

Combs Infant School Travel Plan

Combs Infant School

DFES Reference Number

830/ 2068

About our School

Who to contact at school about the
STP

Mrs Curry, head teacher.

School
Telephone

01298 813120

e-mail headteacher@combs.derbyshire.sch.uk

No. of pupils & age range.

24 KSO & KS1
4 to 7 years

School type

Community Infant

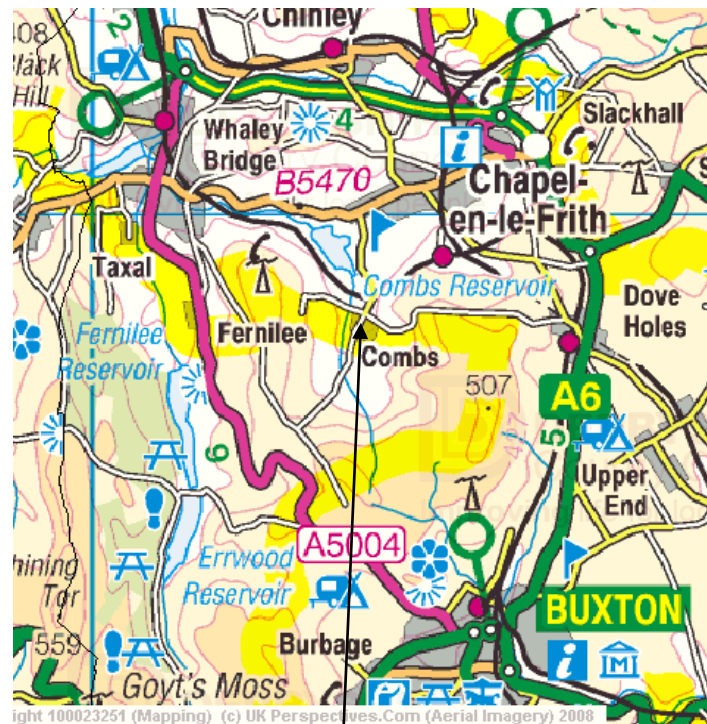
Location

The school is located in the heart of Combs Village, off Combs Road that leads from the main B5470 road between Chapel-en-le-Frith and Whaley Bridge. The school is in a rural setting in the High Peak of Derbyshire.

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About the area around our school and the catchment area it serves.

There has been a school in Combs since January 1881. Today the school is for infant children from 4 to 7 years old and the children come both from Combs and the surrounding area. As a very small school parents often choose to send their children for the 'family nurturing' environment, often travelling by car from outside the 'catchment' area to do so. Combs has always stood for high standards of care and achievement.



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The School Day

School starts at 9:00 a.m. and finishes at 3:15 pm.

Whilst we do not have a preschool club, the children are encouraged to arrive at school early so that they can join in with the 'Take 10' physical activities that start the day. We open our doors at 8:30 to provide activities for anyone who wishes to come early. There are after school clubs on 3 evenings a week, which vary through the year, but include 'Ball Skills', 'Ball Games', French, Card and ICT clubs, which run from 3:15 to 4:15pm. We meet the extended school agenda by providing signposting to facilities within the area.

The key walking / cycling routes to school are through the village of Combs and along Lesser Lane. Some Children walk down Combs Road to get into the village. None of these roads have any pavements and are quite busy, having much commuter traffic and a respected village pub.

The school is not served by public transport, except one dedicated school bus which serves Chapel-en-le Frith High School. The nearest railway station is at Chapel-en-le Frith, approximately 1 mile away.

Walking around the village and surrounding areas is a feature of the curriculum at Combs. The walks are around the village and the areas beyond, including the reservoir and visiting the mobile library van, which parks in the centre of the village. These inherently include road safety skills practise and are linked to the topic learning of Geography and Science.

The number of parking spaces for staff and visitors is 3 or possibly 4 with care. Other parking is on the narrow road. Currently there is no specific disabled parking space.

