

# The West Bridgford School School Travel Plan

June 2005



# DRAFT

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**2) TRAVEL PLAN PROGRESSION**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Issue/Action</b>	<b>Comments</b>
22/6/05	1 <sup>st</sup> Draft	Initial Draft
July/October 2005	2 <sup>nd</sup> Draft	Changes following Safe Travel to School Group meeting and community consultation
November 2005	Final	Once new head has joined the school. Ratification by governors at their November meeting
November 2005	Action Plan devised	

**3) DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL**

The West Bridgford School is a Secondary School in West Bridgford, Nottingham. It is a mixed school of Non Denominational religion.

Head Teacher: Mr McDonough

The West Bridgford School is larger than most other secondary schools and educates boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 18. It is set in West Bridgford, close to the southern edge of the City of Nottingham. The popularity of the school has resulted in West Bridgford being over-subscribed for a number of years.

<b>Name &amp; Address</b>	The West Bridgford School Loughborough Rd West Bridgford Nottingham NG2 7FA
<b>Location</b>	West Bridgford
<b>School Type</b>	Comprehensive
<b>School Hours</b>	From Sept 2005: Mon-Thu Wk 1, Mon-Fri Wk2: 8.45am – 12.25 & 1.15pm – 3.25pm Fri Wk 1: 8.45am – 12.25 & 1.15pm – 2.20pm
<b>Number of Pupils on Roll</b>	4/4/05: 1401 - Update 9/10/06: 1441
<b>Number of Pupils out of Catchment</b>	59
<b>Age Range</b>	11 – 18
<b>School Specialisms</b>	Technology Status (pending application) Submission October 05
<b>Number of entrances to School for Pupils</b>	One
<b>Is there a separate entrance for deliveries</b>	No
<b>School Bus</b>	No. There are no school run buses
<b>Links to local bus services</b>	Nearest approach to school is Loughborough Rd/Rugby Rd junction. At the time of writing, there is no bus route servicing the school.
<b>Number of teaching/ Support staff both full &amp; part time</b>	Teaching: 66 full time, 20 part time Support staff: 55 inclusive of Admin, Teaching Assistants, Caretakers, Midday Supervisors, Technicians and Cleaners excluding exam invigilators, Midday/ICT students, (employed on an “as and when basis”)
<b>Number of parking spaces for staff</b>	140 Formal Spaces. This is extended

<b>and visitors</b>	on open evenings by “directed parking” on the playing fields as required.
<b>Cycle Provision for Pupils and Staff</b>	84
<b>Before &amp; after school Clubs</b>	<p>Homework club                      Art Club                      Games Club                      Model Flying Club                      Breakfast Reading Club                      Success Maker                      Poi Club                      Computer Club                      French Club                      Sport:- Cricket, Netball, Football, Rugby, Basket Ball, Tennis, Badminton, Athletics, Softball</p> <p>The above clubs operate between 3.30 and 6.00 p.m. as a rule. The indoor clubs tend to operate for 1 – 1 ½ hours. Sport tends to operate for the duration of these hours. The school normally only let to outsiders from 6.00 p.m. onwards as the school has the first call on the accommodation.</p>

#### 4) MISSION STATEMENT

The West Bridgford School Safe Travel to School Group aims to work in partnership with parents and the local community to establish and encourage the adoption of safe and healthy journeys to and from school.

We wish to raise awareness of safety issues amongst pupils and parents and reduce the risks taken by all during the journeys to and from school.

At the start and finish of each school day, the roads around the school are congested with school related traffic, resulting in dangerous conditions for motorists and pedestrians alike. There is also a negative impact upon the local community, with drives and pathways often blocked by inappropriate parking of cars.

The School Travel Plan hopes to improve safety around the immediate school vicinity and the main routes between home and school and improve the school environment by reducing car congestion and promoting a cleaner, healthier and safer environment for the whole community.

## **5) BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The school travel plan is an effective way of providing opportunities to change travel habits and reduce dependency on cars.

