

Harlington School

Travel Plan

August 2020

School Details: Harlington School (DfE No. 312/5411)

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Section 1 INTRODUCTION

Background

This School Travel Plan is submitted with a planning application for the redevelopment of the Harlington School site, building a new school to replace the current provision.

This School Travel Plan sets out the commitment of the School to provide measures to encourage staff and students to travel to the site by alternative means to car journeys.

Harlington School is a Foundation School, located in the London Borough of Hillingdon, whose commitment to safe and sustainable travel for children includes the implementation of traffic calming measures outside schools, with reduced speed limits and additional traffic crossings. The local authority have also committed to improving the health and safety of young people by the installation of traffic enforcement cameras outside schools, to identify and fine car users who park in restricted areas, and the implementation of 'no idling' zones outside schools to reduce emissions from cars, thereby improving children's health.

As with all London boroughs, travel is free on buses, and reduced fares on trains for students in full time education under the age of 18. The encouragement of walking and cycling therefore needs to be seen within the context of this travel advantage in London, and mitigating against it.

The school site is to be redeveloped as part of the DfE PSPB2 Priority Schools Building Programme. Harlington School is to be completely rebuilt, increasing the forms of entry from 6.5FE to 8FE at the request of the local authority to meet place planning needs. In addition, the school will expand its SEND provision, with the addition of a new Designated Unit for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder, to sit alongside its Specialist Resource Provision for children with physical and sensory disabilities.

The school currently hosts a Local Authority Adult Education Centre and has a dual use school /public library on site. Both of these provisions have been incorporated into the new building.

The school is situated in the Pinkwell Ward of the London Borough of Hillingdon. The proposed new building will significantly enhance school and community provision in the ward. Relocating the school to its new location not only means that all provisions can continue seamlessly throughout the construction process, but the new location will significantly enhance the local area, with the school playing fields providing a soothing green space on the elevation of Pinkwell Lane, and a tree lined avenue leading pedestrians down the walkway to the school and community hub.

Section 2 SITE ACCESSABILITY ASSESSMENT

School Location

The site lies south of Hayes town centre, and north of the M4, as shown in Appendix 1.

The site is bounded by Pinkwell Lane to the north, Dudley Place and Oakington Avenue to the east, Shepiston Lane and the M4 to the south and Pinkwell Primary School to the west. Pinkwell Lane is provided with pedestrian footway on both sides of the road with street lighting provided in the vicinity of the site. Pinkwell Lane is subject to a 20mph speed limit and there are additional traffic calming measures in place, including a pedestrian crossing almost immediately outside of the current school entrance, and council installed cameras. The school is located in a residential community, with limited shops, restaurants and facilities nearby.

School Accessibility

Pedestrian and Cycle Access

The school has one main, and one subsidiary vehicle entrance off Pinkwell Lane. The main car park is accessed from Dudley Place, and the subsidiary car park is accessed from an entrance adjacent to Pinkwell Primary School. Both car parks have fob access barrier entrances for staff, with an intercom system for visitors to the site. The main car park barriers are opened twice a day, for parents of Harlington School and Pinkwell Primary School at the beginning and end of both school days. This prevents congestion on Pinkwell Lane, blocking of the U4 bus route and dangerous parking outside both schools. There is also vehicle access to the rear of the school via Goals five-a-side Soccer Centre in Shepiston Lane, but this is locked during school hours. There are a number of cycle spaces at the side of the school building and outside of the current library, and a lockable cycle shed within the school secure line. The main entrance to the school is used by staff and visitors, and students arrive and enter the school via a path that runs north to south, adjacent to the main car park.

Bus Accessibility

The nearest southbound bus stop is immediately outside the current school entrance (U4, known as Harlington School) and the nearest northbound stop (U4, known as Ross Close) is on Mildred Avenue, approximately 2 minutes' walk from the main car park.

Students may also use the Pinkwell Junior School bus stop to travel northbound. The public transport facilities provided at either stops include a flagpoles and timetable information. Students may also

access the 140 bus service which stops at Millington Road and Harlington Flyover (both directions) and also the 698 'School Bus' (Redmead Road / Clement Gardens)

Students who use the bus to travel predominantly use the U4, with a smaller number some using the 140. Very few use the 698, which is a service predominantly used by two faith schools with a large catchment area, in the north of the borough.

