

Travel Plan

January 2026



St Botolph's CEP School

Dover Road, Northfleet, Gravesend, DA11 9PL



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1 Introduction to the school

1.1 Background

St Botolph's Church of England Primary School, part of the Aletheia Academies Trust, provides a stimulating and inclusive education that helps children of all abilities and backgrounds develop confidence, knowledge, and skills within a Christian ethos, while respecting those of other faiths. Staff, pupils, parents, and governors work together to support the care of the school and the wider community, promoting the spiritual, social, moral, and intellectual development of all pupils.

We are a Voluntary Aided primary school located in a residential area of Northfleet, Kent, on the outskirts of Gravesend. The school has 14 classes, serving children aged 4 to 11, with two classes in each year group from Foundation Stage to Year 6. Most pupils live in the immediate catchment area, which includes a mix of owner-occupied homes, social housing, and several new housing developments.

The school benefits from extensive outdoor space, including playgrounds and playing fields for each key stage. Our dedicated team of 53 staff supports the school day, which runs from 8:45am to 3:05pm. We also offer a Breakfast Club from 7:30am to 8:30am and an After School Club (St Bots Club) from 3:05pm to 6:00pm during term time.

1.2 Changes at the school

The school is neither moving nor expanding.

1.3 Inter-site travel issues

The school is on a single site, hence has no internal travel issues.

2 Operational hours

2.1 Core hours

Our school day runs from 8.45am to 3.05pm. Door open to pupils from 8.30am.

2.2 Overall hours

Our school operates a Breakfast Club from 7.30am to 8.30am and an After School Club (St Bots Club) from 3.05pm to 6.00pm, with the option of a 4.30pm pick up. Both of these clubs run every school day, term time only.

In addition, we offer after-school activity clubs on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, which finish at 4:00pm. Children from Year 1 to Year 6 can choose to attend one of these clubs each week.

KS1

Day	Club
Monday	Sports
	Craft
Tuesday	Construction
	Cookery
Thursday	Sports

KS2

Day	Club
Monday	Indoor Games
	Sports
Tuesday	Craft
	Sports
Thursday	Dance and Drama
	Cooking

3 Staff and pupil numbers

3.1 Overview of staff & pupil numbers

We have 424 pupils on roll and have waiting lists for all year groups. There are six classes in our main school building and eight in our two-storey newer building. We currently employ 20 teaching staff and 33 support staff.

Age range of pupils: 4 to 11

Total quantity of pupils on roll: 424

Nursery	0
Reception	60
Year 1	60
Year 2	60
Year 3	63
Year 4	60
Year 5	60
Year 6	61
Year 7	0

3.2 Current staffing levels

The school employs a total of 53 staff (43 full-time, 10 part-time, 0 working other hours).

3.3 Planned school expansion

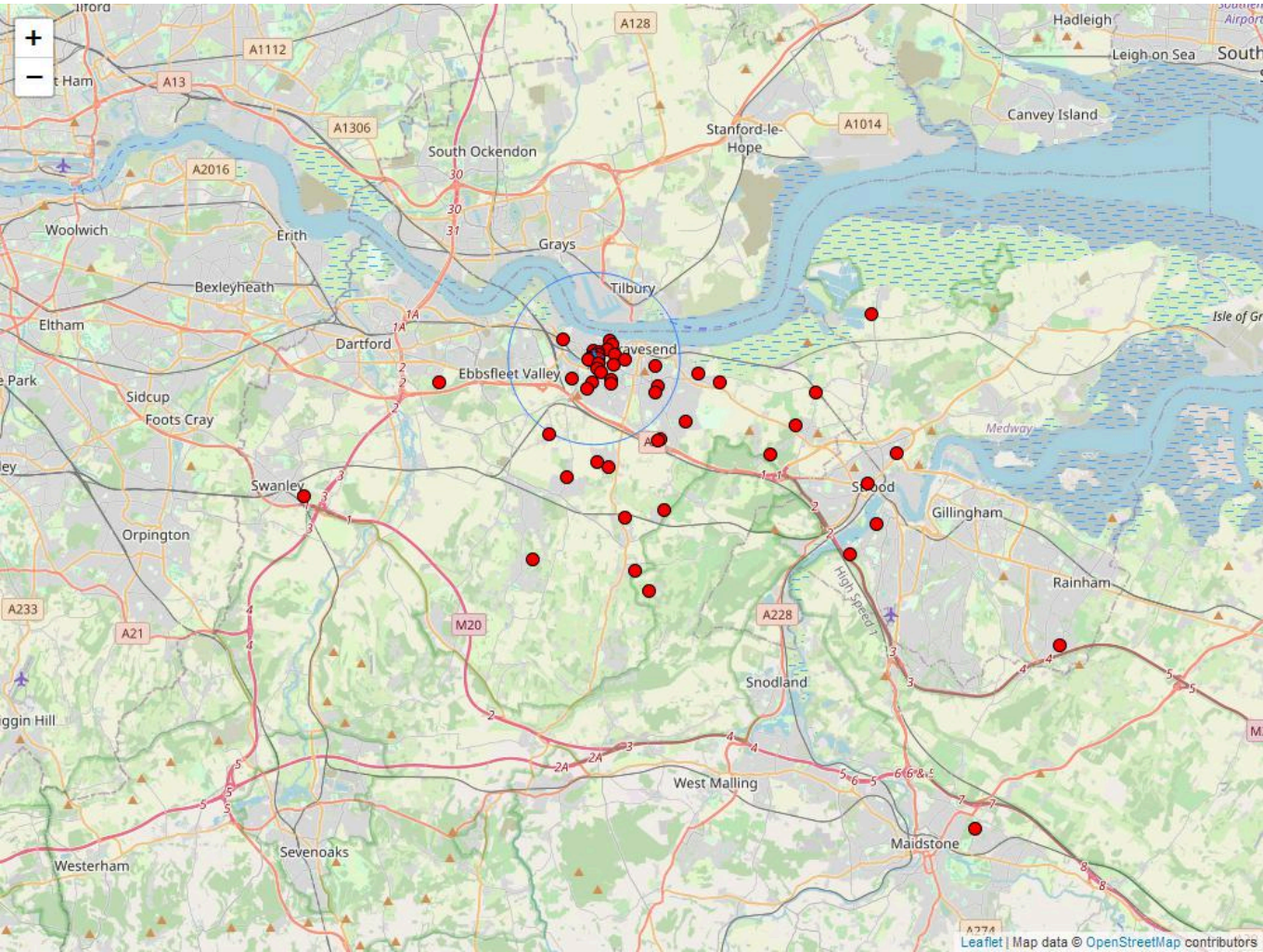
The school is not currently planning to expand.

