

# **The Bellbird Primary School**



## **Cycling Policy**

**January 2019**

**(To be reviewed Spring 2022)**

## **Introduction**

The Bellbird School recognises the many positive benefits of pupils cycling to and from school. We therefore look to encourage this form of travel behaviour in as many ways as possible. This cycling policy also includes the use of scooters.

### **Benefits of cycling to school include:**

- Improving health through physical activity.
- Establishing positive active travel behaviour.
- Promoting independence and improving safety awareness.
- Reducing congestion, noise and pollution in the community.
- Reducing environmental impact of the journey to school.
- Raising Self esteem

### **Role of the pupil:**

- To ride to school sensibly and safely following the Highway Code.
- To take advantage of Bikeability cycling or scooting training opportunities as they become available, throughout the school, across the year groups.
- To take responsibility for checking that their bicycle or scooter is roadworthy and regularly maintained.
- Behave in a manner which shows them and the school in the best possible light and to consider the needs of others when cycling.
- To correctly wear a cycle helmet to and from the school site, including when using a scooter.
- To ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using bicycle lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.
- To dismount upon entering the school site and walk their bicycles or scooters to the storage area.
- To be aware of other pedestrians when wheeling the bicycle or scooter through the school site.
- To use the bell as a warning when approaching pedestrians.
- To safely store the cycle helmet with the cycle or scooter in the cycle shelter.

### **Role of the school:**

- To provide Cycling Training in Y6.
- To provide and maintain cycle shelter storage,
- To actively promote cycling or scooting as a positive way of travelling.
- To celebrate the achievements of those who choose to cycle or scooter to school.
- The Bellbird School is not responsible for bicycles or scooters brought on to or left on school premises and is therefore not liable for pupils' bicycles being stolen or damaged by a third party. The cycle storage is behind the school gates that are locked throughout the school day making it unnecessary for cycles to have a cycle lock.
- The Headteacher will notify parents if children do not adhere to the School Bicycle Policy and permission to ride will be withdrawn until the issues identified have been satisfactorily addressed.

### **Role of the parent:**

While this school wishes to encourage an increase in the number of pupils cycling or scooting to school we strongly recommend that pupils wishing to cycle to school have undertaken the necessary Cycle Proficiency training available through school. More information on the Bikeability training syllabus is available at [www.bikeability.org.uk](http://www.bikeability.org.uk)

It is advised that you note the RoSPA advice that children below 11 years of age have not normally attained sufficient cognitive hazard perception skill to ride on roads independently. For children who are below the age at which on road cycling training is offered (Year 6) or who have not undertaken the necessary training and still wish to cycle to school, we recommend that these children must be accompanied by their parents. Children who have had some Bikeability training below this age, should still be accompanied by parents. This advice is also applicable to the use of scooters.

Although the school provides appropriate cycle storage, parents are advised to take out appropriate insurance cover as the school's insurance does not cover loss or damage to bicycles.

### **Recommendations for cycling to The Bellbird:**

- To ensure that their children are aware of, and follow the safety guidelines for riding on the roads or pavement.
- To ensure that children dismount from their cycles or scooters before entering the school grounds.
- To ensure the bicycle is in good working order, well maintained and the correct size.
- To fit the bicycle with a bell and working lights.
- The school will provide every child with a cycle helmet upon entry.
- To wear the named cycle helmet (this is a condition) and encourage their child to wear bright and or reflective clothing on the journey.
- To note that all bicycles and helmets are brought and stored on school grounds at the owners risk.