The West Bridgford School Travel Plan aims are to:

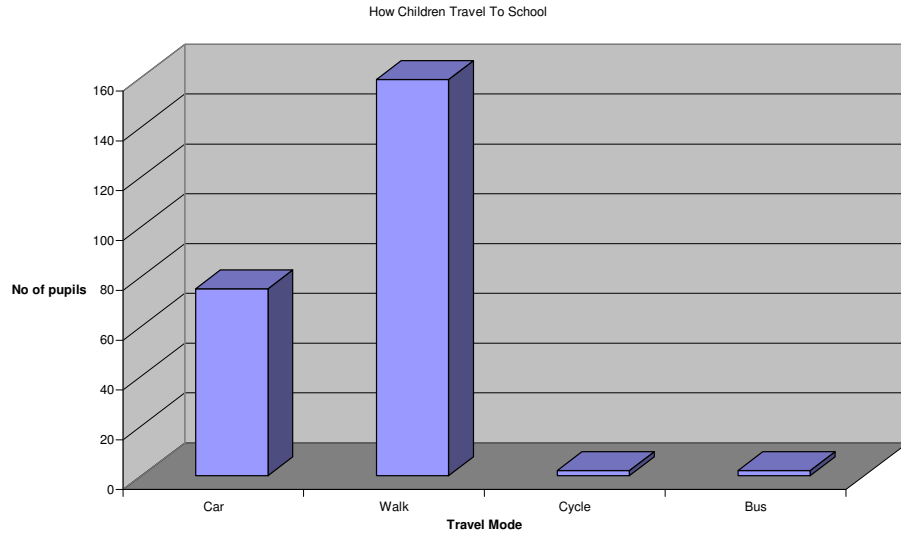
- Improve safety on the school journey
- Increase travel awareness
- Reduce the number of car trips made by parents, staff and pupils
- Encourage walking, cycling and public transport on the school journey
- Reduce congestion and pollution
- Promote Road Safety Education

The West Bridgford School Travel Plan Safe Travel to School Group was set up primarily in response to the issues raised in section 7. This includes concerns about the high number of pedestrians using one narrow entrance to the school, high levels of traffic around the school vicinity at peak times, and speed of traffic on Loughborough Rd.

The group's intention is to work in partnership with parents, children and the local community, Notts County Council, local businesses and organisations to produce and maintain the plan.