3.3 SEN pupils with transport needs

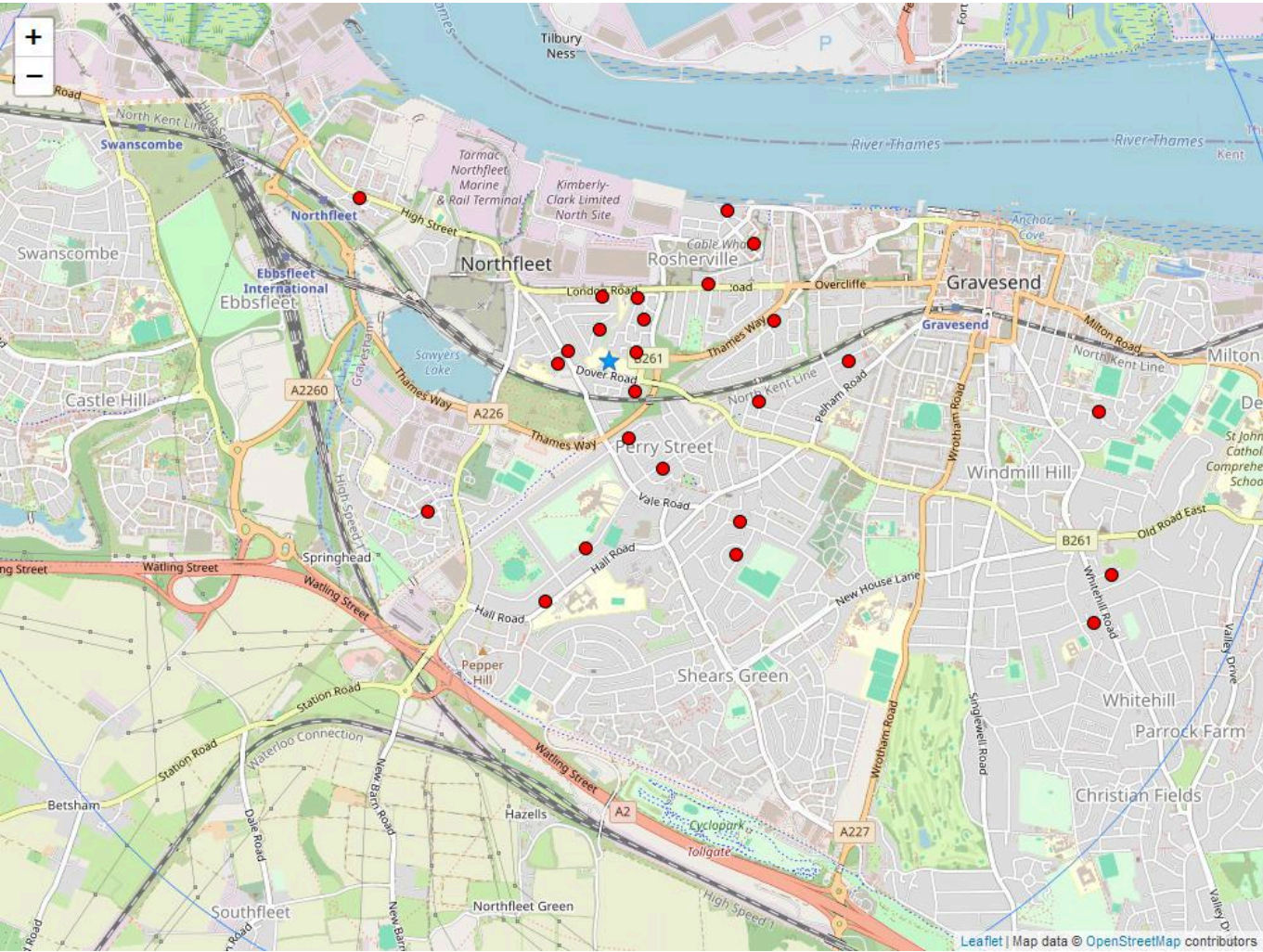
The school has no SEN pupils with specific transport needs.