The services available are:

Services that may be used to travel to Harlington School		Service Frequency (minutes)
Service	Route	Daily
U4	Uxbridge – Prologis Park	First bus – 06:04 Last bus – 00:00 Every 15 mins
140	Harrow – Heathrow central bus depot Millington Road Bus	First bus – 05:32 Last bus – 01:02 Every 6-10 mins between 07:00 and 21:00
698	West Drayton Station – Ickenham Station	Limited service – morning and afternoon.

Train Accessibility

The nearest train station to the site is Hayes & Harlington Station some 0.9 miles north east of the school site. This is used less frequently by students, but a number of staff use the service to travel to school from central London. The station is part of the new CrossRail Elizabeth Line, due to open in 2023.

Car Accessibility

The main vehicular entrance to the school is on Pinkwell Lane to the west and east of the current school building, with car access from Dudley Place. This access is gated, with a barrier to deter antisocial behaviour out of hours, however staff have access via an electronic fob system. Visitors to school site (for school business) are able to access the community car park via the buzzer system. Staff and regular users of the Adult Education Centre and public library may apply for a fob to use. Staff have further parking opportunities in the rear car park. Out of hours parking is provided in the rear car park as it is closer to the Sports Centre, and users of GOALS Soccer Centre have use of the playground for overflow parking after 5pm, accessed from Shepiston Lane.

Section 3 EXISTING FACILITIES AT THE SCHOOL

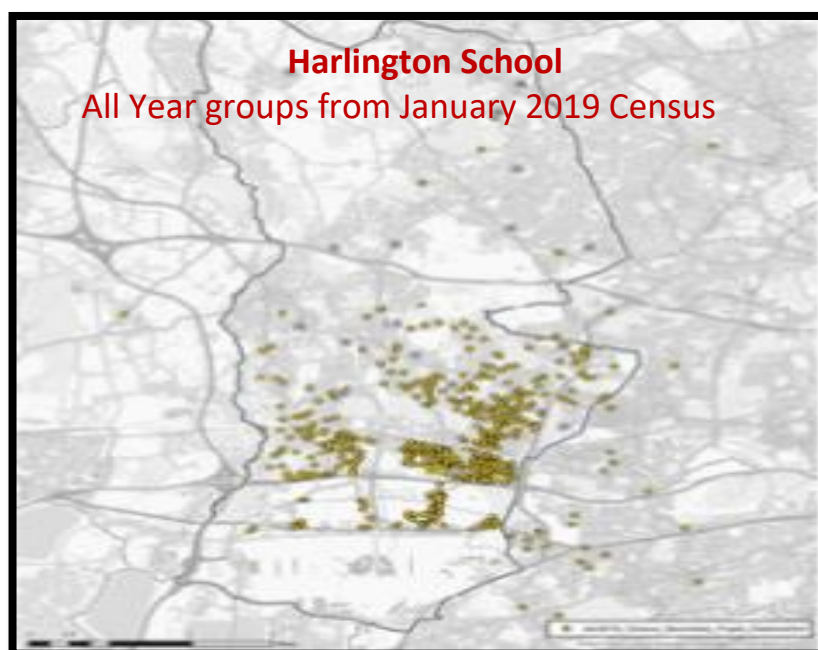
Student Details

The school currently provides education for 11-18 year old students. There are 1,182 full time students on roll at the school (rising to 1380 when the new school is full) and a further 22 students who are dual registered. Some 206 students have special education needs, of which, 24 have EHC Plans.

Student Catchment Area

The student catchment area is relatively small, with most students living within a 2 mile area (note that the school name changed from Harlington Community School to Harlington School a number of years ago, and some third parties have not updated their data set to reflect this)

Harlington School – Most students live within a 2 miles of the school
(Each dot one or 2 students)



School Hours

The school is open to students from 07.45am Monday to Friday with registration in form groups at 8.10am and lessons starting at 8.30am. There is a rota of staff supervision of students arriving from within the local area walking area, between 07.55am - 08.30am.

