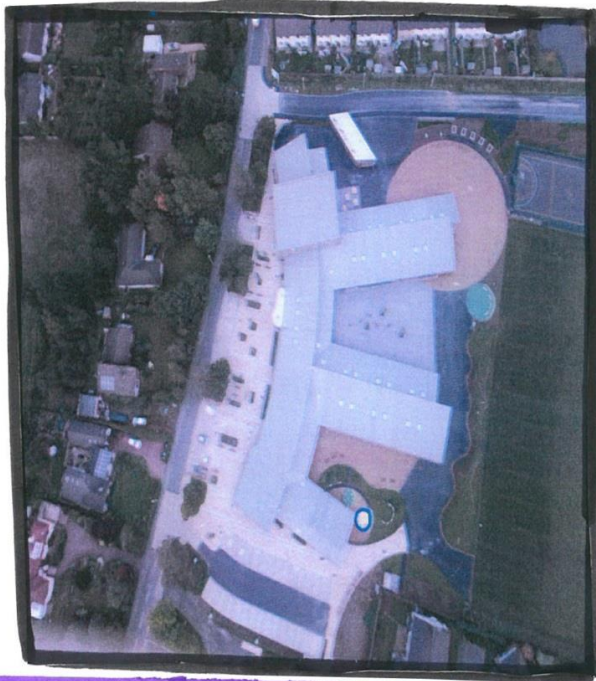


Travel Plan



West Linton Primary



West Linton Primary School

School Travel Plan



What is a School Travel Plan?

A School Travel Plan (STP) outlines travel issues around the school and how they are to be addressed both at present and in the future. In order to write a STP research needs to be done on the current situation and then suggested areas for improvement need to be outlined. All school stakeholders are given the chance to contribute to the research.

STPs are not only about transport, but about improving health, broadening education, improving the environment and contributing to the community. Improvements may therefore cover a range of areas including physical changes to the area around the school and further afield, curriculum work, promotional events, training etc.

A group was formed consisting of the Head Teacher, staff, Parent Council representative, SBC personnel, Police Scotland representative, Tweeddale West Councillors, AMEY representatives and West Linton Community Council representatives.

School description

West Linton Primary School is a non-denominational school presently catering for 266 pupils aged between 3 and 12 years. The catchment area includes the village of West Linton and the surrounding rural area.

The majority of children walk to school; several are driven by parents. We have an increasing number who choose to cycle and scoot to school and use the bike facilities to secure bikes within the school grounds. We also have children who are regularly transported by school minibus. There is a school crossing patrol on the A702, morning and afternoon.

The school is a new single storey building which is bright, modern and spacious, with well designed, attractive facilities both indoor and out, including a MUGA, a sports field and a suite of rooms available for community use out with school hours. It is an excellent learning environment for everyone.

Building construction work began in April 2012 on the site which was previously the old school playing field and opened as the new school in October 2013. The old school was built in the early 1900s and had been upgraded in a variety of ways over the years but was no longer fit for purpose.

The school has an active and enthusiastic Parent Council and PTA. We welcome and value partnership working within them, our local and wider community.

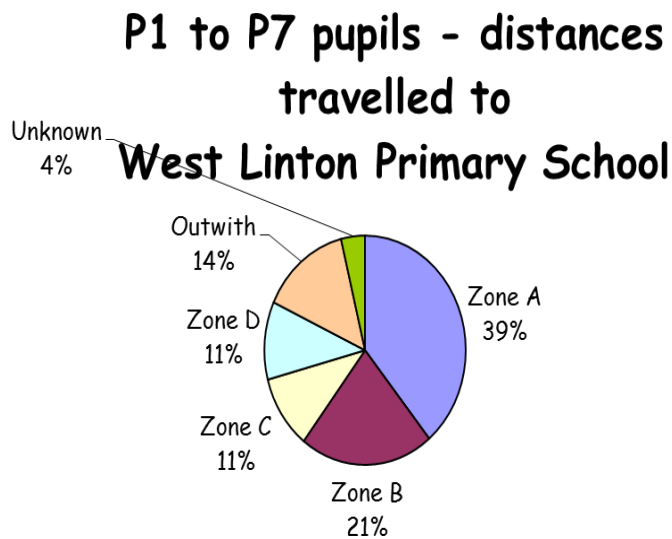
The aims of West Linton Primary School travel plan are

- To ensure that pupils, parents and staff are supported and encouraged in making positive, healthy travel choices
- To improve the pedestrian safety of the children on their journey to school
- To improve the local environment for everyone, by reducing pollution, congestion and road danger
- To ensure the parking areas in and around the school are used safely with due consideration given to pedestrians and other road users.