4 Pupil & staff postcode maps

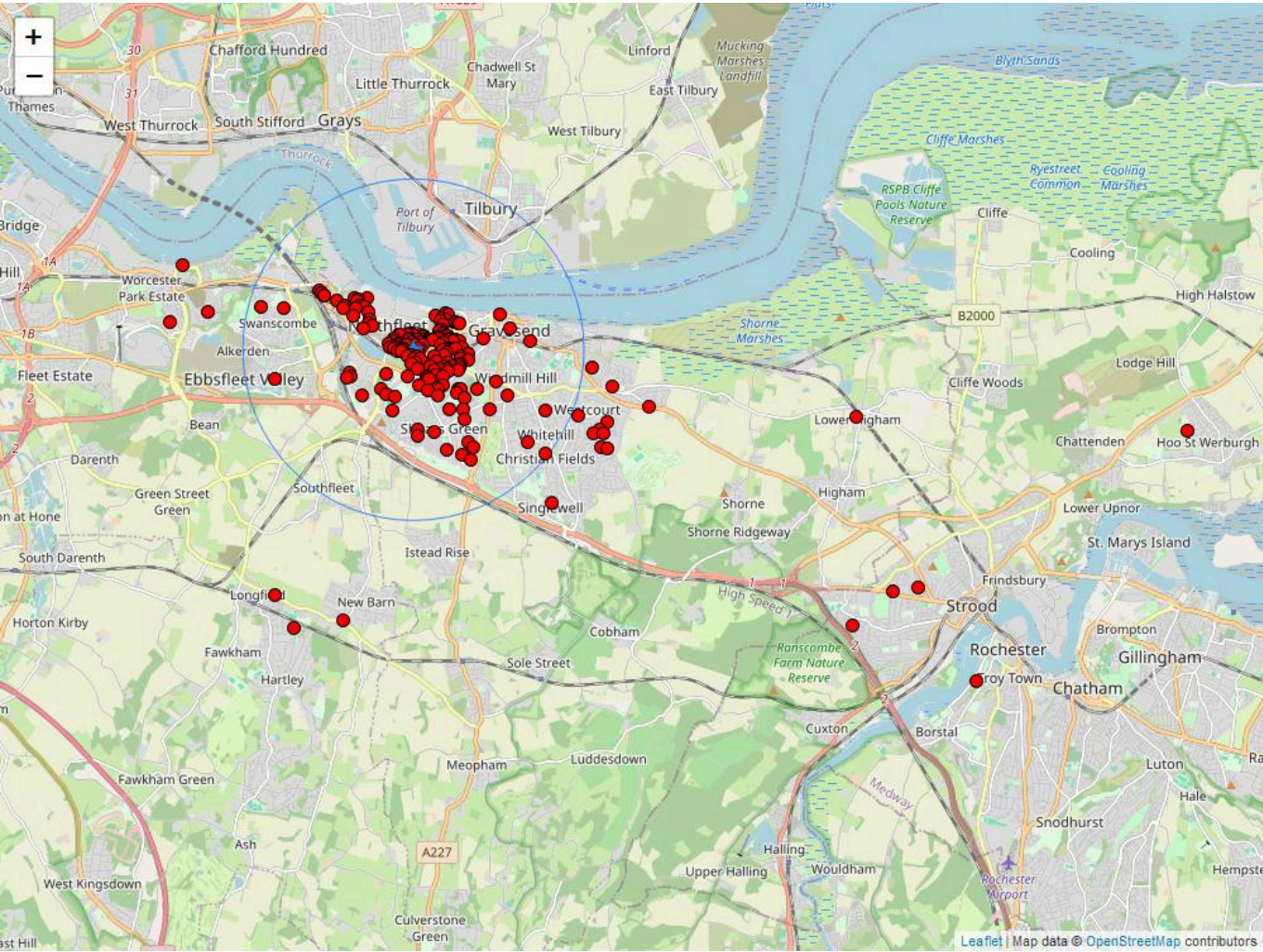
Staff Postcodes - All Staff



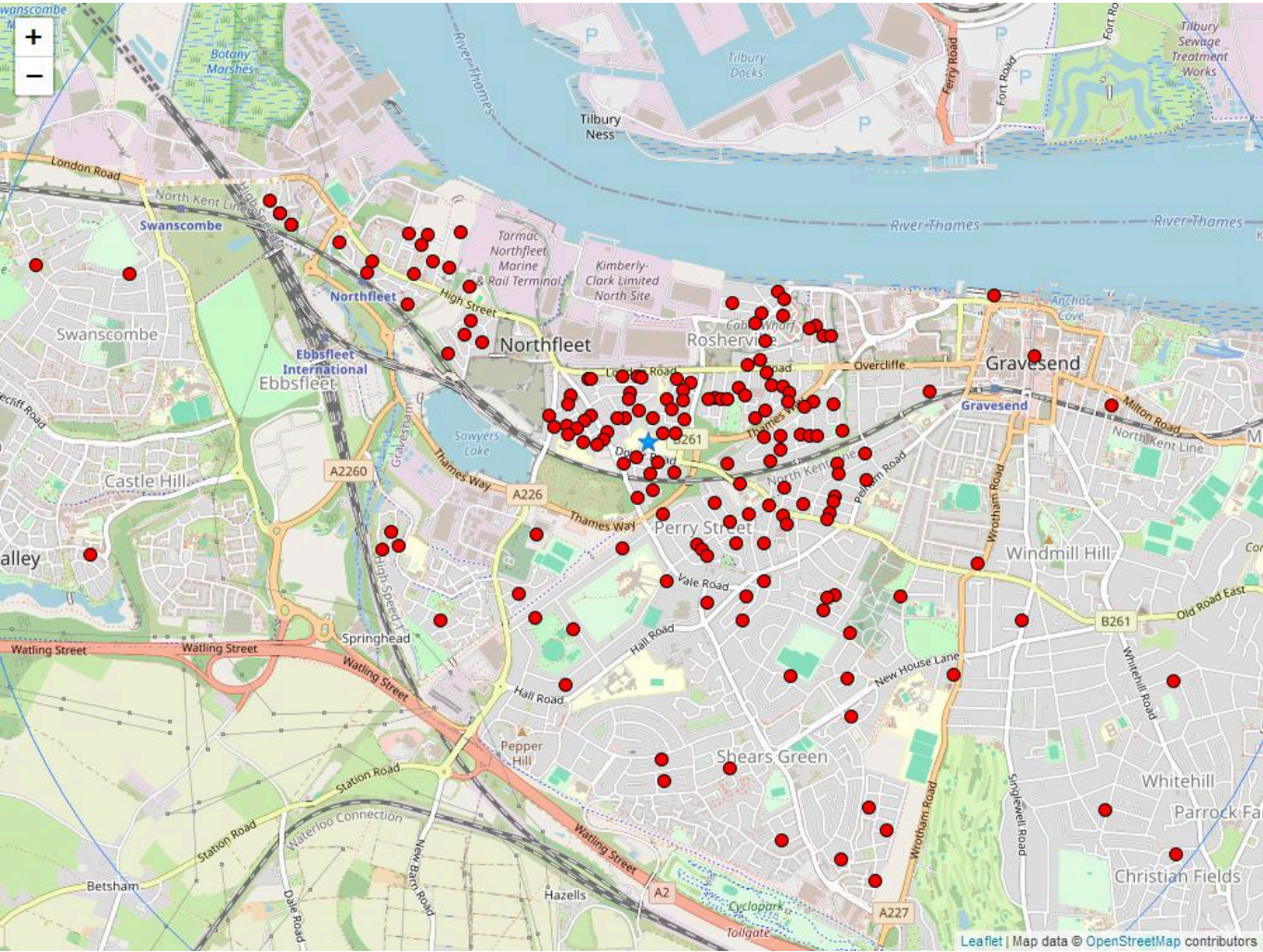
Staff Postcodes - School Vicinity



Pupil Postcodes - All Pupils



Pupil Postcodes - School Vicinity



5 Travel plan details

5.1 Previous travel plan

The school has a previous travel plan (2009), with the following objectives, targets, issues and successes.