The lunch period is currently split into two sittings and run between 12:10 – 13:00pm and 13.00 – 13:50pm. Sixth form students are allowed off the premises during the lunchtime break.

The finish of the school day is at 14:40pm. Supervision for students leaving at the end of the school day is for 10 minutes. Students may remain at school until 16.00pm for supervised extracurricular activities.

The school has recently opened a breakfast club, which is currently used by approximately 20 students. Up to 100 students per night attend after school clubs and 'flexi' lessons.

School Layout and Parking

Car Parking

The School currently provides a total of 103 existing car parking spaces including 4 disabled bays across the site, set out in the main school car park.

Staff may also park in the school car park to the west of the current school building which provides 16 car parking spaces

During evening periods and events at the school the playground, which is accessible from the Goals entrance and rear entrance to the site, is opened to allow for informal, additional parking.

Bus/Coach Parking

No formal coach parking is provided on site. However, coaches for school trips either park down the road in Pinkwell Lane, or are allowed access onto the site via the Goals entrance. Community transport for students with SEND, including those with physical disabilities, enter the school site from the rear car park entrance, so they can drop students directly outside the SEND department.

There are 3 mini-bus garages available to the west of the site. The school currently owns 2 minibuses, including one with a disabled access tailgate lift. All buses can be borrowed without charge by local primary schools and community groups such as the Scouts or Metropolitan Police Cadets.

Cycle Parking

The school has a large bike shed within the school secure line, and there are additional bike racks next to the dual use school/ public library.

Servicing and Delivery Access

The School's service bay / waste refuse collection area is to the south of the main vehicular access. Bin storage facilities are located within the rear car park. Refuse collection vehicles are required to enter and leave the site from the rear vehicular access to the west of the building on Pinkwell Lane.

Additional School Uses

Out of Hours

The School also hosts a number of additional facilities on the school site outside of School operating hours. The Sports Centre oversees booking of regular events, renting out the Main Hall, Sports Centre, MUGA pitch and field rental and a small gym for community use. These bookable sports facilities are open for use by the local population as well as sports clubs and community groups. These events typically occur when the School is closed. In addition, the school rents classroom space to tuition schools in the evenings and at the weekend, and hosts 'one off' or annual events by request.

In the holiday periods, the Sports Centre also hosts a play scheme for children aged 5 – 12, along with providing facilities for a language school that hosts overseas visitors.

The school hosts a successful and well established Adult Education Centre and a dual use school/public library throughout the year. London Borough of Hillingdon are the longstanding tenants for these facilities. The school also hosts a Credit Union in a small bungalow to the west of the site, and, as previously mentioned, has a GOALS Soccer Centre as a further tenant.

Section 4 TRAVEL SURVEY RESULTS

Student Travel Surveys

Student travel preferences are collected at the point of entry as optional data. The most recent data set we have for this is as follows, taken from the September 2019 SIMS data set:

Row Labels	Car/Van	Cycle	Public Bus Service	Taxi	Walk	Grand Total
Year 7	Not collected this year					
Year 8	9		33		28	70
Year 9	25		33	1	31	90
Year 10	14		57		40	111
Year 11	20		50		27	97
Year 12	9	1	26		26	62
Year 13	8		25		23	56
Grand Total	85	1	224	1	175	486

The travel survey results indicate that some 83% of students travel by sustainable modes with 17% arriving by car or taxi drop off. Although this data set covers approximately 40% of the student population, a more recent sample survey of Year 10 (May 2020) , undertaken during the COVID19 Pandemic, indicated the following:

	Will need to take public transport to attend school	Can avoid public transport to attend school	Total survey responses versus number in year group
Year 10	93	115	208/223

Section 5 PROPOSED FACILITIES AT THE SCHOOL

Scheme Proposals

Travel to school , and this School Travel Plan will not be materially negatively affected by the Scheme proposals, and it offers scope for improvements. The local area will be significantly improved by the proposed location set further back from the road; there will be less congestion next to the bus stops as they will be a little further away from the main entrance. The car parking facilities will remain intact, although will be the occasional loss of approximately 15 spaces in the main car park during peak periods of construction in 2022, and approximately 10 spaces in the rear car park whilst there is a temporary playground covering half the space. However, the current usage of the main car park is rarely above 75% , and so car users who usually park in the rear car park will be able to easily park in the main car park for the majority of the construction period. We are able to ascertain the percentage usage based upon the number of staff cars registered in the school management information system (65% of staff) , with an uplift of 10% for occasional use by library and adult education users.