Existing travel patterns as of October 2014

In October 2014 parents were asked to complete a questionnaire about their existing and preferred travel modes to and from school, 272 parental questionnaires were sent out, of which 196 were returned, giving an overall response of 72%. Twenty three staff members completed their questionnaire.

There were 182 responses relating to P1 – P7 children (75% of the 243 children on school roll) and 14 responses relating to nursery children (48% of the children at nursery). The results for P1 – P7 are shown separately from the Nursery.

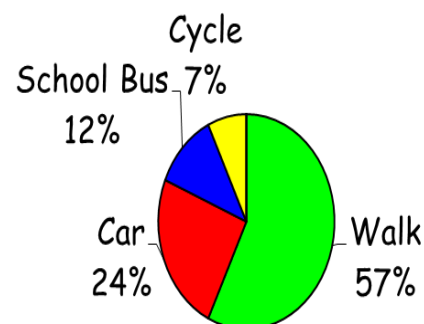


- 82% of P1 – P7 pupils live within 1 mile of the school (Zone A, B, C & D) ¼ mile zones.
- 14% of pupils live further than one mile from the school (outwith).
- 4% of the surveys returned did not specify their location

P1 - P7 pupils current travel modes TO school

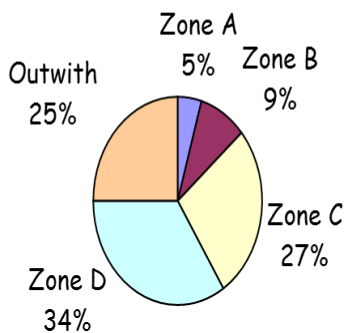
On the journey to school:

- 57% walk
- 24% of primary children are driven
- 12% use school transport
- 7% cycle/scooter to school



To help set targets parents of pupils who currently drive their children to/from school were asked if anything could be done to stop them driving. Of those who responded, 67% (26 drivers) said no for varying reasons such as part of a journey to work and 33% (13 drivers) said that if measures were put in place to make the journey safer they would consider walking.

Percentage of drivers by zone P1 - P7 pupils



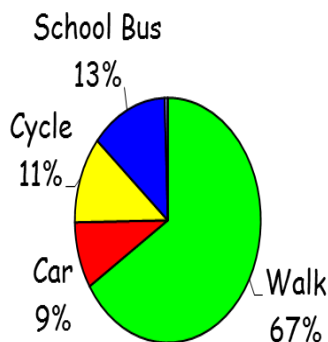
Of the 24% of P1 – P7 children currently driven to West Linton Primary School:

- 14% live within ½ a mile of the school (zones A & B)
- 61% (14 pupils) live between ½ and 1 mile of the school (zones C & D)
- The remaining 25% live further than 1 mile away.

In the questionnaire parents were asked to state their preferred travel mode for their child.

Parents preferred travel modes for P1 - P7 pupils

- 67% of parent’s preference would be walking
- 11% would prefer their child to cycle
- 9% wish to drive their child
- With 13% preferring the school bus/school taxi transport

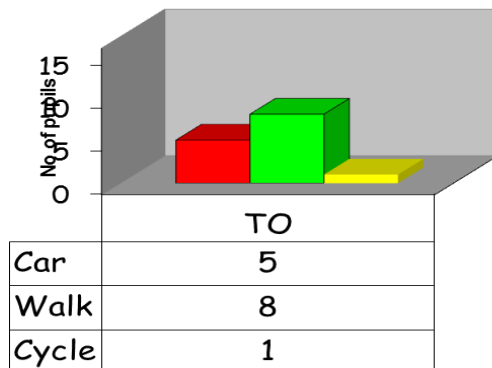


These results show the potential to increase active travel to school and reduce car use.

Nursery

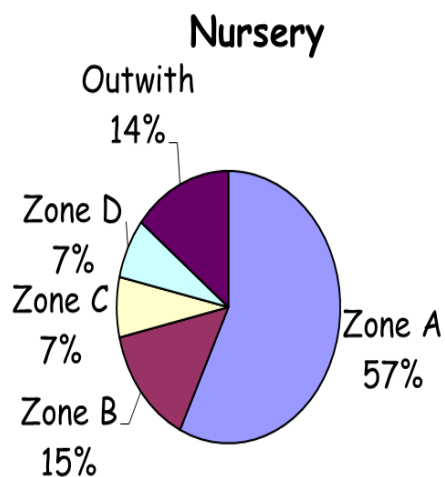
14 parents of nursery children (48%) responded to the travel survey, their travel modes are shown in the graph below.