Current involvement of school in travel activities & travel education links to other initiatives - the school takes part in the walk to school initiatives as far as is safe and possible; we incorporate safety in the environment and personal safety

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training in our SEAL and PSHE & C programme for all the children. We are on our third accreditation of the Healthy Schools award, have the ABC award of excellence and the ECO Green Flag award. The school uses public transport wherever possible on educational visits (mainly the train) and elements of transport and travelling are incorporated in most of our cross curricular topics.

There are very few existing facilities due to our lack of space. We do allow children to leave their bikes / scooters in a corner of the playground. Currently there is no covered waiting provision.

Current Travel Problems

1. Parents drop off / pick up children outside school, where the road is narrow (little more than a single track road) and there are no pavements.
2. There is no real turning area (a farm entrance is used) for the cars to exit Combs having left the children in school.
3. Although some children local to the village want to cycle / scooter to school there are no facilities to store their bikes / scooters, no cycle paths for them and no cycle training as they are too young for the formal proficiency test.
4. There is no weatherproof area for the parents to wait if they have walked. Planning to obtain a shelter could prove difficult with the Peak District National Park Authority, in which the school stands.
5. Signage - No school safety zone sign with a 20mph warning.
6. Impaired visibility for children leaving school because of car parking.
7. There is no public transport to /from Combs that the children / parents can use.
8. The current 'Park and Stride' initiative has encouraged parents to park in the centre of the village and walk the short distance to school. Whilst this alleviates some problems it creates others, the main one being the safety of the children being compromised by non school traffic travelling too quickly with scant regard to pedestrians.

Issues have been identified from the travel survey sent to all parents (Summer term 2008), from Governing Body concerns, from school council meetings and PSHE & C discussions. Please see Annex 1 'Pupil Travel Survey Results' attached at the end of this document.

Evidence that all parties have been consulted

After consultation with the School Travel Plan co-ordinator, a detailed school survey was sent to all parents with an accompanying letter explaining the purpose of the travel plan. The results of the travel survey were fed back to the school in an assembly and Mr Reardon fed back to a Parent Governor, Governing Body and other interested parents involved. A working group has been set up and parents are kept informed through

newsletters, posters in the school reception area and the school website. Please see Annex 2 'consultation evidence' at the back of this document.

This process of consultation has informed the content of our school travel plan.

Those in the STP working group are:-

Avis Curry - Headteacher

Mrs J Irwin - teacher

Combs Infant School Council

Dr. A Barton (parent governor)

Jo King (parent)

Carah Boden (parent)

Objectives - What we want to achieve

At Combs Infant School we believe a Travel Plan will make a safer environment for our pupils; it will develop links with the community and encourage children to use healthier transport options whenever they can. The plan raises the profile of alternative modes of transport as a lifestyle option.

We hope to establish and maintain a school ethos that incorporates: -

- i) the encouragement of other forms of transport, rather than the car, for at least part of the school journey , where practicable and at least on some days.

- ii) the promotion of congestion free school gates;
- iii) creating safer and healthier journeys to / from school.

Our Objectives

To increase the numbers of children walking at least part way to and from school. Children living in the village close to the school will be encouraged to walk or cycle to / from school. Children who live further away are encouraged to 'Park & Stride' from the village pub.

To reduce the numbers of cars used for the school journey by encouraging car sharing by parents and staff where possible.

To encourage parents to walk to school during wet weather by providing a shelter for parents to stand under while waiting for their children at 3:15pm.

To provide scooter / cycle storage facilities for those children who can travel this way.

To integrate the School Travel Plan into the Healthy School action plan.

To provide adequate signage and lighting to improve safety from both directions to the school.

To take advice on the appropriateness of a 'blind corner' mirror to be sighted by 'The Beehive' pub.

The wider implications of the School Travel Plan are:-

- To encourage a healthy attitude and walking culture amongst the school community that will lead to a healthier life style and the associated environmental benefits.
- To reduce the number of cars in the immediate vicinity of the school, thus creating a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists.

- To demonstrate to village children that cycling could be a possible alternative means of transport that is healthy and good for the environment.
- To foster children's and parents' understanding of travel and road safety issues; to make them aware of the issues, particularly with regard to the school journey.
- To encourage children to take what they have learnt about travel choices and road safety issues on the school journey and adopt them in other areas of their lives, now and in the future.