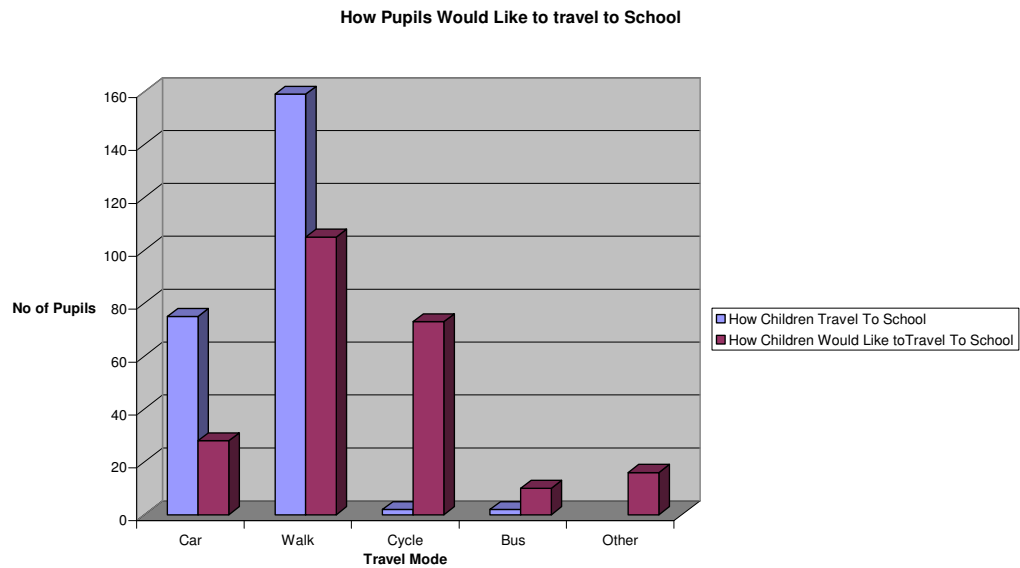
## **6) CURRENT TRAVEL PATTERNS.**

An initial survey has been conducted with the School Travel Plan Team to assess pupils current travel patterns. This information will be used as a benchmark to assess the plans success. This information will also indicate the scale and nature of the current travel issues at the time this Travel Plan was initiated. The full results of this survey can be found in Appendix A. However, the chart below shows that 77% of children walk to school, and 18% travel by car.



### 6.1) HOW PUPILS WOULD LIKE TO TRAVEL TO SCHOOL

This survey also found out the pupil's most popular mode of travel to school. This found that the majority (52%) would prefer to walk, while 12% would prefer to cycle. This group will work to promote sustainable methods of travel to school.



## **7) CURRENT TRAVEL ISSUES**

- Having only one entrance to the school open causes a dangerous bottleneck of pedestrians as over 1,400 pupils converge on the same pavement, gateway and narrow driveway, (shared with traffic), at the same time.
- Traffic congestion on Loughborough Rd, Kingswood Rd, and Burnside Rd, during peak times.
- Pedestrian congestion on Loughborough Rd at peak times.
- Speed of traffic on Loughborough Rd during peak times
- Cars obstructing residents' driveways on Loughborough Rd, Kingswood Rd, and Burnside Rd.
- Cars parked on pavements outside the school, and on the driveway entrance.
- Lack of school warning signs on Loughborough Rd.
- Nature of through traffic (exceeding the speed limit) causing safety risk to child pedestrians.
- Busy roads – Eton, Musters and Rugby Rd.
- Lack of safe crossing points on Loughborough Rd, within the immediate vicinity of the school.
- Parents turning in school/residents driveways.
- Lack of secure cycle & equipment storage.
- Lack of continuous cycle route to school.
- Lack of buses at appropriate times for school.
- Lack of appropriate bus routes.
- Lack of school signage on surrounding roads.
- Children's safety – children feeling vulnerable.

## **8) OBJECTIVES**

The following table details the objectives of The West Bridgford School Safe Travel to School Group.

Each objective has been given a specific target and a clear timeframe in which the group aim to fulfil the objective.

Each objective clearly sets out how the Safe Travel to School Group will achieve its targets, the key practical measures the group will take and who will be responsible for achieving those targets.

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Surveys				
Objective	Detail	How we will work towards this?	Who by?	Achieved?
		▪		
<b><i>To find out the route that pupils and staff use when travelling to school.</i></b>	Identify all the routes taken by pupils and parents to and from school during Autumn Term 2005. Once this information has been obtained, it can inform the actions of the Safe Travel to School Group.	Survey all children and staff to find out where they travel to and from. This baseline survey will establish the average number of cars per day that transport pupils to and from school, where they park and where they come from. It will also identify the routes that pedestrians and cyclists are using, and the difficulties they encounter.	School/Travel Group	
<b><i>Staff to be surveyed regarding their methods of transport to and from school.</i></b>	To complete the travel picture, we will find out what methods staff use to travel to and from school.	Conduct a survey of staff travel, and the reasons for the choices they make, and whether there are possibilities for lift share, alternative modes of transport etc.	School/Travel Group	
<b><i>Measure the number of cars causing congestion out side the school and on adjacent roads/road junctions.</i></b>	To find out how many cars are parking outside of school at peak times. To also measure the speed of traffic outside of school on Loughborough Rd, at the same time.	Pupils to conduct regular traffic surveys outside the school premises, once a term, three times a year. Notts County Council will supervise this activity once a year. Mr Hill will discuss with Geography tutors to see if this activity could be part of the GCSE or A Level syllabus.	School to supervise in partnership with Notts County Council	
<b><i>To conduct a survey to find out if pupils and staff would use a bus service</i></b>	To conduct an in class survey by means of a show of hands to establish level of interest in a bus being provided for pupils.	Tutors to survey each class, by end of June 2005.	Mr Hill to arrange.	

