

Crick Primary School

Cycle and Scooter Policy

At Crick School we recognise both the environmental and health benefits of cycling to school and wish to promote safe cycling to school.

Partnership with parents and a clear understanding of responsibilities will help to support safe cycling. While the school will provide a cycle storage area and cycle training for older children, the decision to allow a child to cycle to school rests with parents. **We strongly recommend that all children who cycle and ride a scooter to school are accompanied by an adult, until such time as the parent is confident the child has the knowledge and skills to be allowed to cycle unsupervised.**

Liability and insurance

Schools are not liable for property brought onto their premises, and are therefore not liable for pupils' bicycles and scooters being stolen or damaged by a third party while they are at school. The school's insurance does not cover cycles and scooters on the premises, so parents are advised to make their own arrangements.

Responsibility for children while they are on their way to or from school rests with parents. The school can take no responsibility for the safety of children outside school.

We recommend that cycles and scooters are clearly marked or post-coded and that all equipment is named.

Permits

All children bringing cycles and scooters onto the school premises must have a completed cycle/scooter permit, signed by parents and countersigned by the school. This sets out the rights and responsibilities of cyclists and those riding a scooter and ensures that the school knows that parents understand these. The school may withdraw the permit at any time which will prohibit the cycle/scooter being brought onto school premises. All cyclists and scooter riders must have a permit to come onto school premises, including those accompanied by parents. Permits will be issued in order of application.

Storage

Cycle/scooter stands are available on school premises for those with cycle/scooter permits. We recommend that all cycles/scooters are securely locked to a stand. Storage for helmets and other cycle/scooter equipment will be made available in school.

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Training

The school is able to offer 'Bikeability' cycle training. This is for children who are in Year 6. The course is held over five sessions and focuses on basic cycle control and road safety. Instructors have been trained by the Road Safety Team from the LA.

Maintenance checks

Cycles ridden to school should be fully roadworthy and properly maintained.

Regular checks should include:

- both brakes working
- tyres pumped up, and wheels not wobbling sideways
- handlebars and saddle straight and tight
- front and rear reflectors and wheel reflectors
- both lights working

When possible, the school will organize occasional checking, maintenance and post-coding sessions in conjunction with the local police or road safety organisations.

Safety

We strongly recommend that all children wear helmets when cycling. These should fit well and conform to current British standards. We also recommend the use of high visibility garments such as jackets or tabards. Lights should be in good working order.

All cyclists should be aware of the rules of the Highway Code that relate to cycling and should follow these at all times. We suggest that parents identify the safest cycling route to school with their children and point out particular hazards and danger points.

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