The main objectives of our previous Travel Plan were to:

- Reduce vehicle speeds along Dover Road and Robinia Avenue
- Decrease the number of vehicles travelling to and from the school
- Reduce illegal and inconsiderate parking in the vicinity of the school
- Alleviate congestion on roads serving the school
- Promote positive relationships with local residents
- Increase pupils' awareness of environmental and road safety issues
- Encourage active travel through 'walk to school' initiatives

To date, there has been no significant improvement in vehicle speeds along Dover Road, the volume of traffic travelling to and from the school, levels of congestion on surrounding roads, or relationships with neighbouring residents.

Despite regular reminders to parents via emails and articles in our monthly newsletter, requesting respectful and considerate parking, this remains a significant concern. Double yellow lines have since been introduced on Watercress Way (a housing development which was not built at the time of the previous Travel Plan); however, these restrictions are frequently ignored. Local residents continue to raise concerns with the school and are advised to report issues to the Local Authority or the non-emergency police service.

Several 'walk to school' initiatives have been introduced since the previous Travel Plan; however, none are currently in operation.

5.2 Reason for new travel plan

The primary aim of this Travel Plan is to reduce traffic congestion in the area surrounding the school, with particular focus on Dover Road and Watercress Way. By promoting alternatives to car travel, we aim to decrease the number of vehicles undertaking the school run and parking near the school during drop-off and pick-up times. This will help to create safer, more efficient journeys for pupils and families, while also addressing the concerns raised by local residents regarding unsafe and inconsiderate parking.

Furthermore, the implementation of this Travel Plan will strengthen the school's eligibility for grants, resources, and training opportunities that are not currently accessible. These opportunities will further support our commitment to fostering a safer, more sustainable school community.

6 Surrounding roads

6.1 Surrounding roads

The school is situated on Dover Road, a residential street primarily lined with terraced houses, all of which have footpaths on both sides. Most houses in this section of Dover Road do not have driveways, and cars are frequently parked on both sides of the road, restricting traffic to a single lane.

Opposite the school is a newer housing development, Watercress Way, consisting mainly of flats. While some residents have private parking, the main access to the development is via Dover Road. A busy traffic light junction near this development provides access to the dual carriageway, Thames Way; however, there is no pedestrian crossing at these lights.

Robinia Avenue, which can be accessed via the gate on the KS2 playground, is a residential road of mainly semi-detached and terraced houses, some with private parking. Footpaths are present on both sides of the road, and the school gate is located at the end of this dead-end street.

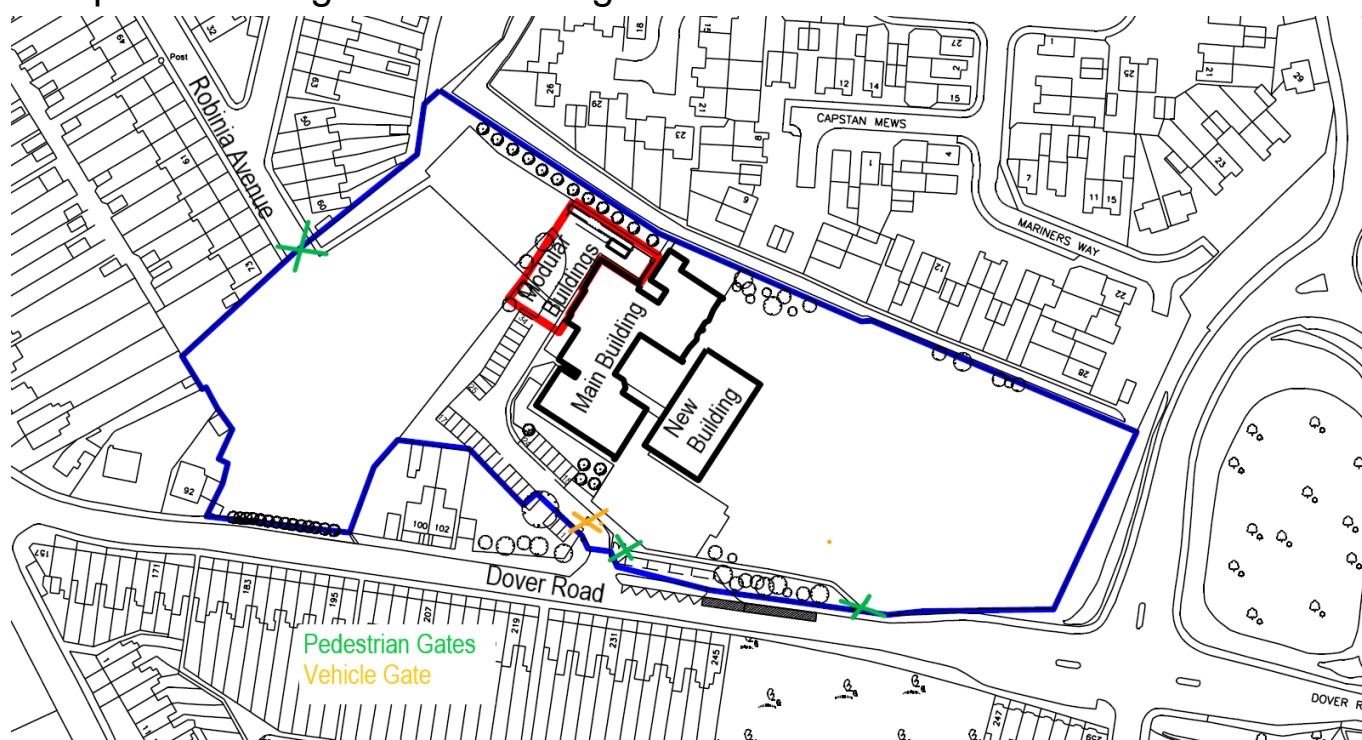
6.2 Entrances and exits

St Botolph's Primary School has three pedestrian entrances. The main entrance, located next to the vehicle access gate on Dover Road, is supplemented by a second entrance further along Dover Road near the traffic lights and a third at the end of Robinia Avenue. All entrances are open at the start and end of the school day. During school hours, access is restricted to the main gate, which operates via intercom to the school office.

Parents are not permitted to drive into the school car park to drop off or collect children, except for Blue Badge holders or those attending wraparound care clubs. While a small drive-in drop-off area is available, accommodating approximately 3–4 cars, the majority of parents park on Dover Road or Robinia Avenue. This often causes difficulties for local residents, with driveways and property access sometimes blocked during peak times.

