



THE MARIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Travel Plan



DFE No: 936/3458
Date: December 2024



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Section 1: Contact Details and Working Group

School name: The Marist Catholic Primary School
School address: Old Woking Road, West Byfleet, KT14 6HS
Contact numbers: 01932 344477
E-mail: info@marist.surrey.sch.uk
Website: www.marist.surrey.sch.uk

Headteacher: Emily Fanzo
Travel Plan Coordinator: Anna Walsh **Designated School Governor:** Rhoda Breakell

Travel Plan Coordinator

The Marist Catholic Primary School has an internal STP Co-ordinator, Anna Walsh. Her responsibilities are to ensure an updated plan is on the website and it is monitored and reviewed on an annual basis.

Headteacher

The Headteacher has ultimate responsibility for the Travel Plan and ensuring that the targets are met.

Section 2: Introduction

Our School Travel Plan (STP) is a working document that sets out the measures that The Marist Catholic Primary School is using to promote walking and cycling in order to reduce the amount of single car usage. These measures will be based on research carried out at least annually. Training and raising awareness of travel issues is an inherent part of school life. The intention of this document and measures implemented is to help to continue the improvements in the way in which all our stakeholders: staff, children and parents think about travel.

The STP provides the school with a means by which to effectively manage the transport needs of the staff, pupils and visitors to the school site. It is not intended to be anti-car, but will detail the alternative modes of transport available as much as possible.

Section 3: School Details

The Marist Catholic Primary School is a medium size School which educates around 426 primary age children (aged 4 to 11).

There are a total of 68 members of staff. There is one main vehicular entrance into the School from Old Woking Road and two pedestrian entrances, one to the west of the existing vehicular entrance, one located on Sheerwater Road approximately 85m north of its roundabout junction with Old Woking Road and one adjacent to an emergency vehicular access off Fosse Way to the rear of the School.

There are approximately 44 parking spaces available on-site, for members of staff and visitors.

Parents and carers dropping off or picking up children by car are required to park on-street (unless the child and/or parent/carer has special needs which require them to have direct access to the School in which case parking in the car park will be made available).

There is one disabled parking place available.

All parents are asked to acknowledge and sign their Parental Responsibilities towards the wider community within the Home School Agreement.

We ask that parents support and implement the School Travel Plan to help ease congestion around the school. We also ask that all parents are proactive in being a good neighbour to those who live close to the school treating them and their property with respect and parking in roads around the school with consideration.

All staff currently using a car to travel to School can park off road in the School car park and visitors are also accommodated. Due to the number of part time staff, car park spaces are shared.

The number of cycle racks and scooter pods available for the secure storage of bikes and scooters has been increased significantly. There are now cycle racks and scooter pods on site to accommodate up to 28 bikes and 44 scooters. These are situated at each entrance gate into school and are for use by pupils, parents and staff alike.

There is a pedestrian crossing is situated outside the pedestrian entrance on the Old Woking Road to provide safe access to the school. There have been a few incidents when children have not used the crossings and road safety reminders are annually gone through, at appropriate level with the children. There are also reminders in the school newsletter