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<b>Engineering Measures</b>				
<b>Objective</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>How we will work towards this?</b>	<b>Who by?</b>	<b>Achieved?</b>
<b><i>To improve the signage and lineage on Loughborough Rd</i></b>	To assess the current signage and lineage on Loughborough Rd and to make recommendations for its improvement, so that the presence of the school is highlighted.	Carry out assessment Discuss with the Highways Authority and the Safer Routes to School Team.  Short term goal	Steering group in partnership with the Safer Routes to School Team.	
<b><i>To install an appropriate crossing outside the school on Loughborough Rd (Pelican /Puffin etc)</i></b>	To use the traffic survey findings to lobby the Highways Department for a safe crossing at an appropriate place for pedestrians to cross.	Discuss with the Highways Authority and the Safer Routes to School Team.  Medium term goal	Steering group in partnership with the Safer Routes to School Team.	
<b><i>To improve and extend the cycle lanes on Loughborough Rd so that they reach the school.</i></b>	To investigate the cycle lane on Loughborough Rd and to lobby the Highways Department for it to be extended and improved so that it can be fit for purpose.	Discuss with the Highways Authority, the Safer Routes to School Team and the cycling officer.  Medium Term	Steering group in partnership with the Safer Routes to School Team.	
<b><i>To install an interactive road speed sign on Loughborough Rd, so that the speed limit (30miles per hour) is flagged up to motorists. (Like the one in Burton Joyce on the A612)</i></b>	To investigate the installation of this type of sign to encourage motorists to adhere to the speed limit.	Write to local councillors and request an interactive sign. Write to Councillor Mike Cox in the first instance, as a governor of the school.  Medium term goal	Steering group	
<b><i>To investigate the phasing of traffic light phasing at junction of Loughborough Rd and Rugby Rd</i></b>	At present this phasing does not favour pedestrians.	Request an assessment by the Safer Routes to School Team, bearing in mind the impact on traffic.  Medium term goal	Safer Routes to School Team.	

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Engineering Measures				
Objective	Detail	How we will work towards this?	Who by?	Achieved?
<b><i>To investigate changes/alterations to the school gateway and drive to make it safer for large numbers of pedestrians.</i></b>	The school drive is narrow, and is used by over 1,400 pupils at the same time as vehicles. The travel group will look at practical measures to create a safe environment for pupils to enter school.	Investigate the possibility and costs of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Existing pedestrian gate to be widened</li> <li>▪ Barriers put on the right hand pavement (as you enter the school) to prevent pupils walking on the drive</li> <li>▪ New pedestrian gate plus pavement on the left hand side of the drive way.</li> </ul> Short Term Goal	Carol Sheffield.	
<b><i>To investigate the possibility of opening other entrances to the school grounds (possibly with supervision or CCTV)</i></b>	To look at other possibilities to one entrance of the school being used, while being sensitive to the needs of the wider community surrounding the school. This would be done in consultation with the schools, college and local community. This would ease congestion at the main school entrance and provide more convenient access for pupils whose homes are at the back of the school.	Look at all possible pedestrian entrances to the school and identify the potential benefits or otherwise to all interested parties.  Consultation with local residents/ Heyman Primary School and South Notts College.  Medium Term	Steering group/school	
<b><i>To investigate the possibility of opening another entrance to the school for vehicular access only – for staff and deliveries</i></b>	To investigate the possibility of opening up an access route for vehicles (for staff and deliveries only, not pupils or parents) with the intention of making the driveway entrance from Loughborough Rd pedestrian only.	Liaison with South Notts College to see if it would be possible to use their access route to the school. Look into other possible vehicular access points around the school perimeter.	Steering group/school	
<b><i>To improve cycle &amp; equipment storage</i></b>	To look at existing cycle racks and to put forward suggestions for more secure cycle and equipment storage. To also ensure that lockers in school are secure.	Travel Group to investigate and report on existing storage, and to find out the costs of improving this facility.  Autumn Rose to provide details on cycle storage to the school and group. Short Term	Steering group/school	