Children travelling to school by bike or scooter who enter via either Dover Road gate must cross the school car park using the zebra crossing to access the storage shelter located near the Robinia Avenue gate.

Site plan showing entrance/exit gates



6.3 Parking restrictions nearby

There are school clearway markings outside the school.

There are parking restrictions on nearby corners

Zig-zag markings on Dover Road outside the main school entrance restrict parking during peak times; however, vehicles are occasionally parked here. The school operates a drive-in drop-off area at the start and end of the school day, with barriers in place to prevent parking outside these times. A hashed area is located on the approach to the vehicle access gate, although some parents occasionally park here when dropping off children during school hours. One property opposite the school has a designated disabled parking space.

The school has a staff car park, providing 33 marked spaces. There are usually enough spaces for staff, although visitors often have to park outside of the office, which restricts access for larger vehicles.

6.4 Traffic management measures

The school offers the following traffic management measures:

The school operates a drive in-drop-off area in the mornings, which can accommodate 3 to 4 cars at a time.

6.5 Drop-off on roads outside the school

Parents drop pupils off on nearby roads.

Parents may use the school's drive-in drop-off area to release children at the gate. However, due to limited parking in the surrounding streets, some parents stop on the road to let children out of the car, which can lead to traffic congestion.

Inconsiderate parking, even for a short time, causes inconvenience for local residents and can create hazards for children arriving on foot, particularly when parents attempt to parallel park in restricted spaces on Dover Road. The school regularly reminds parents to park considerately through monthly newsletters.

6.6 Congestion and access problems

The school experiences traffic congestion and/or access problems.

The volume of cars around the school during peak times creates significant congestion and raises serious road safety concerns. Vehicles are frequently parked on zig-zag markings, double yellow lines, on corners, and across private driveways. There are currently no Road Crossing Patrols in operation in the surrounding area.

Although parking is permitted on Dover Road, the high volume of traffic makes it challenging to find a space. When cars are parked on both sides of the road during drop-off and pick-up periods, the street often becomes single file, resulting in severe bottlenecks where vehicles are unable to pass in either direction.

Local residents regularly express concerns regarding dangerous driving and inconsiderate parking, especially in Watercress Way, including parents blocking access to properties. Complaints have also been received about cars parked on junctions and double yellow lines, which dangerously restrict drivers' visibility when entering Dover Road.

7 Car parking & usage

7.1 School car park

The school has an on-site car park.

In total, 33 parking spaces are available.

Of these, 2 spaces offer EV charging.

Parking spaces are managed.

No parking spaces are allocated.

7.2 Drop-off points

The school has an off-site drop-off point, which is supervised.

The school operates a drive-in drop-off point each morning, which can accommodate 3–4 cars. This area is supervised by the Site Manager and other staff, who are present at the gate to welcome children. To ensure the smooth operation of this facility, parents are regularly reminded to keep their stop as brief as possible.

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Parents are able to drop pupils off within the school grounds.

Parents are permitted to drive into the school car park outside of normal school hours to drop off or collect children attending the Breakfast Club or After School Club. Please note that the car park is not supervised during these times.

7.3 Parking on surrounding roads

Members of staff do not (have to) park on the surrounding road network.

8 Pedestrian facilities

8.1 Access by footpath

The school is accessible by footpaths which are of good quality but which lack safe crossing points. There are no designated safe road crossing points in Dover Road or in the vicinity of the school. Tactile pavements mark the zebra crossing across the driveway to the school.

8.2 Access difficulties for pedestrians

There are some access difficulties for pedestrians.

Inconsiderate parking during peak times can make it difficult and potentially dangerous for pedestrians to cross Dover Road. Additionally, parking on both sides of the road frequently reduces it to a single carriageway, which can result in vehicles travelling at excessive speeds in order to pass through. At present, we are unable to secure a Road Crossing Patrol, as the local council does not consider the road to be sufficiently busy.

8.3 Crossing patrols

None.

8.4 Highway signs

Triangular school warning signs.

8.5 Walking bus

The school does not have a walking bus.

We have tried on a number of occasions to organise a walking bus but have not had enough interest from parents.

8.6 Other walking initiatives

The school does not promote any other walking initiatives.

9 Cycling & scootering

9.1 Pupil scootering

Some pupils (18) scooter to school.

This changes daily and most pupils scooter with their parents. Many parents take their child's scooter home with them after drop-off rather than leaving it at school.

9.1a Scooter parking/storage

Scooter parking/storage spaces (16 total) are provided.

There is a bike/scooter shelter at the top of the KS2 playground, next to the gate leading to Robinia Avenue. This can accommodate approximately 16 locked bikes/scooters.

The bike/scooter shelter is rarely full. Spaces are available on a first come-first served basis.

9.1b Encouragement & promotion of scootering to pupils & parents

Scootering is neither encouraged nor promoted.

There is more we can actively do as a school to promote this.

9.2 Pupil cycling

Some pupils (3) cycle to school.

This changes daily. Most pupils cycle with their parents and numbers often increase after Bikeability training has taken place.

9.3 Staff cycling

No staff currently cycle to school.

Distance from school; too many school items to carry on a bike each day; have to drop children off at school first.

9.4 Cycle routes/lanes

The school site is not accessible by external cycle routes/lanes.

9.5 Cycle parking

Cycling parking (16 places) is available.

Location of cycle parking: There is a bike/scooter shelter at the top of the KS2 playground, next to the gate leading to Robinia Avenue. This can accommodate approximately 16 locked bikes/scooters.

All cycle racks are covered.

No cycle racks are secure.