West Linton Nursery pupils 2014 - Current travel modes



- On journeys to West Linton Primary School Nursery 57% walk (8 children), 36% are driven (5 children) and 7% travel by cycle or scooter (1 child).

Distances travelled to West Linton

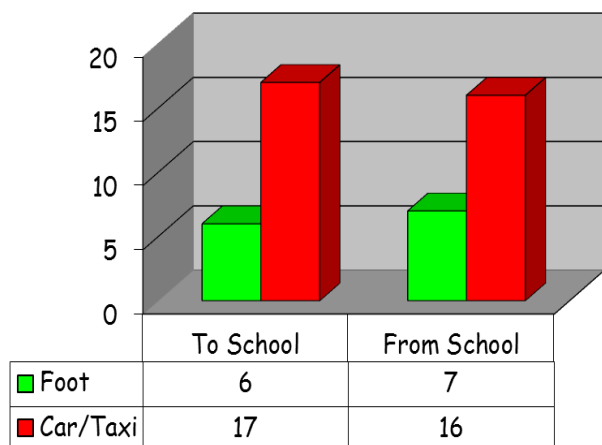


- 57% of nursery children live within $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile of the nursery (zone A).
- 29% live between $\frac{1}{4}$ and 1 mile away (zones B, C & D)
- 14% of nursery pupils live further than 1 mile from nursery.

School Staff

Twenty three members of staff responded to the survey.

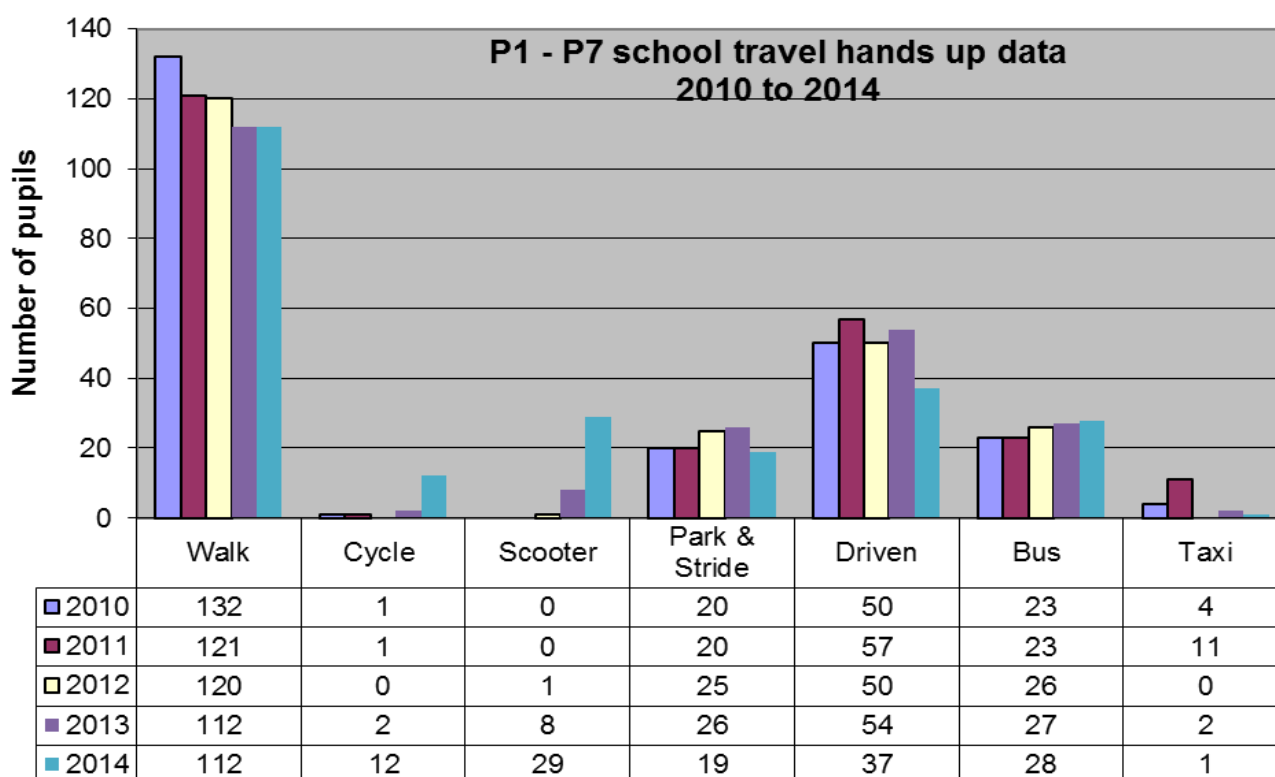
Teacher/staff travel modes



- 74% of staff drive to school
- With 26% (6 members of staff) walking to school.
- One additional staff member walks home from school

Data from the National School Travel Hands Up Survey will be used as a baseline for future monitoring of travel modes to West Linton PS. West Linton PS moved location from School Brae to Deanfoot Rd in October 2013.

