



Performance 2 - P2 Kids Club Walking Bus Policy

Policy statement

- We believe that the health and safety of children is of paramount importance when walking with the school aged children from school.
- We promote health benefits to the children through regular walking, establishing a daily pattern of exercise.
- We help promote improved awareness of road safety through controlled exposure to traffic.
- We promote the use of pedestrian skills.
- We promote the reduction of traffic congestion and help improve air quality and health through a reduction in exhaust emissions - especially at the school gate where air quality problems can be acute.
- We use the Department of Transports THINK! Website as a guide to inform our road safety procedures.

Procedures

- A Risk Assessment is undertaken by the P2 Kids Club Club Coordinator to identify possible hazards and potential dangers on chosen routes. This is checked and updated regularly, and an action plan is created and acted upon. This is read by all members of staff
- Before leaving the premises staff ensure checks are completed to ensure that the register, mobile phone, first aid box, fluorescent jackets and/or bands are collected and taken to school.
- On collection from school, children are marked as present on the register, stating what time they have been collected and by whom.
- The children are each given a fluorescent band or jacket to improve visibility for vehicle drivers, especially in the winter months.
- Staff ensure that the children stand in pairs to form a Walking Bus, with one member of staff acting as the 'Driver' of the bus, and another staff member acting as a 'conductor' who walks behind the bus. The staff ensure that the children do not
 - walk in front of the driver or behind the conductor, but stay in - between the two staff members.
- The walking bus does not leave until all the children are in pairs and the route to the school gates is clear enough to approach
- without meeting any obstacles such as groups of congregating parents or children leaving on bicycles, as this may compromise the effectiveness and safety of the children in the walking bus.

- On our return from school the walking bus stops at certain places along the route. These are known as 'stopping points' and are used in order to allow the children at the back of the walking bus to catch up with the children at the front or as used as a prompt to remind the children to be aware of dangers such as when
- walking on the road to pass a car that has parked over a footpath.
- The staff member who is the 'Driver' of the bus, must look back towards bus at regular intervals and stop the bus as and when needed. For example, to check on any gapping that has formed in the bus and so allowing children to catch up and stay together.
- Staff regularly remind the children of road safety rules at all times, to ensure their safety.

We follow The Green cross code as suggested at <http://think.direct.gov.uk/education/early-years-andprimary/parents/7-to-11s/the-green-cross-code/>.

1. First find the safest place to cross.
 2. Stop just before you get to the curb.
 3. Look around for traffic and listen.
 4. If traffic is coming let it pass.
 5. When it is safe go straight across the road-do not run, looking and listening at all times.
- Staff look around any parked cars that are parked over the footpaths or road on route, to ensure the children's safety whilst walking on the roads.
 - Staff are to choose a safe space where there is a space between two parked cars and make sure that it is easy to get to the other pavement on the other side of the road. Staff to ensure neither car is about to move off and look for drivers in cars, lights and listen for engines. We avoid crossing near large vehicles as this acts as a blind spot, where driver's can not see us.
 - If this cannot be prevented, then we walk to the outside edge of the car and stop. We can then be seen by the drivers and the staff can look all around for traffic.
 - For reasons of safety, pupils must behave well at all times on the bus.
 - This is to ensure the safety of all pupils.
 - If a child will not abide by rules for safe behaviour, parents will be informed by the staff and incidents recorded in our incident book.
 - If children run whilst in the walking bus, they are reminded that they will have certain privileges withdrawn such as no screen time/technology play on our return.

- Please note that children attending P2 Kids Club provision are not allowed to use scooters, bikes or roller skates or any music device requiring headphones whilst on the walking bus.
- Any bicycles or scooters will be left behind at school, as these will compromise the safety of all the children on the walking bus.
- Any child using any music devices requiring headphones will be asked to store them in their school book bags for the duration of the return walk to the Club.
- We may plan appropriate road safety activities to help support and promote the children’s awareness of road safety and The Green Cross Code.

This policy was adopted by: P2 Kids Club- Performance 2	Date: 01/07/18
To be reviewed: 01/07/19	Signed: G. Odey

Written in accordance with the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2017): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Safety and suitability of premises, environment and equipment [3.62, 3.64]; and Information and records [3.76]*