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Engineering Measures				
Objective	Detail	How we will work towards this?	Who by?	Achieved?
<b><i>To investigate the possibility of installing safety railings out side the Loughborough Rd entrance to the school,</i></b>	The aim is to prevent traffic from mounting the pavement and causing an obstruction for pedestrians. However, this would have to ensure that the view for driver turning out from Kingswood Rd was not obscured.	To discuss with Highways Authority and the Safer Routes to School Team.  Medium Term	Travel Group and the Safer Routes to School Team.	
<b><i>To investigate the bus routes across West Bridgford</i></b>	At present there is no bus route directly serving the school and at the times that pupils and staff require for them to arrive at school on time.	Find out the demand for buses. Lobby the bus companies to put on buses on the appropriate routes and the appropriate time. Investigate the possibility of reduced fair for school pupils. Short Term	Travel Group in partnership with Nottingham City Transport	
<b><i>To investigate the possibility of staggered school opening times, if other options prove unsuccessful.</i></b>	It is recognised that this would cause great upheaval to the existing timetable of the school, and other options will be considered first.	To be decided.	Steering group/school	
<b><i>To promote preferred walking routes, car drop off/pick up points, and car sharing.</i></b>	To reduce pedestrian and vehicle congestion at the main entrance.	Through surveys, exploration of alternative parking/drop off points, encouragement of “park and stride”. Short Term	Travel Group/school	

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Hearts and Minds Measures				
Objective	Detail	How we will work towards this?	Who by?	Achieved?
<b><i>To improve the behaviour of pupils travelling to and from school.</i></b>	To encourage the school community to treat each other, the community and drivers with respect. To address the problem of pupils' and residents' feelings of vulnerability in the presence of large volumes of traffic and pedestrians.	Through PHSE, Assemblies, school council.  Medium Term	School in PHSE External visitors to school such as PCSOs in partnership with the steering group.	
<b><i>Health education</i></b>	To raise awareness within the school community of health issues, and the benefits of activities such as cycling, walking and eating healthily.	Through PHSE, Assemblies, class room activities could also include other activities such as bike rides, rambling. Establish links with local gyms and other sporting venues. Investigate the viability of changing the content of food technology classes so that pupils can learn about diet, and healthy choices. Medium Term	School in PHSE External visitors to school in partnership with the steering group.	
<b><i>To raise awareness of environmental issues</i></b>	To find out if the school has plans to take part in environmental activities such as gaining Eco School status.	Through PHSE, Assemblies, class room activities. Investigate what recycling/sustainable practice is available at school.	School in PHSE External visitors to school in partnership with the steering group.	
<b><i>To encourage pupils and parents to treat "the neighbours" with respect and to foster a greater sense of community and citizenship amongst the pupils.</i></b>	To gradually encourage a different ethos in both pupils and parents, so that inconsiderate behaviour is not tolerated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Build on the work described above.</li> <li>▪ To encourage a more caring and considerate school community in general.</li> <li>▪ To make it "uncool" to park cars in an inconsiderate way in the school vicinity.</li> <li>▪ To follow up with enforcement if necessary – through the police/traffic wardens etc.</li> </ul>	School in PHSE External visitors to school Traffic wardens/ police	