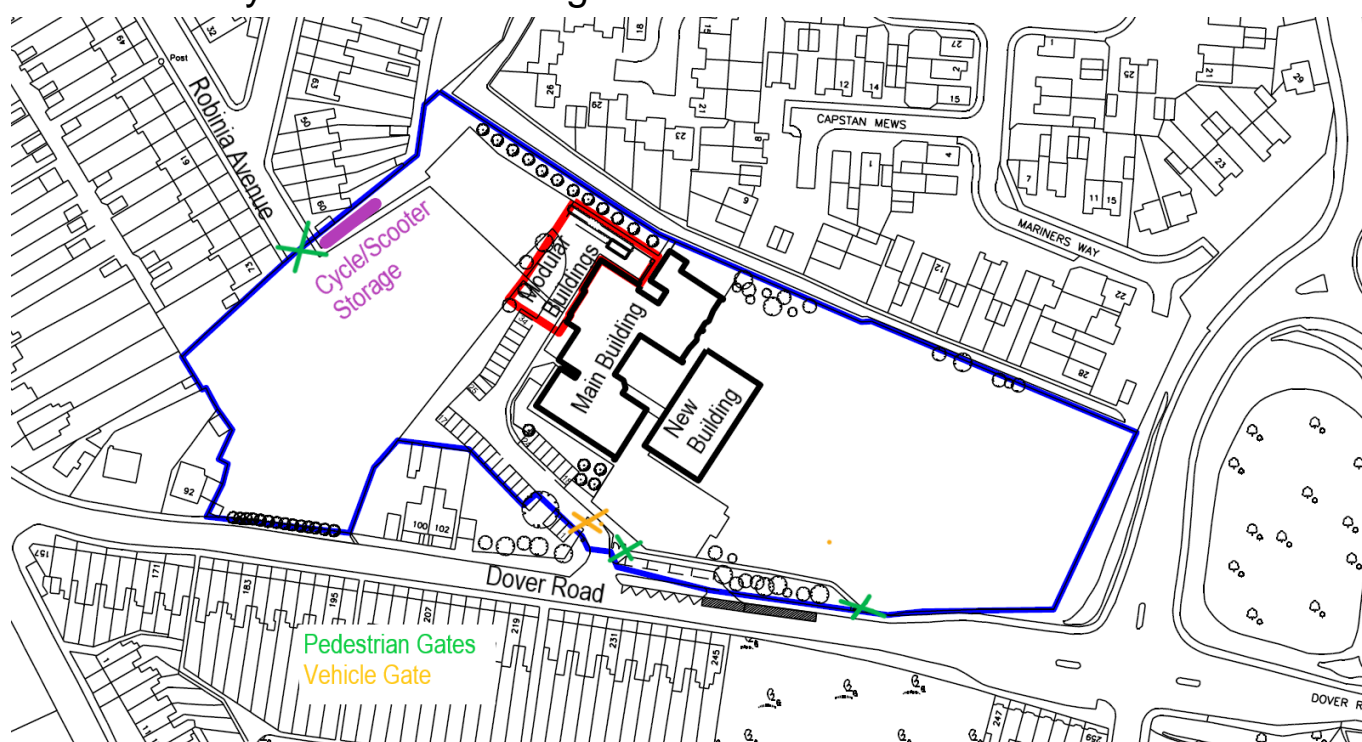
No cycle racks are lit.

No cycle racks are near building entrances.

9.5a Utilisation of cycle parking

The bike/scooter shelter is rarely full. Spaces are available on a first come-first served basis.

Location of cycle/scooter storage shelter.



9.6 Cycle training

The school accesses cycle training from KCC's "Kent Bikeability" scheme.

9.7 Encouragement & promotion of cycling

Cycling is neither encouraged nor promoted.

There is more we can actively do as a school to promote this.

10 Public transport

10.1 Use of public transport

7 pupils and 1 member of staff use public transport.

10.2 Obstacles to use of public transport

Our school is in an area of high deprivation and the cost of four bus journeys (two return journeys) is not viable for many of our parents.

10.3 Promotion of public transport

We currently do not promote public transport

10.4 Bus stops and services

10.4a Bus stops within 400m of site entrances

The only bus stop within 400m of the school is in Rosherville Way (322m).

10.4b Services currently serving these bus stops

This is served by the AZ Fastrack service, which runs between Dartford and Gravesend, via Greenhithe.

10.4c Shelters at these bus stops

The shelters are typically clean.

The shelters are well lit.

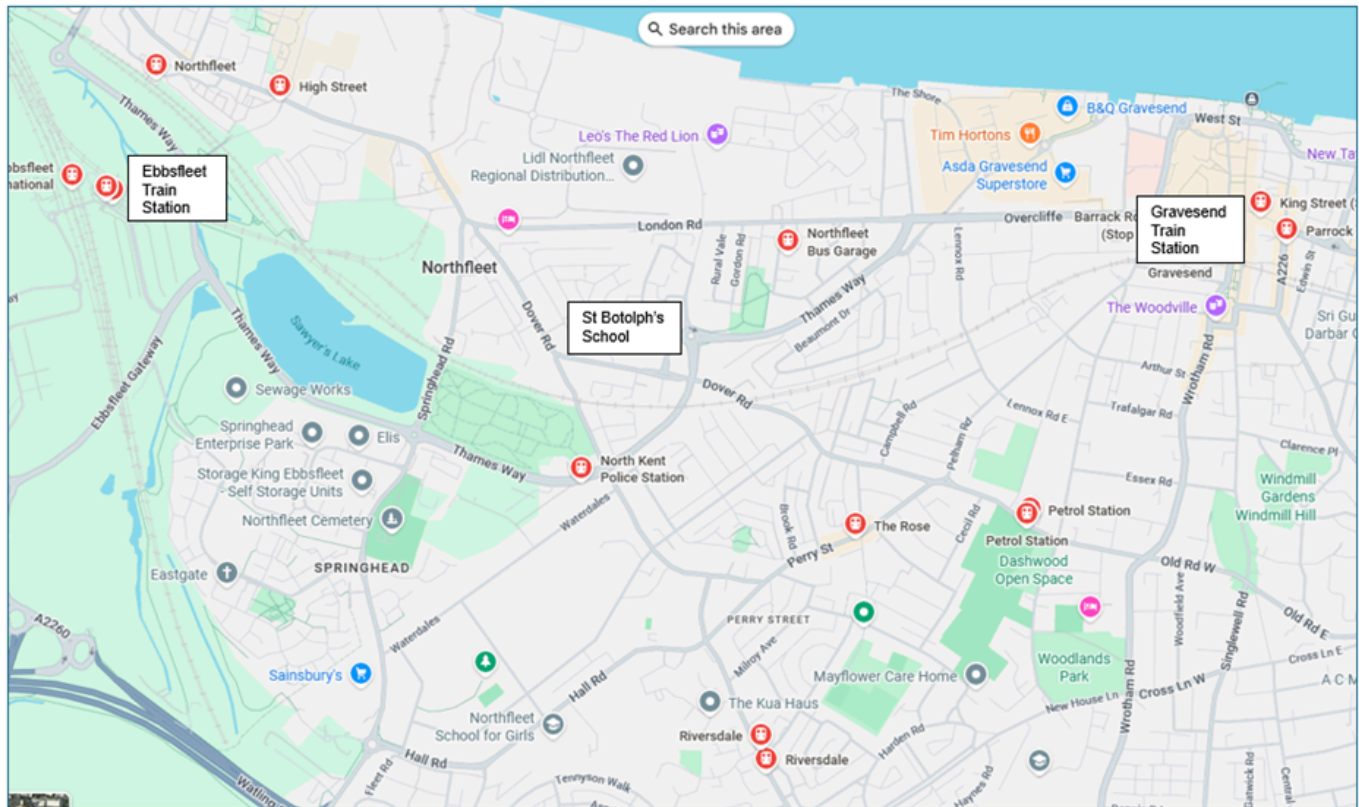
The shelters have timetables or live travel information.