Targets and specific measures we have set to achieve our objectives

Targets for pedestrian journeys

The number of pupils walking to school is below the national average because of the relatively remote, rural position. 38% of children live within a mile of the school.

These children and parents are the target audience for being encouraged to continue to walk or cycle to school.

Target - Minimum of 50% of children walking or 'park & striding' to school during part of the year. Long term targets are not appropriate for Combs Infant School as the children only stay for a maximum of 3 years before moving on to another Primary school. 'Park and Striding' aims to reduce traffic congestion in the immediate vicinity of the school, thus improving safety.

Specific measures to encourage success:-

- Park & Stride at least 2 times per week.
- Taking part in Travel Smart week.

- Updating / reminding parents through school newsletters.
- Encourage / organise car sharing where possible.
- Parents and children will be encouraged to either wear bright or reflective clothing or carry something of that description on their school journey especially in the winter and poor conditions.

Targets for car journeys

Approximately 70% of pupils arrive by car, of these 19% live within a mile of school. Some children are being dropped off as part of other journeys made by parents.

The survey results also show that some of these cars are not fully occupied and there is an offer among some of these drivers to give lifts to others.

Because year on year the school population changes by a third to give a target percentage is impossible. Also the majority of the school population have to travel some miles to come to Combs and have no viable alternative to using the car, especially as there is no public transport either. However, increasing car sharing and Park & striding is an achievable target.

Specific Measures

Car sharing will be encouraged through newsletters / reply slips, starting after the Easter holiday 2009 supported by parent organisers (Parent governor leader).

Parents who drive their children to school will be reminded to approach the school community with caution, drive at a sensible speed and be aware of other road users and pedestrians in accordance with the Highway Code. All car passengers will be reminded that they should be restrained by seat belts and child locks should be used if appropriate.

Reminders will be sent out through newsletters / school council at least termly.

Targets for journeys made by bicycle

There is a small demand for cycling as a preferred mode of travel to school by those children living in the village. However, as the children are so young they need to be accompanied by a walking / cycling adult. Even for local children this is not always possible on a daily basis. There are also concerns regarding the safety of the children as the roads are narrow and without footpaths. There is also a lack of storage for the bikes.

Children cycling to school will wear a cycling helmet made to British Standards specifications;

We aim to increase cycling as a means of transport for the children who live locally by 4% beginning Summer Term 2009.

General Travel Issues

1. Parents should be encouraged to notify the school of any road safety issues within the school community that they believe have the potential to cause an accident. By the same token, feedback will be given to the parent once the matter has been investigated.
2. The school will make and maintain links with Derbyshire County Council Road Safety Team to ensure school travel and road safety best practices are upheld.
3. The parents of new children to the school will be briefed regarding the schools' Travel Plan policy and ethos in the 'New parents meeting'. A paragraph will also be added to the school brochure in 2009.

School Travel and Road Safety in the Curriculum

1. The School will make use of curriculum resources offered by the Derbyshire County Council Road Safety Team as appropriate.
2. The topic of school travel and road safety is already part of our cross curricular delivery of history, geography, PSHE & C, ICT and science and as such is covered annually within each school year.
3. School travel and road safety issues will be raised as necessary during school assemblies as part of the annual program. All staff are responsible for ensuring road safety is embedded in the curriculum.

Monitoring and Review

Monitoring will include collating travel data as part of the annual School Census information which will be submitted in January of each academic year.

The STP will be integrated into the Healthy School action plan, and reviewed annually in April of each year as part of the school development plan. The first such review will take place in April 2010.

This review will take into account pupils' travel needs in light of any new developments in education and transport provision and new cohorts of children.