The West Bridgford School Travel Plan –2005/6

Hearts and Minds Measures				
Objective	Detail	How we will work towards this?	Who by?	Achieved?
<b><i>To discuss with ASDA and the nearby pub the possibility of using their car parks for a drop off zone.</i></b>	Travel group to discuss this item with school representatives before pursuing.	Letters/meetings with appropriate local businesses and institutions.  Short term	Travel Group & school	
<b><i>To introduce a Safe Mark” code of conduct scheme.</i></b>	This will reward good behaviour in pupils and outline what is expected of them in terms of code of conduct.	School signed up to the Nottingham City Transport Safe Mark Code of Conduct on the 22 <sup>nd</sup> of June	School	yes
<b><i>Communication with parents and local community</i></b>	The group will establish communication links with parents and the local community with the aim of developing a two way dialogue.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Newsletters (one per term – either as part of the school’s newsletter or develop our own.)</li> <li>▪ Website</li> <li>▪ Letters to residents</li> </ul> On going	Steering group/school	
<b><i>To have Travel Group presentations at key school events such as open days, information evenings etc.</i></b>	A travel plan information evening could be planned for year 7 pupils. This will also offer opportunities to recruit new members to the group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Plan events and information evenings</li> <li>▪ School to write to year 7 parents</li> </ul> On going	Steering group/school	
<b><i>To keep staff involved in the Travel Plan</i></b>	Invite heads of year, teachers and governors to occasional meetings of the group. Staff should also review their own methods of travel to and from school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Regular invites – input, support and participation from all the school community will be vital to the success of this group.</li> </ul> On going	school	
<b><i>To provide cycle training and safety awareness training for pupils appropriate to their age group.</i></b>	This can also include bike maintenance sessions, security marking and awareness events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discuss with Road Safety Team and school.</li> </ul> Short term	School and the Safer Routes to School Team.	

**9) TARGETS**

- 1) To increase the number of children who walk or cycle to school (part or whole school journey) by 5% by March 2006.
- 2) To reduce the number of cars parked along the school frontage in the mornings and evenings by 50% by summer 2006.
- 3) To reduce the number of cars used to transport pupils to and from school by 15% by Autumn 2006.
- 4) To increase the number of lift shares by 25% by summer 2006.
- 5) To carry out a travel survey once a year.
- 6) To have an article in the school newsletter three times a year.
- 7) To take part in walk to school week and international walk to school week every year.
- 8) To improve bus routes serving the school.

**10) FUTURE PLANS AND ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT THE PLAN**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Details</b>
To apply for a Travel Plan grant (this is a capital grant)	To fund installation of some of the engineering measures on school grounds. Group to be advised by County Council Road Safety Team and Highways Authority to find out what is viable.
Walking Route Map	Maps of the areas studied by Safe Travel to School Group members and pupils; main housing areas identified; ideal routes between these areas and school identified. Meeting points to be identified so that potential walking bus activities can be coordinated.
Baseline survey of school journeys	Initially conducted by School Travel Plan Officer in association with school – <b>October 2004</b> ; analysis now with Safe Travel to School Group. Hereafter to be conducted annually by the county council road safety team in partnership with the school.
Meeting with local authority traffic management team	Traffic Management Team invited to view and comment upon the suggestions provisionally made by the Safe Travel to School Group.
Termly meetings of Travel Plan Safe Travel to School Group	Safe Travel to School Group will meet at least termly to discuss progress of the planned activities.
Travel Plan included in school Improvement Plan	The school will be requested to include the Travel Plan aims and objectives within the School Improvement Plan, which is endorsed by the school and governors.
Produce publicity materials	The contents of the Travel Plan need to be publicised and made accessible in a number of ways. The travel plan will be continually promoted through the school newsletter and the school web site.
Liaison with the local community forum	To find out if West Bridgford has a community forum and if so, –the Safe Travel to School Group will request membership of the forum.
To engage our local councillors to support the activity of the Safe Travel to School Group.	Safe Travel to School Group to write and invite councillors to become engaged in the work of the group and to offer it support.

## **10) MONITORING & EVALUATION**

An initial monitoring procedure has already occurred with the school community to ensure the plan is representative. A copy of the plan will be placed in the school Foyer and on the school website for parents to look through and comment upon. Residents will also be informed of the contents of the plan through a letter.