The shelters have seats.

10.5 Railway stations and services

There are no railway stations near the site.

Bus stops and train stations



11 Contract transport

11.1 School buses

There are no dedicated school buses.

11.2 Taxis

Taxis, whether for SEN or other students, are a regular part of the school day.

One family, with three children, use a funded taxi service to bring their children to school and collect them at the end of the day.

11.3 Parking issues related to contract transport

None.

11.4 Other contract transport issues

None.

12 Current travel issues

12.1 Other travel issues

Since the previous Travel Plan, a new housing development, Watercress Way, has been built opposite the school. This has led to an increase in local residential traffic. While the development provides additional parking for parents, it has also resulted in safety and access issues. Parents frequently park

inappropriately on corners, restricting visibility for residents exiting Watercress Way, and blocking private driveways and access points.

Although double yellow lines were recently installed to help manage parking in this area, some parents continue to park on them, contributing to frustration among local residents and generating negative perceptions of the school within the community.

12.2 New & current travel issues

There are currently no crossing patrols or other formal measures to support safe pedestrian crossing on Dover Road or the surrounding streets.

On Dover Road, parking on both sides reduces the carriageway to a single lane, encouraging some drivers to travel at excessive speeds and significantly increasing the risk to pedestrians attempting to cross.

During school drop-off and pick-up times, congestion and irresponsible parking are common. This has led to frequent complaints from local residents and has negatively affected the school's relationship with the local community.

There are no cycle routes or cycle lanes leading to the school from our main catchment area.

13 Travel survey results

modal split percentages (actual) - pupils

	Oct 2025	May 2019	May 2019	Jun 2014	Jan 2009
walk	53.0	45.2	45.2	53.3	48.7
park & walk	14.1	8.8	8.8		
cycle	0.7	1.6	1.6	1.1	1.0
scoot/skate	4.5	1.8	1.8		
bus (all types)				0.4	0.5
public bus	1.7	0.5	0.5		
school bus	0.0	0.0	0.0		
rail	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
car share	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.5
car (alone)	24.5	41.4	41.4	44.4	48.2
other	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.0

NB rounded percentages may not add exactly to 100.0%

modal split percentages (ideal) - pupils

	Oct 2025	May 2019	May 2019
walk	29.7	26.2	26.2
park & walk	6.2	5.9	5.9
cycle	17.6	26.5	26.5
scoot/skate	24.0	25.3	25.3
bus (all types)			
public bus	2.0	0.9	0.9
school bus	3.5	7.2	7.2
rail	2.5	1.1	1.1
car share	0.0	0.7	0.7
car (alone)	12.9	6.1	6.1
other	1.7	0.0	0.0

NB rounded percentages may not add exactly to 100.0%

modal split percentages (actual) - staff

	Oct 2025	Feb 2024	Jan 2009
walk	22.9	26.5	22.2
cycle	0.0	0.0	0.0
bus	2.1	2.0	5.6
train	0.0	0.0	0.0
car (alone)	75.0	71.4	72.2
car share	0.0	0.0	0.0
other	0.0	0.0	0.0

NB rounded percentages may not add exactly to 100.0%

modal split percentages (ideal) - staff

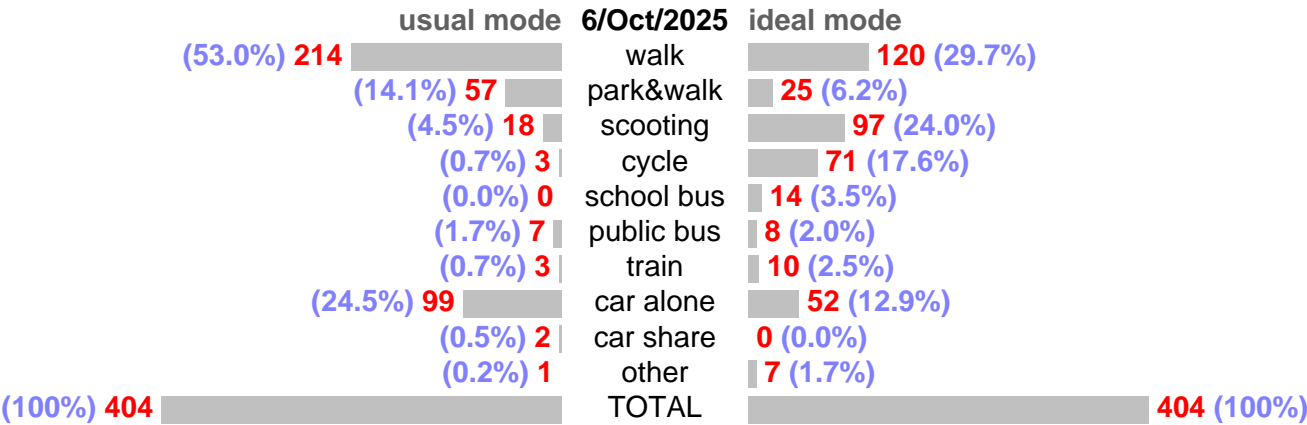
	Oct 2025	Feb 2024
walk	37.5	42.9
cycle	4.2	6.1
bus	0.0	0.0
train	0.0	0.0
car (alone)	56.3	46.9
car share	2.1	4.1
other	0.0	0.0

NB rounded percentages may not add exactly to 100.0%

comments on 14/Jun/2019 pupil survey: This survey confirmed the need for us to provide additional storage for cycles and scooters.

comments on 14/Jun/2019 pupil survey: Our 'Hands Up' Survey has shown that a large number of our children would like to come to school using their bikes or scooters. This has confirmed the need for a usable bike/scooter shelter.