Approvals:

This School Travel Plan was adopted at a full Board of Governors meeting on

Head teacher:

Name signature

Chair of Governors:

Name signature

Representative from School Travel Plan working party:

Name signature

and was accepted on behalf of Derbyshire County Council by:

Children and Younger Adults Department:

Name signature

Environmental Services Department:

Name signature

School Travel Plan

Action Plan

NB:

JI - Mrs J Irwin, teacher	AC - Avis Curry, head teacher	AS -	SL -	MR - Michael Reardon, DCC School Travel Plan co-ordinator.
GB - Governing Body	AB - Dr A Barton, Parent Governor.	NR -	VHT -	

Objective: School Travel Plan launch, promotion and publicity.								
Target: All parents to have been made aware of the adopted School Travel Plan and its proposed initiatives.								
Actions		Responsible	Timescale of action	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Timescale for monitoring	Who will monitor?	Funding
1	Newsletter to include travel plan updates	JI AC AS	At least once per term, starting October 2009.	Newsletters contain T P info / update, and circulated to all parents.	AB & AC to check newsletters	December, March and July each year. Starting December 2009.	AB	School resources

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2	Web site updates	SL AS	Termly, starting October 2009.	Website kept updated	AB & AS to check & update website termly, starting December 2009.	Report to (termly) GB meeting in November, February and May each year.	GB	School resources
3	School assembly	MR	September 2009. Annually thereafter to initiate new parents / children / staff and keep impetus going.	Assembly undertaken, all new parents aware of Travel Plan.	Informal feedback to AC.	September 2008, then annually.	GB	School resources
4	Include details of travel ethos in school prospectus	NR AC AS	September 09 (Prospectus already finished Oct 08)	Explanation paragraph in brochure	Parent Gobs / AB, annual review of prospectus.	July 09 to Oct 09	GB	School resources

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Objective: To promote walking as a healthy mode of travel for a part of journey to and from school.								
Target: Increase the number of children walking partway to school to 50% on at least 1 day per week from Summer term 2009 until Summer term (i.e. July) 2012.								
Actions		Responsible	Timescale of action	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Timescale for monitoring	Who will monitor?	Funding
1	Participate as appropriate in Walk to School Week / Travelsmart events	Jl	Annually in May and Oct, starting May 2009.	Increase in numbers walking (Park & Stride) during WTS week to 50% for whole week.	Quick hands up survey.	At the end of week.	Jl AC	School resources
2.	Investigate and publicise a Park and stride scheme from The Beehive pub.	AB Parents	Commencing September 2009, then ongoing.	Increase in the number of children walking (P & S) to school to 50% over the week.	AC to walk with children. Informal feedback from parents.	1 week every half term, starting September 2009.	AB/ GB AC	School resources
3	Parent waiting shelter:							
3a	Discuss the installation of a shelter and find a suitable place agreed by all stakeholders.	AC AS	May 2009.	Stakeholders contacted. Mutually agreed site identified.	Feedback recorded, and agreed site publicised.	June 2009	AC	School resources

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3b	Contact suitable companies. Obtain design ideas and quotes.	AC AS	May 2009	Selection of designs investigated and quotes obtained.	Report to GB.	June 2009	GB	School resources
3c	Contact Peak Park re planning issues. (Mike Evanson).	GB	May 2009	Peak Park contacted, planning issues clarified.	Report to GB.	June 2009	GB	School resources
3d	Select suitable company, install shelter.	AC & GB	June 2009	Waiting shelter built	Daily visual check	September 2009	AB GB	STP Grant

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Objective: To reduce the number of cars around school.								
Target: Reduce the number of car journeys made to and from school by 8% from 70% to 62%, from Summer Term 2009 until July 2012.								
Actions		Responsible	Timescale of action	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Timescale for monitoring	Who will monitor?	Funding
1	Car sharing	All Parents + AS	Jan 2009 AS to contact parents and match up needs / opportunities	Increase in number of car sharing by 8%	Hands up survey	Spring Term and Autumn term as issued by DCC.	AC	Resources
2	Address any specific issues, e.g.							
2i	Traffic speed	AC AS	Summer Term (i.e. June) 2009.	DCC installing new signage	AC to contact MR / DCC	By Sept2009	GB	DCC highway budget.

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2ii	Promotion of car free school gates and reduction in congestion.	AC AS AB	Termly paragraph in the newsletter, (i.e. May, September and January each year) starting May 2009.	Parents follow requested guidelines	Comments / observations from staff and parents re parking	June 2009, then regularly in Oct, Feb and June during term time.	AC	N / A
2iii	Investigate possibility of 'blind corner' mirror to be sighted by 'The Beehive' pub	GB	Enquiry made by July 2009	Response noted, and mirror in place.	Informal observation and discussions with staff & parents	October 2009.	GB	School resources

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Target: We aim to increase cycling as a means of transport for the children who live locally by 4% from 0% to 4%, beginning Summer Term 2009 until July 2012.