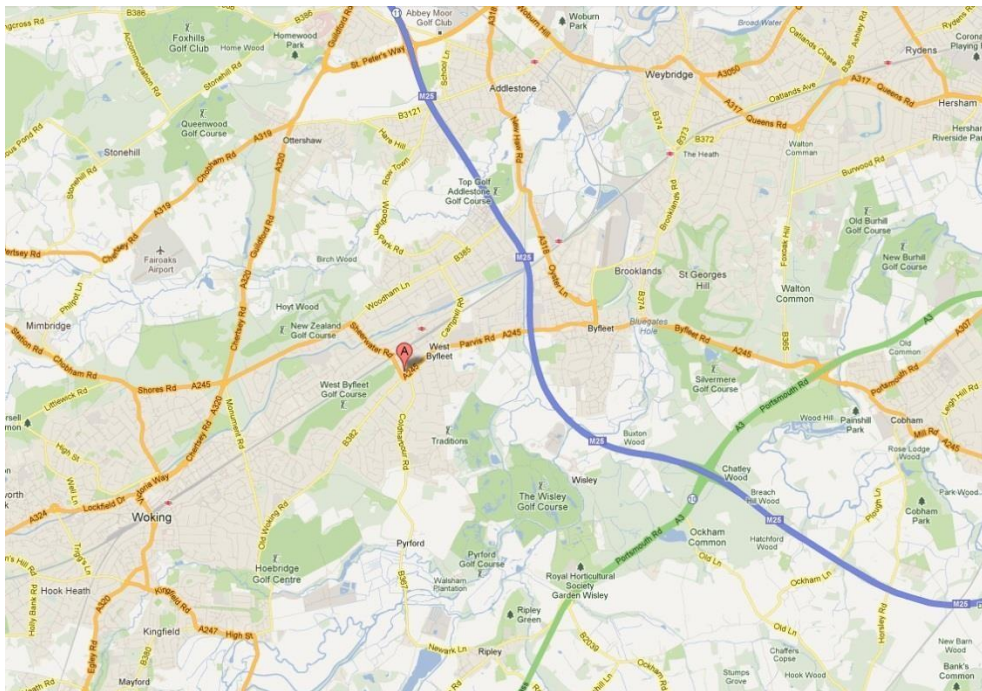
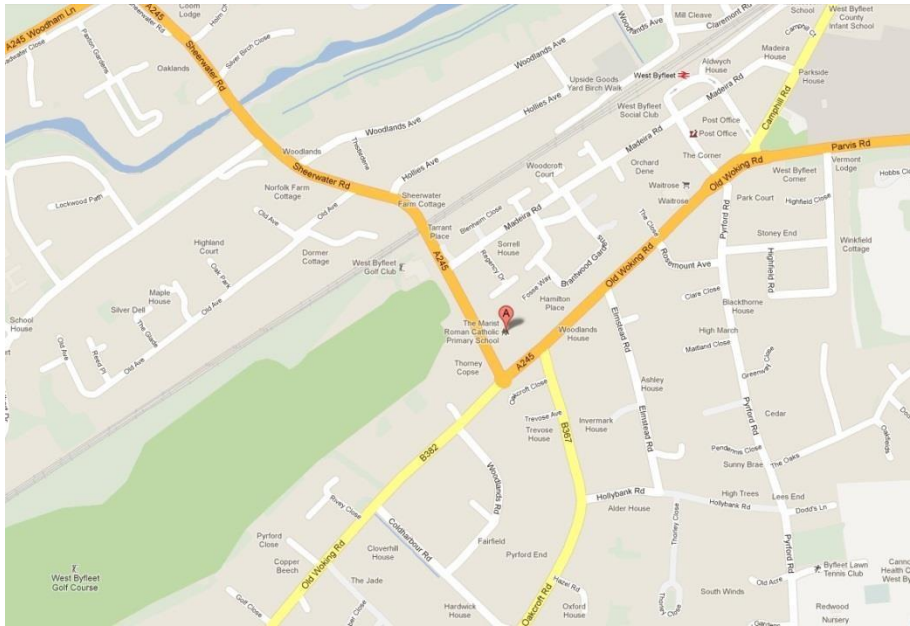
School location

The School is situated in the heart of West Byfleet along the A245 (Old Woking Road) between two ancient villages, Byfleet and Pyrford. In 1962 SCC re-zoned land in Woking and West Byfleet as high density areas, the Old Woking Road being a distributor road which links Woking to Byfleet amongst other destinations.

The area mainly consists of residential properties. Private building firms were actively encouraged to build flats, maisonettes and terraced houses. As well as housing, the area was developed to provide business space, shops, a library, multi-storey offices and restaurants.

The location of the site can be seen in **Figure 1** below.