13.1 Barchart of latest pupil actual/ideal survey



14 Objectives

1	<p>Promote healthy, active travel</p> <p><i>Encourage staff and pupils to walk, cycle, or scooter to school. Initiatives may include providing additional bicycle racks and scooter pods, and establishing a 'Walking Bus' scheme. Consider investigating a 'Ride to Work' scheme for staff.</i></p>
2	<p>Deter irresponsible parking</p> <p><i>Reduce unsafe and inconsiderate parking around the school. Work with Kent County Council (KCC) on additional parking restrictions where needed. Support campaigns to raise awareness among parents and pupils by ordering banners and leaflets from the "Responsible Parking" website.</i></p>
3	<p>Encourage sustainable transport</p> <p><i>Install additional electric vehicle (EV) charging points for staff and visitors, promoting the take-up of electric vehicles. Explore grant funding opportunities to support the installation of EV infrastructure.</i></p>

15 Targets

A	<i>increase % of pupils arriving/departing solely on foot from 53% (Oct 2025) to 58% by Jun 2030</i>
B	<i>increase % of pupils travelling by scooter from 4% (Oct 2025) to 9% by Jun 2030</i>
C	<i>increase % of pupils arriving/departing by car & foot (Park & Walk) from 14% (Oct 2025) to 20% by Jun 2030</i>

16 Actions

Summary:	Tasks:	Status:
Annual Survey <i>[lead: Kim Barton]</i> Following creation of the 2026 School Travel Plan, we will continue to monitor our objectives and key issues	As part of the Annual Reviews of our 2026 School Travel Plan, we will conduct and complete a pupil hands up survey and staff survey for the next three consecutive years. We will aim to conduct these surveys in October each year. Complete the Annual Reviews via the Jambusters system for the next three consecutive years following the approval of the 2026 School Travel Plan (2027, 2028 and 2029)	not started
Assemblies <i>[lead: Marc Dockrell]</i> Deliver assemblies throughout the school year to support the promotion of active and sustainable travel.	Plan assembly topics and deliver to appropriate Year/Phase Groups. Contact relevant outside organisations and invite in to lead/assist in assemblies. Promote annual events such as 'Road Safety Week (November) and National Walking Month (May) etc	not started
Bikeability (KCC) <i>[lead: Catherine Eves]</i> Co-ordinate Bikeability training for children in Year 6. Spare spaces will be offered to children in Year 5.	Book training sessions with KCC Bikeability Communicate with parents re booking of training sessions each year (usually Term 4) Coordinate and oversee training sessions each year.	ongoing
Report to Governors <i>[lead: Marc Dockrell]</i> Inform and update Governors of status of Travel Plan, including objectives and targets.	Annual report to Governors on progress of the School Travel Plan. Inform Governors of our revised School Travel Plan, including objectives and targets.	not started
Road Safety Education <i>[lead: Marc Dockrell]</i> Provide and reinforce road safety education for pupils and families	Contact the KCC Road Safety Team (saferroadusers@kent.gov.uk) to discover what resources and support is available. Obtain/deliver Road Safety Club educational lessons from kentroadsafetyclub.kent.gov.uk Promote Road Safety Week (16th-22nd November 2026) to increase awareness of road safety issues. Download and share KCC Road Safety Activity Book (kentroadsafety.info) with children in KS1.	not started
School Newsletter <i>[lead: Kim Barton]</i> Through the use of monthly Newsletters and social media, inform and educate our school community of our current travel statistics and our aspirational targets. By doing this, we will help the environment and the safety of the wider school community. Provide regular updates.	Topics to be included in the monthly Newsletter will include: Article about Travel Plan, including Objectives and Targets Responsible parking Speed control in surrounding roads Encouragement of walking/cycling/ scooting Encouragement of car sharing Order and attach appropriate leaflets from Responsible Parking.co.uk	not started
Signage and Road Markings <i>[lead: Kim Barton/Site Staff]</i> Obtain additional signage to encourage safer driving/ parking.	Order and display appropriate banner(s) from Responsible Parking.co.uk	not started
Site Access <i>[lead: Head Teacher]</i> Ensure that there is always a member of staff positioned at the main entrance to oversee pupils/families arriving to and leaving the school site to promote and encourage safer and more considerate journeys to school.	Ensure staff are aware of who will be situated at the main entrance each morning and afternoon.	not started
Small Steps <i>[lead: Kim Barton]</i> Contact KCC to see if our school is eligible to take part in Small Steps training (last undertaken in January 2024)	Email Kent Road Safety to see if we are eligible to book Small Steps training for Year 2. If not eligible/able to book, download resources to be delivered in class.	not started
Special Project/Competition <i>[lead: Marc Dockrell]</i>	Set up a pupil leadership team to promote responsible parking. Organise a parking poster/banner competition.	not started

Embed opportunities within the curriculum to teach children about road safety and responsible, respectful parking.		
Walk to School Week <i>[lead: Marc Dockrell]</i> Promote and actively encourage national Walk to School Week to reduce congestion and be kinder to the environment.	Inform school community of Walk to School Week (18th to 22nd May 2026). Deputy Head to lead assembly on sustainable travel. Reward the class with the highest increase of children walking to school that week.	not started
Walking Bus <i>[lead: Kim Barton]</i> Investigate the possibility of setting up a walking bus.	Explain and promote this idea to parents and children. Send Microsoft Form to gauge interest and viability Contact local schools and other schools in our Trust who already operate a Walking Bus to gain insight.	not started

17 Monitoring and reviews

The Travel Plan will continue to be monitored closely by the school, and reviewed on an **annual** basis.

The school agrees to complete a brief annual review of this travel plan **and** a pupil hands up survey at least on an annual basis, or when requested by KCC. The hands up data and review will be fed into KCC's Travel Plan Management System. This will be led by Kim Barton.

The review will take into account all pupils' needs arising from new developments in education and transport provision. A more detailed review will be carried out should the school seek planning permission for further development.

This Travel Plan has been agreed and signed up to by the following people, who agree to the plan being viewed publicly.

Headteacher	<i>Amy Chitty</i>	14/Jan/2026
Chair of Governors	<i>Susan Glover</i>	14/Jan/2026