Once the build is complete, there will be enough capacity in the current car parks to absorb the increase in student and staff numbers, brought about by the increase from 6.5FE to 8FE, which will increase the staff number by approximately 10.

Parking and drop off has been enhanced for children with Special Educational Needs, with the provision of a drop off circle immediately adjacent to the new SEND provision. Adult Education and Library users will benefit from the direct access arrangement from the car park if they travel by car.

The proposed location of the school, set away from the immediate road will reduce the combined footpath congestion of users of Harlington School and Pinkwell Primary School, as the opportunity to congregate outside the school and public library, as currently occurs when students have to wait for a short period to collect their primary aged siblings, will be reduced. There is also the added benefit of the school playing fields being adjacent to the roadside rather than the current school building, to improve the attractiveness of the local area overall, as well as the wayfinding and arrival on the school site.

Although residents will have to take a 1 minute walk from the bus stop to the new adult education and shared library, it will be facilitated through an attractive, tree lined walk to these facilities, which are located in a prominent and closest proximity to public transport facilities. This will greatly improve the location and 'feel' of the local neighbourhood.

The tree lined walkway is also completely secure and car free, as there is no cross over between the walkway and the car park.

The retention of the bike sheds within the secure line will be of benefit to the students, and the current public health messages concerning walking and cycling to school or work to reduce the spread of COVID19 will encourage more staff and students to travel in these ways.

During Construction – site access from Shepiston Lane

The school has negotiated access rights from GOALS Soccer Centre for the duration of the new build during normal operating hours. This means that all building and site traffic will enter the site from Shepiston Lane, thereby removing congestion down Pinkwell Lane, and minimizing interactions between the school and site users and the builders during the construction and demolition phases.

The site compound is large enough for all contractors, other than at occasional peak times midway through the build programme, where occasional use of some parking spaces has been agreed with the school.

Site Access

The existing access and egress serving the school from Pinkwell Lane are to be retained, with a further improved and enhanced facility for drop off and collection of students with special educational needs. (please see Appendix 2)

There will be significant improvements for the delivery of goods to the school as currently drivers damage the pavement and block the bus route due to the current location of the front entrance.

The library 'mobile' unit will be much easier to refill from the public library, as currently it cannot park outside the library entrance, and the librarians have to trolley all of their resources up a ramp to restock their unit.

Consideration of adding a further pedestrian access from Shepiston Lane has been considered once the build is complete. However, Shepiston Lane has high use traffic flowing at peak times when students would be entering and leaving the site. After a recent tragedy where three teenagers were killed in a road traffic accident on Shepiston Lane, traffic calming measures were introduced, including a 25 miles per hour section of the road. However, at the point of potential ingress to the school, there are no safe areas to cross the road, and the traffic flows at between 30 and 40 miles per hour. It is therefore safer for students to enter the site from Pinkwell Lane.

Section 6 OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

Objectives

The aim of the School Travel Plan is to highlight areas of strength, as well as weaknesses, to enable the school to make informed decisions regarding future plans.

The key objectives of the Travel Plan are:

- Increase the number of students travelling to school by walking and cycling;
- Discourage use of bus routes on journeys shorter than 2 miles;
- Decrease the percentage of cars on site, through the encouragement of walking and cycling rather than car drop off, and through the continued promotion of the Cycle to Work Scheme for staff;
- Decrease the number of parent cars parking inappropriately outside of the school at start and end of school day, through the temporary access to the school car park;

- Encourage all new students and their parents at an early stage to make them aware of the health benefits of walking and cycling to school.

Student and Staff Questionnaires

Future student and staff survey travel questionnaires are to be undertaken and collated by the school.

Targets

The September 2019 travel surveys are to be used as an initial baseline for student mode share. However, the school will actively implement, monitor and review new questionnaires during the school year, acknowledging that time of year impacts on travel behaviour. We will seek to increase walking and cycling to school by 10% by 2022, with a further increase of 10% by the end of 2023.