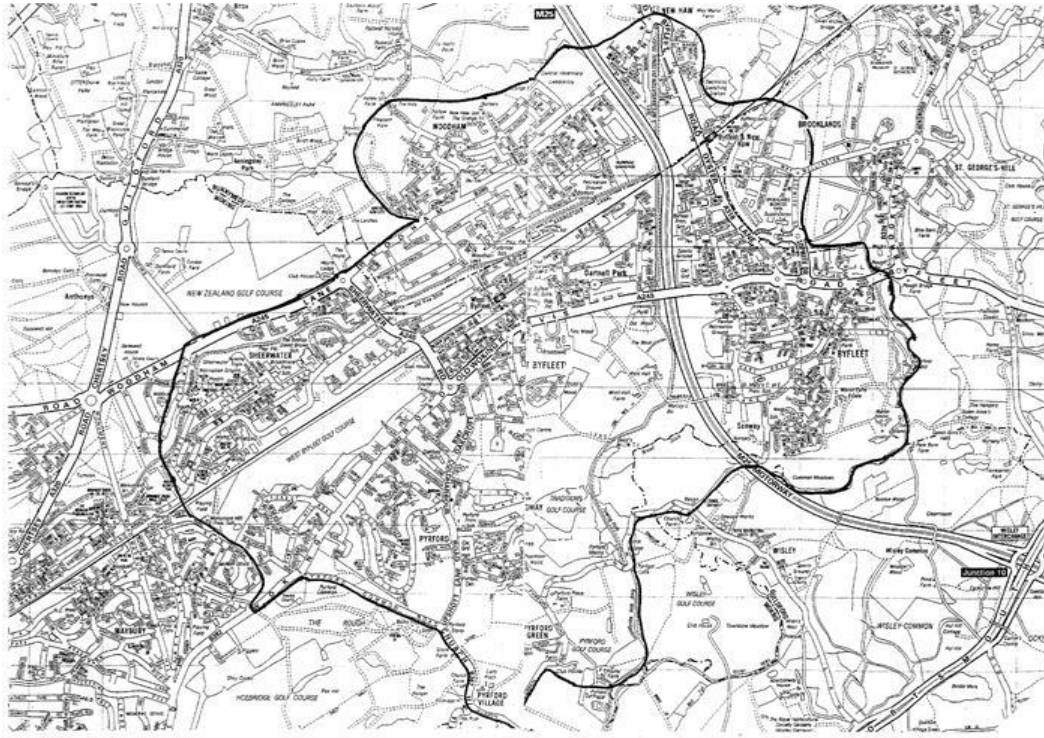
Figure 1: Site location



Most roads in the vicinity of the School have wide, lit footways either side of the carriageway which are suitable for walking to the School, from many of the surrounding residential streets. Pupil postcodes have been obtained and plotted on a Google map (see **Figure 2** below) to show the catchment and distribution of pupils. Whilst the catchment stretches from Walton on Thames to the north east to Brookwood to the south west, the majority of pupils live within approximately 3km of the School in West Byfleet and Byfleet.

The priority catchment area of the School is also shown in **Figure 2** below, where the majority of the pupils live.

Figure 2: Priority Catchment Area



Some parents drive their children to School, which means they are required to park on-street. Much of the residential roads in the vicinity of the School have off-road parking for residents.

Section 3: Aims & Objectives of Travel Plan

Aims

The specific aims are:

- To encourage a reduced reliance on the car through the reduction in the length and number of motorised journeys, particularly those journeys undertaken in single occupancy vehicles;
- To promote the use of alternative means of travel which are more suitable and environmentally acceptable.

Objectives

The objectives of the STP are:

- To encourage walking;
- To encourage cycling;
- To encourage the use of park and stride
- To limit travel to the School by car to a level that can be accommodated by the proposed parking facilities and on-street capacity, by encouraging car sharing and considerate parking.

Section 4: Our commitment to our Travel Plan

As a School we are committed to being an eco-school – we currently hold Green Flag status. We have a team of Eco-Warriors from KS2 which hold half-termly meetings on ways to promote eco subjects including suitable ways to travel to school.

They have designed and continually monitor an Eco Code which includes a focus on how our staff and pupils travel to and from school:

The Marist Eco Code:

More walking and cycling

Act fast – pick up litter

Remember to turn off the lights

I know littering is bad

Save energy, close doors

Treat the world with care, try your best

To help ensure that the improvements we have made are sustained, sustainable and able to be improved upon, we have taken a number of policy decisions which have been put into practice. These include those centred on reducing the volume of traffic and parking around the school at the crucial points of the day:

- The School site is opened for pupils from 8.30am and children have access to their classrooms from 8.35am with formal registration for the School at 8:45am; this allows a staggered entry in to School which has helped alleviate some of the pressures on parking and the highways at the start of the day.
- A very popular Breakfast club runs every day with places taken by up to 50 children each day. This reduces the number of cars parking around the School at the start of day by a significant number.
- A very popular After School Club runs Monday to Fridays in term time until 6.00pm (now extended for up to 100 children) – again a reduction in the number of cars at the school.
- The School day ends at 3.15pm for all pupils but the school has a large number of co-curricular activities organised for pupils after school, which results in a spread of arrival and departure times by children and parents / carers. In the course of a week over 400 children are involved in these clubs delaying their departure from the school site to 4.30pm each day.
- In addition to breakfast club, we are intending to start some early morning clubs starting at 8am. This will also stagger the cars in the morning at drop of times.

The School takes part in Bikeability courses for Year 5 pupils and safe walking for Year 3 pupils. During workshops we talk about the benefits of car-free journeys.

The School holds regular walk to school days where we promote cycling, car share and walking to school.

A Travel Guide is available for all parents and staff highlighting public transport routes and encouraging travel to and from school in an eco-friendly way. This is also available on the school website and can be found within the Travel Plan page under the tab 'Parents' from the home page of the website.

Additional measures have been implemented to help parents when making decisions about safer travel to school and to encourage children to be more involved such as:

- Park and stride of walking for 10 minutes
- Adding to the Installation of lockers for helmet storage for Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils
- Regular monitoring on how parents park responsibly by staff in problematic roads and remainders in our Marist mail
- Pupils designing awareness posters to advertise walk to school days
- Messages of the Eco-council promoting walk to school week on social media
- Encouragement of staff to car share on walk to school week
- The Marist parents are regularly highlighted to have fill out the Surrey wide survey on how children travel to school
- An anti-idling campaign is planned for 2025 to be led by the Eco-council
- We try to walk for local trips for example to church, Greenfields and our Year 4 river walk

Section 6: Travel Issues

Walking

From pupil voice, more children would like to walk to school. One factor effecting this is the distance from school and parents dropping off siblings in other schools or going to work. The school continues to hold 'Walk to School days' where results indicate pupils and staff are trying to use more eco-friendly ways in which to travel to school.