The West Bridgford School Travel Plan will be a 'Living Document' that will be reviewed and updated annually. Any new initiatives or changes to the travel policy may be added as the plan develops over time. The updated plan will be forwarded to all interested parties annually.

Detailed travel surveys will be conducted annually to assess any changes in travel patterns. This will be conducted in conjunction with annual car counts outside the school entrance to assess the effect of the plan. These surveys will be done by the Safe Travel to School Group with the support of the school and the local authority.

The Safe Travel to School Group will provide the school community with regular updates on the progress of the School Travel Plan and travel issues through the school/ Travel Plan newsletter. This will be in addition to the Safe Travel to School Group meeting termly to review activities, initiate new ideas and update the plan.

**11) ADOPTION OF THE PLAN**

This plan has been adopted on behalf of the School and community by:

Headteacher: ..... Date:.....

Chair of Governors: ..... Date: .....

Chair of Safe Travel to School Group: ..... Date: .....

Assistant Director for Transportation: ..... Date: .....

Assistant Director for Education: ..... Date:.....

## Appendix A

### The West Bridgford School Survey

17<sup>th</sup> March 2005

1350 surveys sent out  
875 surveys returned  
64% return

#### How Pupils Actually Travel To School

596	(68%)	Walk to School with friends or siblings
79	(9%)	Walk to School alone
155	(18%)	Travel by car
17	(2%)	Travel by Bus
28	(3%)	Cycle to School

#### How Pupils Would Like To Travel To School

158	(18%)	Would like to travel in a car to school, (given a lift)
39	(5%)	Would like parents to carshare when travelling to school
443	(52%)	Would like to walk to school.
102	(12%)	Would like to cycle to school
16	(2%)	Would to travel to school by bus
21	(3%)	Would like to travel to school by tram or train
35	(4%)	Would like to drive to school
29	(4%)	Would like to travel to school by other modes of transport

#### Car Journeys

10	(7%)	are driven for safety reasons
94	(60%)	are driven because of the distance they have to travel
25	(16%)	are dropped off as part of a work journey
15	(10%)	are driven to School as part of another journey
11	(7%)	are driven due to other reasons such as mobility or buses going at times not appropriate to school start and finish times.
49	(31%)	of journeys take less than 5 minutes
59	(39%)	are between 6 and 10 minutes
34	(22%)	are between 11 and 20 minutes
13	(8%)	are over 21 minutes

#### Car-sharing

35	(22%)	of drivers currently car-share
120	(78%)	do not currently car-share
Of these,		
52	(44%)	would be willing to car-share, offering an extra 84 car spaces

**Influencing Change**

24	(16%)	of drivers would like to see safer walking routes
19	(12%)	would like more/improved cycle routes
26	(17%)	would like an improved bus service
10	(7%)	would like to see reduced congestion around the school.
76	(48%)	said nothing would make them change their driving habits

**Walking Journeys**

330	(48%)	Walk because they live close to School
145	(22%)	Prefer walking as a healthy option
131	(20%)	Like to talk to friends when walking
69	(10%)	Had other reasons, such as feeling more awake when arriving at school, and environmental reasons.

Problems faced by walkers include

- Congestion on Loughborough Road
- Congestion on Kingswood Close
- Crossing Kingswood Close
- Feeling vulnerable when walking
- Congestion of pedestrians at entrance to school

**Cycling**

28	(3%)	Of pupils cycle to school
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Problems faced by cyclists include

- Heavy traffic around the school, especially on Loughborough Road
- Lack of secure cycle storage at school
- Lack of cycle equipment storage at school

**Bus Journeys**

17	(2%)	Travel by public service bus
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Problems identified by bus users include

- Buses running late,
- Bus timetables not matching school times
- Cost of bus fair

## Appendix B



Nottinghamshire  
County Council  
Environment  
Travel Plan Unit  
West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG1 0BA  
Tel: 0115 952 8825

Scale 1/7010      Date 22/6/2005      Centre = 457745 E 336158 N