Section 7 TRAVEL INITIATIVES

Existing Initiatives

The following travel initiatives are already in operation at the school:

- Cycle parking provided for both staff and students;
- 'Cycle to work' scheme available to all staff;
- Promotion of national walk to school events;
- Metropolitan Police bike marking and safe travel events;
- Year 12 participation in the 'Safe Drive, Stay Alive' annual initiative.
- Encourage all new students and their parents at an early stage to make them aware of the health benefits of walking and cycling to school.

Curriculum

The school's curriculum supports healthy lifestyles through lessons, with emphasis on sustainable transport, energy conservation, road safety and accident awareness.

The school's PHSE curriculum contains material aimed at improving safety and health of students, equipping students with knowledge and skills to walk, cycle and use public transport safely.

The geography curriculum explores sustainable methods of transport and types of energy to minimise environmental impacts of different types of travel.

Health and Fitness activities are promoted throughout the school by the PE department, who encourage wide participation, not just competitive priorities when delivering the curriculum. All students, including the 6th Form, have access to weekly PE lessons.

Cycle to Work Scheme

As part of the government's Green Transport Plan, Harlington School offers all staff the opportunity to participate in the tax incentive scheme, 'Cycle to Work'.

Road Safety at School Entrance

Signs are provided around the school car park to encourage parents to park responsibly, senior staff are on duty at the beginning and the end of every school day. Parents, visitors, community user groups, and delivery drivers have all been requested to drive and park carefully and sensibly when travelling to the school and using the car parks.

The local Councillors invested in the traffic calming and health initiatives outside the school, as previously described.

New Initiatives

All of the existing measures will continue to be promoted at the school. These measures will also be available to all new staff and students. Going forward new initiatives are proposed in line with the opening of the new building:

- further promotion of the Cycle to Work Scheme;
- dependent on staff surveys, additional staff cycle parking provided;
- use of new Year 7 events to informally promote car sharing between families who live in close proximity;
- road safety events for students;
- formal staff car sharing scheme promoted amongst staff;
- staff supervision at the beginning and end of the day at the new site entrances and walkway up to Pinkwell Lane.

Student Drop Off

Parents will also be encouraged not to drive to school to drop off their children. However it is acknowledged that some parents will still need/choose to travel in this way. The current drop off activities at the school car park will be reviewed and reconfigured in line with this Travel Plan and the new site layout to continue to make sure in the event of drop offs they can occur safely. Times for site access will be clearly communicated, through signage and particularly at the end of the school day.

We will continue to offer parking for Pinkwell Primary School parents, to maintain the current road safety advantage of the current arrangement.

Section 8 MANAGEMENT, MONITORING AND REVIEW

Travel Plan Management

The appointed Travel Plan Coordinator for the school is Mr. S Nosworthy . The Coordinator is responsible for:

- making sure the travel initiatives remain implemented at the school;
- organising travel events;
- undertaking regular student and staff travel surveys;
- reviewing results of surveys and adding new travel measures as required; and
- being a point of contact for all Travel Plan related matters.

The Governors will also monitor the delivery of the Travel Plan and, together with Travel Plan Coordinator, update the Plan where necessary.

Travel plan Monitoring and Review

The proposed monitoring and review timetable is set out below:

Monitoring and Review Timetable			
What we will measure	Who will be responsible	How	When
How students travel to school	TPC	Annual School Travel Survey	Autumn term Once a term
How staff travel to school	TPC	Annual school Travel Survey	Autumn term Once a term
Checking for inappropriate parking outside the school	TPC	Member of staff /Safer Schools' Officer to do spot check monitoring on parents/staff parking	Spots checks to take place once a term
Cycle Parking usage	TPC	Count number of cycles parked	Once every half term
Progress made on our action plan, objectives and targets	TPC	Review Travel Plan document targets	Action plan to be reviewed in annually
Community Car Parking usage	TPC	Monitor use of car park by all and count available spaces	Once every term

Each year a review of the Objectives and Targets will be undertaken and the Action Plan developed further.