Actions		Responsible	Timescale of action	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Timescale for monitoring	Who will monitor?	Funding
1	Promote cycling as a possible means of travel by encouraging some accompanied children to cycle to school	AC AB JI	Starting September 2009, then in April and September each year.	50% of village children cycle at least once per week.	DCC twice yearly hands up survey	Spring Term and Autumn term as issued by DCC	AB GB	N/A
2	Install cycle storage facility, following discussions with VHT	AC AB ME	September 2009.	Cycle storage installed	Daily observation of use.	Oct 2009 and daily thereafter.	GB	STP Grant
3	Contact local police to request they come to work on cycle safety with the children.	AC JI AB	December 2009	Police contacted, teaching sessions organised.	AC report to GB	February 2009.	AC	N/A

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Objective: To ensure that parents are aware of the road safety issues raised with regard to school travel and are encouraged to make changes, should this be necessary, to their current travel patterns.

Target: Inform new and existing parents of changes taking place with regard to school travel and encourage road safety awareness.

Actions		Responsible	Timescale of action	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Timescale for monitoring	Who will monitor?	Funding
1	New parents will be briefed about the travel plan issues via the new parent induction process.	AC AS	July 2009, then annually.	Parents know about road safety and travel plan issues.	Parental questionnaire (annual, add a road safety question to assess knowledge.)	July annually starting 2009.	AC GB	N/A

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2	Parents will be informed and encouraged to change their travel patterns through regular newsletters.	AC AS	Paragraph in prospectus (July 09 and annually). Newsletter reminders - Sept 09, then termly in Feb, May and September each year.	Parents know about road safety issues	Parental questionnaire (annual, add a road safety question to assess knowledge.)	Nov 2009, then ongoing.	AB GB	N/A
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Objective: To promote health, safety and environmental issues related to school travel.

Target: Provide a minimum of 6 lessons (or equivalent) per academic year on school travel related issues. This will include PSHE & C, topic and assembly work, and local field trips.

Actions		Responsible	Timescale of action	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Timescale for monitoring	Who will monitor?	Funding
1	The School will make use of curriculum resources offered by the Road Safety Team as appropriate.	JI	As appropriate to time of topic in the year. Topic work, inc. coverage of:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who help us • Around & about • Ourselves Start Sept 09.	Children can discuss road safety	AC JI - Assessment of children's topic work	At least once per year in the appropriate topic, starting July 2009.	JI AC	Curriculum resources free of charge from DCC.
4	Regular road safety / travel themed assemblies	JI AC	At least once per term, starting September 2009.	Children can discuss road safety	Assessment of children's answers	Assembly planning in September, January and April each year.	AC	N/A

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5	PSHE & C / SEAL curriculum	JI	Included in: New Beginnings, Changes, Relationships and Good to be Me topics.	Certificates awarded to children	JI SEAL assessments	Curriculum planning in September, January and April each year.	AC	N/A
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Appendices

Annex 1. 'Pupil Travel Survey Results'

- Evaluation
- Route map
- Postcode map
- Comments on the journey to school, and reasons why preferred mode is not used.

Annex 2 'Consultation evidence'

NOTE: THIS IS NOT PART OF THE PLAN, SIMPLY A PROMPT. Please ensure you include whichever of the below you have as an annex to your plan. Thank you.

Evidence of current travel problems:

- Photos of issues (parking, traffic speed, inadequate pedestrian facilities)

Additional evidence of consultation, inc:

- Newsletter(s) with Travel Plan content.
- Questionnaire covering letter.
- Minutes of meetings, inc. school council, governors, pta, parish council, other.
- Photos of displays and notice boards.
- Photos or examples of travel plan related pupil work.
- Copies of correspondence with external bodies / individuals, e.g. Local Councillor, MP, County and / or District Council, or other stakeholders, such as local police or bus companies.
- Press cuttings
- Completed travel plan summary sheet.
- Any other evidence of Travel Plan related consultation.