

Welford on Avon Primary School



School Travel Plan



2017 – 18



Welford on Avon Primary School – DfE No: 937/2058

Headteacher: Mrs Julie Leeman

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Background to School Travel Plan

This school travel plan has been written to support a planning application for a proposed extension, which will comprise a new, purpose built school hall to the rear of the school site and a new Early Years provision, comprised of a school and private nursery facility to the left hand side of the school site.

The travel plan aims to support this planning application by taking actions to reduce traffic congestion around the school site, particularly during the construction phase of this project and with any additional traffic demands that may occur on completion.

School Background

Welford on Avon Primary School is located in the village of Welford on Avon in the Warwickshire. It is currently maintained by Warwickshire Local Authority.

The area immediately surrounding the school is largely residential with established houses on to the front and sides of the school. To the rear of the school is a local bowling club and behind that is rural land.

There is a school nursery on site which has 40 pupils currently on role, spread across morning and afternoon sessions, some attending full time and others part time. The school has a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 30, although in several classes there are up to 33 children.

The school catchment area comprises the village of Welford on Avon, as well as parts of the neighbouring villages of Weston on Avon, Dorsington and Long Marston (see catchment area map). The majority of children live within this catchment area with some children coming from outside.

Travel Plan Aims and Objectives

The overall aim of this travel plan is to ensure that pupils, parents and staff who are currently at the school, and will attend in the future, are able to make informed decisions about their travel to and from school. Through the travel plan it is hoped the school community will be able to continue to choose more sustainable modes of travel and therefore minimise the impact of the proposed building work on the local environment.

Aims

- To promote walking to school for those children who are able to as much as possible by September 2019 in time for the construction work to start
- To increase awareness of the importance of safe travel to and from school
- To ensure safety around the site at busy times of day, particularly during the period of construction.

Objectives

- To encourage more parents to walk to and from school, particularly during the period of construction
- Encourage and enable more pupils who have bicycles and scooters to consider cycling/scootering to school and back with their parents
- Where appropriate, encourage car sharing between parents of the school
- To ensure that parents and pupils feel safe walking or cycling to school
- To ensure that Road Safety education is provided to all children to ensure safer journeys to and from school
- To raise awareness of the benefits of leaving the car at home, and the alternatives to children and parents
- To communicate in a proactive manner with local residents, before, during and after the construction project
- To promote and enable alternatives to the car and reduce car use

Current and proposed school facilities

There are currently 262 pupils on roll distributed throughout the school as follows.

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Pupil Numbers</u>
Nursery 1	7
Nursery 2	33
Reception	31
Year 1	32
Year 2	29
Year 3	33
Year 4	33
Year 5	33
Year 6	31

The school hall is currently within the main school building and struggles to accommodate the number of pupils we have on roll. The proposed new hall will enable a greater range of physical education activities as well as whole school gatherings such as regular assemblies and concerts. The current school nursery is in a temporary building which is no longer fit for purpose.

The proposed building works will allow for a new school hall to meet the growing demand for space within the school. The new Early Years provision will accommodate the school's nursery, which has for many years been in a temporary building and is no longer fit for purpose.

In addition, Warwickshire Local Authority have recommended that the private Early Years provider be given new premises attached to the school nursery to meet a perceived demand they have.

Construction is scheduled to start, subject to planning status, in the summer of 2018, with the first phase of the project (the hall and the private Early Years provision) being completed in January 2019, and the second phase (the school Early Years provision) being completed by June 2019.

In addition there are proposed plans for adaptations to be made to the existing nursery building to create a purpose built SEN facility for children with particular difficulties. This unit will cater for up to 8 additional children.

Parking and Pedestrian Entrances

The school has no onsite parking facilities. Staff currently park in a carpark to rear side of the school which is accessed by driving down Headland Road into Mill Lane (see diagram on next page). Staff then access the site on foot via a gate to the rear of the school.