Section 9 USEFUL CONTACTS/DATES

General

ROAD SAFETY – Department for Transport Education Website Web:
www.dft.gov.uk/think/education/early-years-and-primary

Walking

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK – Typically every May

Web: www.walktoschool.org.uk

WALK IT – Route planning and journey times for walking

Web: www.walkit.com

Cycling

SUSTRANS – General cycle information and advice

Web: www.sustrans.org

CYCLE STREETS – Cycle route planner

Web: www.cyclestreets.net

THE BIG PEDAL – National school cycle competition typically spring each year

Web: www.bigpedal.org.uk

NATIONAL BIKE WEEK – Typically every June

Web: www.bikeweek.org.uk

Public Transport

TfL – Public Transport Information

Web: www.tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey/

LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON – Department for Transport cycle training

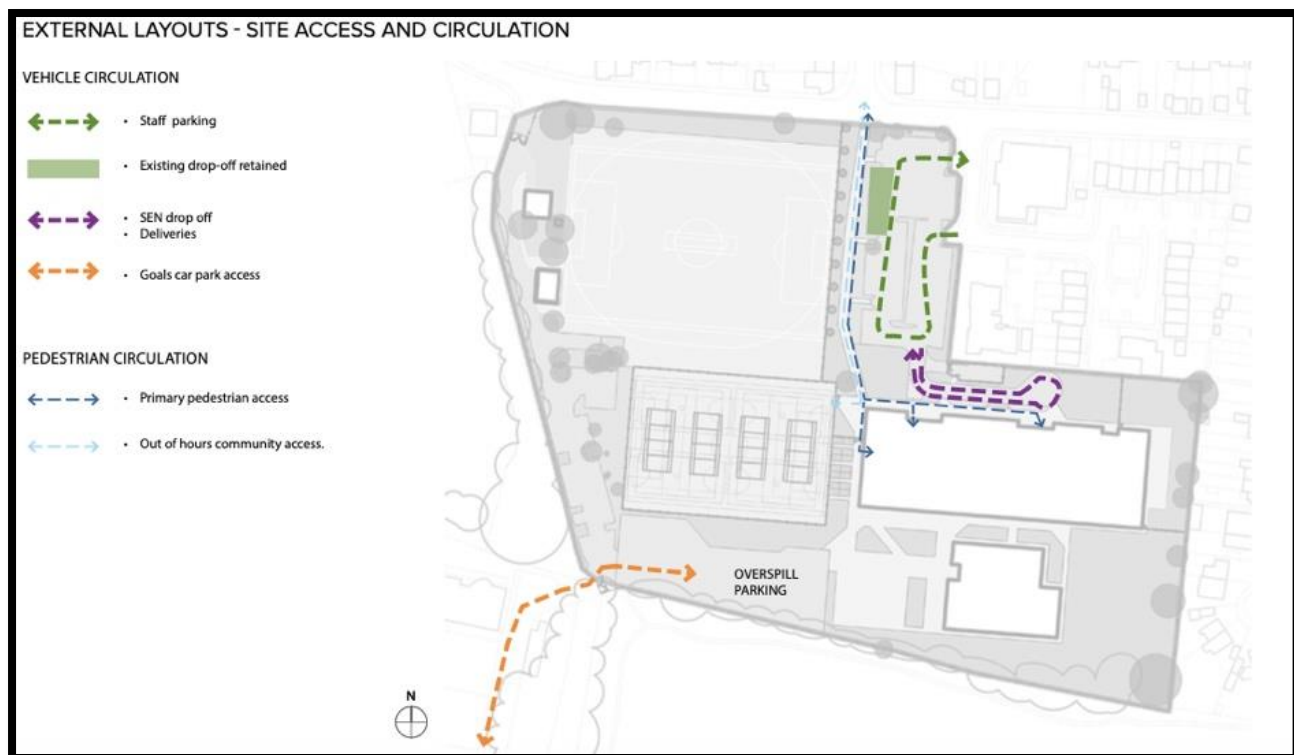
Web: <https://archive.hillingdon.gov.uk/bikeability>

Section 10

Appendix 1 – Current School Location



Appendix 2 – revised travel routes on the new site



Appendix 3 – Proposed School Location (2 diagrams)

Pinkwell Lane



Also showing the back field, GOALS Soccer Centre and Shepiston Lane



Shepiston Lane