The National School Travel Hands Up Survey is the largest annual recorded set of data to look at how children normally travel to school across Scotland, which is used as a national statistic by Scottish Government. The data is collected within the same week annually for each nursery, primary and secondary child.



Concerns and proposed solutions

Surveys sent to parents and staff asked for areas of concern. The main concerns are shown below. The number of parents responding is shown first, with the number of staff in the next column.

The items included are those where many parents and teachers raised the same concerns and/or practical solutions can be sought. By addressing the main areas of concern it is hoped the aims of the travel plan can be met.

Concern/suggestion	Parent No.	Staff No.	Solution
Deanfoot Road <i>No pavement between The Smithy and Croft Road</i>	43	2	The minimum carriageway width SBC Development Control would be able to support at this location for two way traffic would be 5m. A footway of acceptable widths simply cannot be provided within the existing constraints. A footway is available on the opposite side of the road and new pedestrian access between school and St Andrews Close is included in the development currently under construction.
<i>Parking at school run times on Deanfoot Road</i>	32	6	New lining works at the junction of School Brae to improve visibility and crossing opportunities for pedestrians. Police Scotland presence at school run times and advice given to vehicles inappropriately parked in the first instance.
<i>Speed of traffic on Deanfoot Road</i>	20	1	Detailed vehicle speed survey completed. Results showed average speeds in both directions to be below 20mph at school run times. Twenty's Plenty scheme to be introduced in Deanfoot Road and School Brae. New school signs installed on both roads.
A702 <i>Speed of traffic</i>	29	3	AMEY has agreed to conduct a vehicle speed survey on the A702 between the electronic variable message signs and the results will be forwarded to all members of the Travel Plan Group. Police Scotland are aware of the concerns raised and will continue maintaining a presence in this area.
<i>Electronic (variable message) signs not working</i>	13	3	AMEY have repaired the electronic signs on the A702 and agreement is in place to replace Carlops electronic variable message signs (location to remain the same).
<i>Lack of pedestrian crossing</i>	14		A request has been made to Transport Scotland for a formal assessment to be completed, upon completion of the vehicle speed survey on the A702.
Carlops <i>Concern raised over pick up point</i>	6		SBC Passenger Transport Dept have completed an assessment and the current pick up location has been identified as the safest location
General Concern <i>Children crossing/cycling/scooting across roads without looking</i>	3	2	Ongoing educational and police road safety input with nursery and primary pupils of WLPS

Programme for implementation

Scottish Borders Council Place Department, under direction of the School Travel Co-ordinator, will be responsible for implementing most measures listed above, with AMEY and Transport Scotland undertaking their actions. Engineering measures will be implemented during financial year 2014/15 & 2015/16.

School based initiatives

West Linton Primary School will:

- Continue to promote walk to school week events and use these events to consolidate road safety and health education
- Continue road safety as an integral part of the school's curriculum
- Regularly promote good practice and highlight travel issues in the school newsletter
- Participate in the Scottish Cycle Training Scheme (in consultation with SBC Outdoor Education Team)
- Participate in "Green Feet Forward" tartan sustainable travel initiative. The Green Tartan Foot will be awarded monthly to the class which has undertaken the most active school travel or alternatively, the class with the highest number of high visibility vests worn to/from school. Led by the Junior Road Safety Officers.

Targets

Active school travel modes (walking, cycling, scooting and park & stride) all contribute towards making positive, healthy travel choices and help to improve the pedestrian safety of children at West Linton PS.

The School Travel Hands Up Survey results showed the above active school travel methods accounted for 72% of school travel in 2014.

	Current % active school travel (hands up Sept 2014)	Year 1 (Sept 15)	% inc	Year 2	% inc	Year 3	% inc
TO school	72%	74%	2%	75%	1%	76%	1%

Continued monitoring and review of the travel plan

A regular evaluation of this travel plan will be undertaken and travel modes will be monitored each September. Any review will be conducted by the Headteacher with the support from Scottish Borders Council's School Travel Co-ordinator. The results of the evaluation will be fed back to parents, pupils and staff and Scottish Borders Council Place Department.

You can get this document on audio, in large print, and various other formats by contacting us at the address below. In addition, contact the address below for information on language translations, additional copies, or to arrange for an officer to meet with you to explain any areas of the publication that you would like clarified. Contact – Jacqueline Whitelaw, Place Department, Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters, Newtown St. Boswells TD6 0SA Tel. No. 0300 100 1800