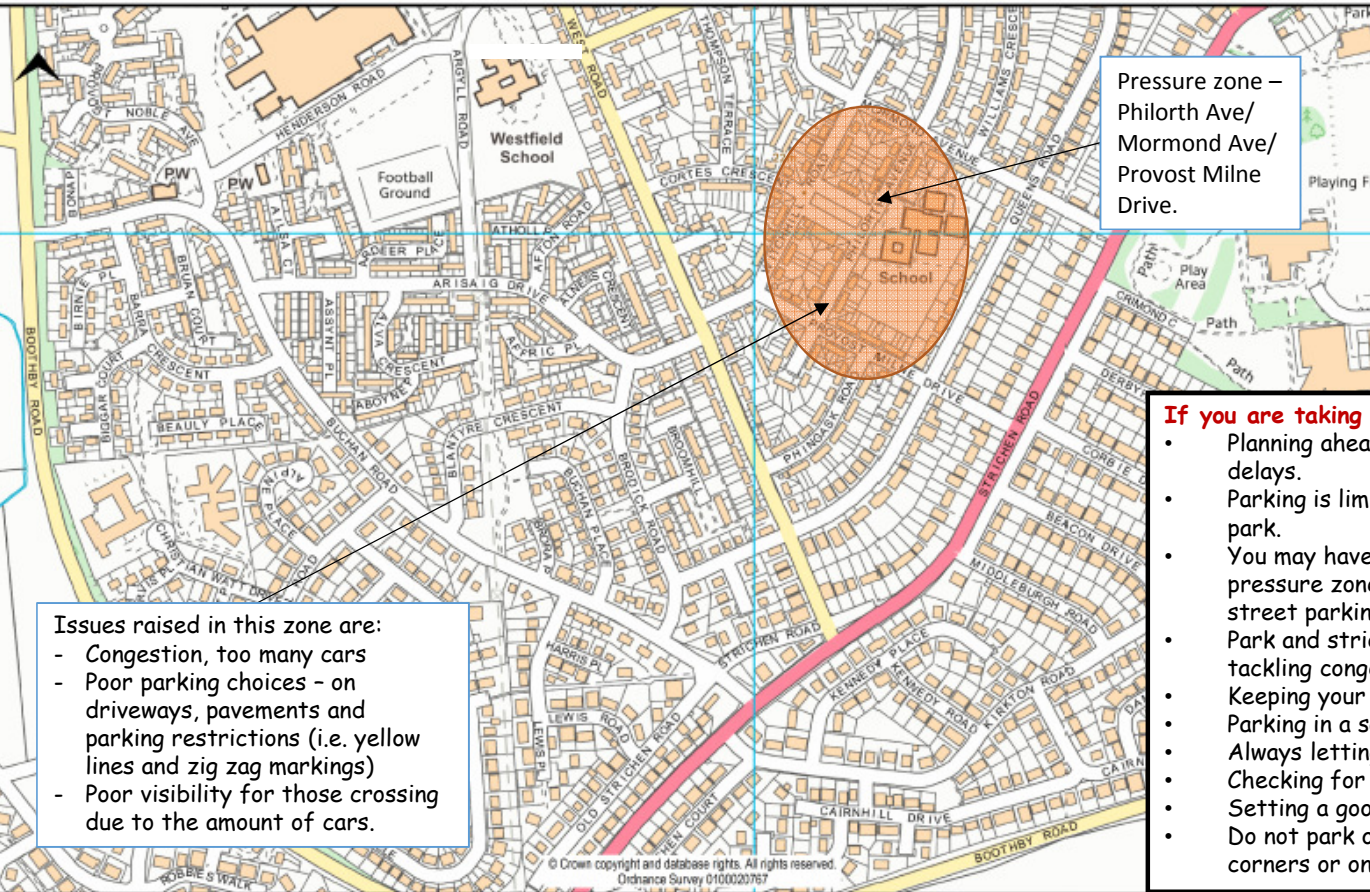
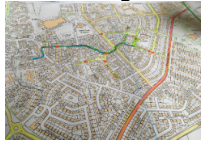
We are heading in the right direction, with a decrease in cars levels and an increase in active travel. However with an increasing school roll, we need to keep trying to encourage more pupils to utilise active travel in order to see a difference to school gate, and surrounding area congestion.

Your Views

Consultation took place with both parents and pupils. Key findings are below:

- ⚠️ 93% of parents feel there are issues with vehicles outside the school gate: pressured points are highlighted on the map. Many parents feel congestion, irresponsible and illegal parking are the problems.
- ⚠️ There are many barriers that prevent children walking or cycling to school, the main one being time: parents who have to dash off to work.
- ⚠️ Road safety was also raised. We want to try and tackle this to allow all pupils to walk or cycle to school safely.
- ⚠️ Pupil concerns very much mirrored the parent responses. Congestion and parking around the neighbouring streets to the school cause road safety issues for pupils.
- ⚠️ It was clear through the surveys, pupils would like to walk or cycle more than they do.
- ⚠️ The main road safety concerns were down to cars. Many families choose to drive because it is unsafe to walk. We need to break this cycle.

The action plan on the back of this, has been created in response to the concerns raised by both parents and pupils with the aim of making a safer environment outside Fraserburgh South Park School.



If you are taking the car, you can help by:

- Planning ahead and giving yourself plenty of time in order to account for any unexpected delays.
- Parking is limited around the school, please give yourself time to find a responsible place to park.
- You may have to park a few streets away to do this, try and avoid parking in the orange pressure zone all together. There are no resident parking permits in Fraserburgh so on street parking is always plentiful, although it may mean a short walk to the school gate.
- Park and stride - parking 5 or even 10 minutes away from the school will greatly help in tackling congestion.
- Keeping your speeds low.
- Parking in a safe manner at a suitable location away from the school to reduce congestion.
- Always letting your child out on the pavement side.
- Checking for other road users before you or your child open the car door.
- Setting a good example to your child by teaching them about road safety.
- Do not park on yellow lines, other parking restrictions, in front of peoples driveways, on corners or on grass verges.