PARMITER'S SCHOOL

Travel Plan

Introduction

Parmiter's School is committed to the improvement of the environment and encourages the use of sustainable modes of travel.

Members of the Parmiter's community (Governors, staff, parents, carers and students) are both proactive and supportive of methods which improve our environment. Our students learn about the importance of conserving and enhancing the environment within the School's educational programmes. Sustainable travel is promoted in school although we recognise that a number of our staff and students have to travel significant distances. We encourage car share in school communications.

Our aim is:

- to minimise the number of car journeys that are made to and from the School
- to minimise the number of vehicles that park on High Elms Lane
- to encourage staff and students to cycle to school and to provide adequate facilities for bicycles to be parked on the School site
- to provide adequate facilities for cars to park on the School site, including the provision of disabled and visitor parking

School Buses

Due to the expansive area from which our students travel and, to minimise the number of car journeys that are made to and from school, we operate a non-profit bus service for students through Mullanys Coaches. There are currently over 600 students (40%) using 9 bus routes and these are reviewed annually. Students who have been awarded a place at the school based on the distance or proximity criteria are not eligible to apply to travel on the school buses. The bus service significantly reduces the number of cars using the lane at the beginning and end of the school day.

Cycling to School

Parmiter's School recognises the many positive benefits of students cycling to and from school:

- 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.

Reviewed: November 2025
Next Review: October 2026
JWH

Parmiter's offers a cycle shed in which bicycles can be left at the owners' own risk. Parents are advised to take out appropriate insurance cover as the school's insurance does not cover loss or damage to bicycles.

We expect cyclists to follow the Highway Code https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code :

We also expect our cyclists to:

- Wear a British Standard helmet.
- Not wear headphones when cycling.
- Ensure that their bike is roadworthy and regularly maintained.
- Ensure that they can be seen by other road users, by using lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.

For Health and Safety reasons, we ask that cyclists dismount at the school gate and do not ride on the school site.

When available, we offer staff a Cycle to Work scheme which provides heavily discounted bicycles through a salary sacrifice arrangement.

Walking to school

Students are encouraged to walk to school if they are able to; they are advised to walk in friendship groups or with siblings. In the darker winter months, students are encouraged to wear reflective clothing and to be alert to cars movement in the congested areas outside the school. Staff monitor the school access areas at the beginning and end of the school day to oversee the safe movement of pedestrians and cyclists entering and exiting the school site.

Driving and Parking

Parents are asked to restrict their car journeys to and from School by arranging car sharing wherever feasible and encouraging their children to walk or cycle to School whenever possible. Drivers are asked to take particular care and look out for cyclists and pedestrians when driving around the school pick-up and drop-off areas.

Parmiter's has ample parking on site for staff, students and visitors. Staff and students are encouraged to car share whenever possible.

Parmiter's continues to work with Three Rivers District Council, St Michael's Catholic High School and West Herts Crematorium in an attempt to revise the infrastructure of High Elms Lane; installing marked, monitored parking bays and enhanced pedestrian facilities. The consultation can be viewed here:
https://www.threerivers.gov.uk/egcl-page/parking-consultations#hel

Electric Scooters

Electric scooters/bikes, quads, go-peds, mini-motos, hoverboards and Segways are all examples of vehicles that may be considered in legal terms to be motor vehicles and are therefore subject to all the usual legal requirements that apply to cars or motorcycles e.g. tax, insurance, registration and driver

licensing. They cannot therefore be used on a road unless they conform to the law and many such vehicles will never be 'road legal' as their design fails to meet UK or EC road vehicle standards. Furthermore, such vehicles cannot legally be used on the pavement either, in fact the only place they can be used is on private land with the landowner's permission.

As such the school requests that children not be allowed to use any of the modes of transport listed above as means of commuting to school.