ST MICHAEL'S
C of E PRIMARY
HIGHGATE

Active Travel Policy 2019-20

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Responsible for this policy	Marlon Marton-Bell

To nurture and inspire our children to develop a love of learning in a supportive Christian community and become the best they can be

St Michaels C of E Primary School – Active Travel Policy

At St Michael's we know that we can better achieve our potential by living healthy lifestyles. We are a happy and a healthy school!

St Michael's continually encourages pupils and parents to travel to school by cycling, scooting and walking (active travel) wherever possible and this school travel policy explains how we will be encouraging active travel to school.

We will discuss the policy with the pupils and re-visit it periodically to ensure its relevance. For pupils unable to travel to school actively, we encourage use of public transport or car sharing.

If you have any ideas to improve things at or around school for pedestrians, cyclists or scooters, or questions about travelling to school, please get in touch with the school office.

As part of this we encourage active travel for all our school community for the following reasons:

• Walking, scooting and cycling keeps us fit and healthy.

• It helps pupils develop road safety skills which will keep them safe in later life.

• We believe cycling, scooting and independent travel are life skills that everyone should be able to benefit from.

• It helps keep our local air clean and our streets free from congestion.

• It helps us maintain friendly relationships with our neighbours by cutting congestion and issues with parking.

• It is fun to walk and talk with friends and family.

What the School will do:

• All local school trips are made by public transport where possible, or on foot if the destination is close by.

• We let all parents/carers of new pupils know that we are an active travel school before their child starts.

• We encourage all members of our school community to walk, scoot, cycle or travel by public transport to school.

• Where a car must be used we ask all parents to drive only part of the way, park away from the school and walk the last few minutes of the journey (park and stride.)

• We promote safe and active travel as much as possible by using our noticeboard, newsletter and website.

• We provide cycle and scooter storage on the school site.

• We will provide, in the summer, high quality cycle training using Cycle Confident Ltd a recognised training company.

What parents and carers should do:

We will provide a school travel leaflet showing public transport links and reminding our school community of the benefits of active travel. To make cycling and scooting to and from school a positive experience for everybody we expect parents to encourage our pupils to:

• Ride sensibly and safely and to follow the Highway Code.

• Check that their bicycle or scooter is roadworthy and regularly maintained.

• Behave in a manner which shows them and the school in the best possible light and to consider the needs of others when cycling or scooting.

• Ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using lights and wearing high visibility clothing, as appropriate.

• Provide their child with equipment such as high-visibility clothing, lights, a lock and cycle helmet as appropriate.

Additional note for parents and carers:

The decision as to whether a child is competent to cycle, scoot or walk safely to and from school rests with the parent(s). The school has no liability for any consequences of that decision. This policy covers the journey to and from school where the school has no responsibility or liability.

When walking, scooting and cycling activities are being led by the school there may additional rules and guidance concerning equipment such as use of helmets, high visibility clothing, etc

Parents are advised to consider appropriate insurance cover (check home insurance) as the school is not liable for, and its insurance does not cover, any loss or damage to bicycles and scooters being used on the way to school or in school.