It should be noted that the School actively encourages walking to School as part of the Healthy Schools scheme and as part of our Green Flag eco school status. We also teach road safety in all year groups.

Cycling

We have recently changed bikeability from Year 6 to Year 5 to encourage more children to cycle to school.

We have ample bike racks situated around the grounds, we also have scooter pods for 44 pupils. Parents and staff are all encouraged to use these facilities which are situated at each entrance to the school.

Lockers were installed for KS2 which helmets can be put in.

Roads & traffic

Even with the successful implementation of a Puffin Crossing on the Old Woking Road adjacent to the gates of the school and according to the survey, parents, children and staff still feel that their personal safety was being compromised if they chose to travel to school on foot. This was mainly because they felt that more crossing points were needed especially along Sheerwater Road and other roads close to the school. Pavements were too uneven and small children find this difficult to master.

West Byfleet has a much higher proportion of cars per household along with a higher proportion of retired people which all adds to the traffic congestion during the school day.

Parking

The school has a total of 44 car parking spaces for teachers and visitors only. Vehicular and pedestrian accesses will remain in their current locations.

Parents who drive are required to park on-street (except in special circumstances).

It has been reported that the vast majority of cars park in a sensible and considerate manner, in 'safe' locations, a safe distance away from junctions and not double parking. However, as is to be expected near any School, some parents aim is to get as close to the School as possible, which can result in parking very close or, in some cases, on junctions, restricting visibility for all road users.

The School frequently reminds parents of their responsibilities when parking to do so legally, safely and sensibly and responds to all complaints from neighbours.

In our Travel Guide we have introduced our parents to 'Park SMART'. Park SMART is part of a Drive SMART campaign which aims to encourage sensible parking but also informs motorists about current parking regulations. Providing web addresses and contact telephone numbers so they can report illegal and inconsiderate parking.

The Travel Guide is also available on the school website and can be found under the heading 'Parents'.

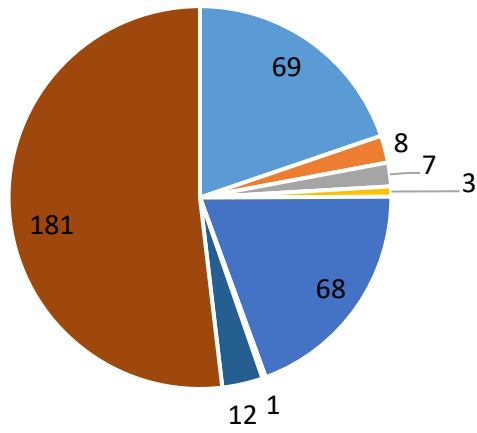
As part of our Home School Agreement, parents are asked to sign a Parental Responsibilities Agreement which indicates that they must support the implementation of the School Travel Plan and help to ease the congestion around the school environment at drop off and pick up times; and be a good neighbour to those who live close to our school.

As stated in the recovery plan, the School is seeking guidance and suggestions from Surrey for some intervention to help assist with offending parkers. We have tried to involve the local Community Police Service to help regulate this practice but unfortunately they do not have the resources to get involved.

Section 7: Actions and Data from last year

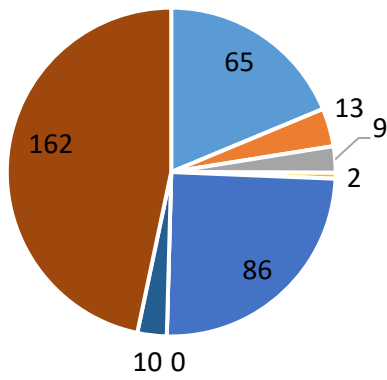
To encourage walking to school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two walk and cycle to school days a year• Year 3 walking training
To encourage cycling to school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two walk and cycle to school days a year• Year 5 bikability training
To encourage the use of park and stride	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two walk and cycle to school days a year• Sharing the park and stride map
To limit travel to the School by car to a level that can be accommodated by the proposed parking facilities and on-street capacity, by encouraging car sharing and considerate parking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two walk and cycle to school days a year• 2025 Anti-idling campaign and competition• Information on the school newsletter

Baseline for 2023-24



■ Walk ■ Cycle ■ Scooter ■ Bus ■ Park and Stride (10 minutes walk) ■ Train ■ Car share ■ Car

Walk to School Day July 2024



■ Walk ■ Cycle ■ Scooter ■ Bus ■ Park and Stride (10 minutes walk) ■ Train ■ Car share ■ Car