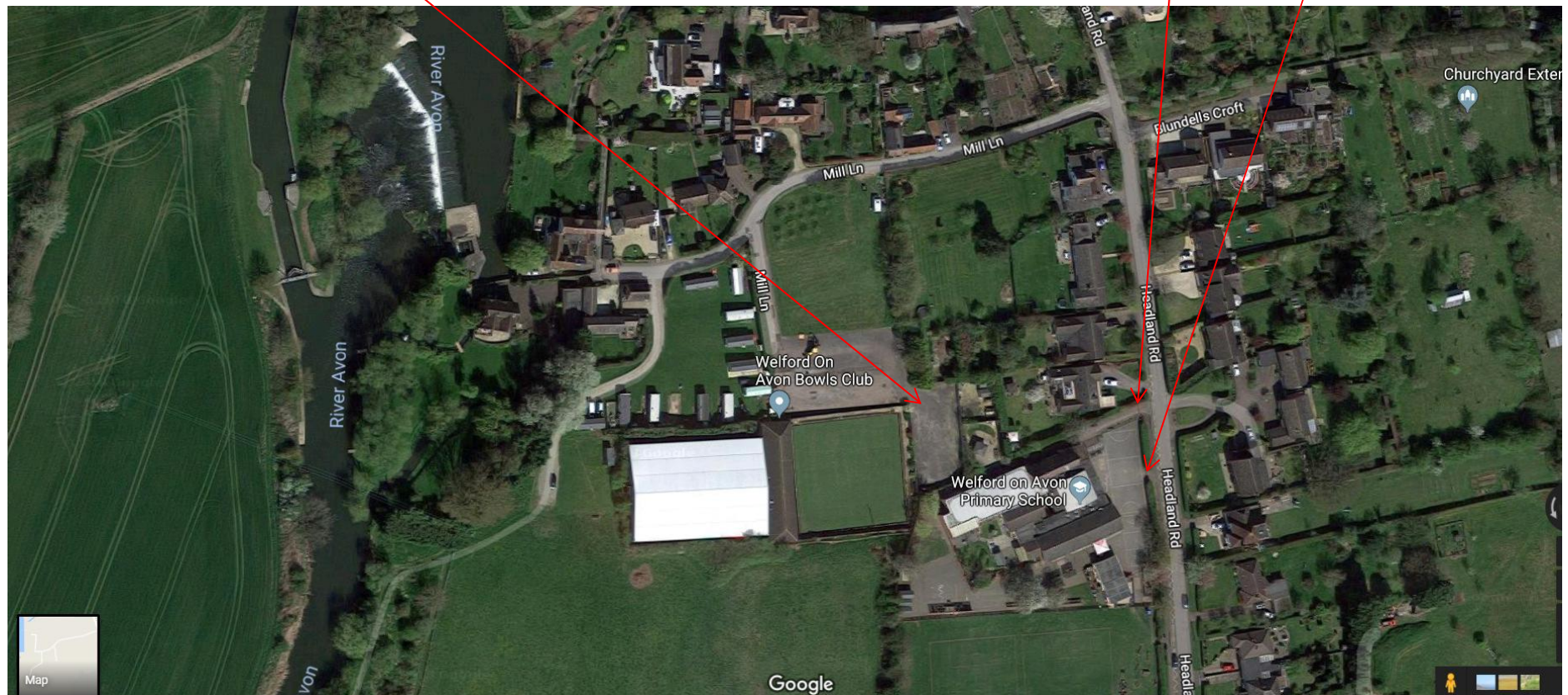
There are two pedestrian entrances to the school, these are both accessed from Headland Road, through gates which are open at the start and end at school. There are zigzags on the road outside the school to prevent parents using this area for dropping off and picking up from school. Parents currently park for pick up and drop off along Headland Road. This situation is monitored carefully for safety, and measures will be taken, as outlined later in this document to enable safe transportation of children and minimal congestion during the period of construction.

The school also has a cycle and scooter storage facility at the front of the school which has the capacity to store approximately twenty six bikes and scooters.

Map Showing Staff Car Parking Arrangements and Pedestrian Entrances on the School Site

Staff car parking facility, accessed via Mill Lane from Headland Road.

Pedestrian entrances to school, accessed via Headland Road.



Pupils and staff

The school, including nursery, currently has 262 pupils on roll. This is currently working at maximum capacity and above our PAN number.

A significant number of children live in Welford village within a 15 minute walking distance of the school. However, a considerable number of children live on the outskirts of the village with a walk that exceeds 15 minutes. Some children live in the neighbouring villages of Long Marston and Dorsington which fall inside the school catchment boundary and a school bus service is provided to transport these children.

Throughout the school there are currently 34 members of staff (10 teachers and 24 support staff). With the proposed new SEN unit this is likely to rise by 3 additional staff (1 teacher and 2 support staff).

There are currently 25 children on the SEN register, including four children with Educational Health Care Plans. No children have significant disabilities that affect their travel to school.

School Day

Since September 2017 the school has been providing an Extended Day beginning at 8am and finishing at 6pm for those accessing wrap around care.

The school runs range of after school clubs which are well attended. The majority of clubs finish at 4.30pm and our wrap around provision – STAR Club, finishes at 6pm. Since a significant number of children attend these clubs there is now a reduction of traffic during the peak times at the end of the day, as many children do not now leave at once at 3.15pm.

Time	Event	Effect on Road
8am	Beginning of before school club	Minimal traffic, some picking up and dropping off, little congestion
8.40 – 9.00	Beginning of the main school day	Peak time on Headland Road. Cars parked for drop off and pick up, lots of traffic
11.45am	Nursery morning session finishes	Minimal traffic as small groups of half day nursery children leave
12.15am	Nursery afternoon session starts	Minimal traffic as small groups of half day nursery children arrive
3.00 – 3.30pm	End of the main school day	Peak time on Headland Road. Cars parked for drop off and pick up, lots of traffic.
4.30pm	Majority of clubs finish	Some traffic on Headland Road as parents collect children from after school clubs.
5.00 – 6.00pm	Wrap around collection	Minimal traffic as parents pick up from wrap-around provision. This is usually spread throughout the hour from 5-6pm so there is very little congestion.

Description of the school locality

Welford on Avon Primary School is located in the village of Welford on Avon in Warwickshire. The school has a central location within the village on Headland Road. The school is within easy walking distance of several residential areas, including two new housing developments nearby.

The area is served by public transport, although this is a two hourly bus to Long Marston and Stratford on Avon. As this is an infrequent service, public transport is not a viable means of school transportation for any of the children. Public buses run on the main road through Welford and do not come onto Headland Road when the school is situated.

The schools' main pedestrian entrances are off Headland Road and the access to the car park the school uses is from Headland Road, although well past the school site.

There are no other primary schools within walking distance.

School catchment

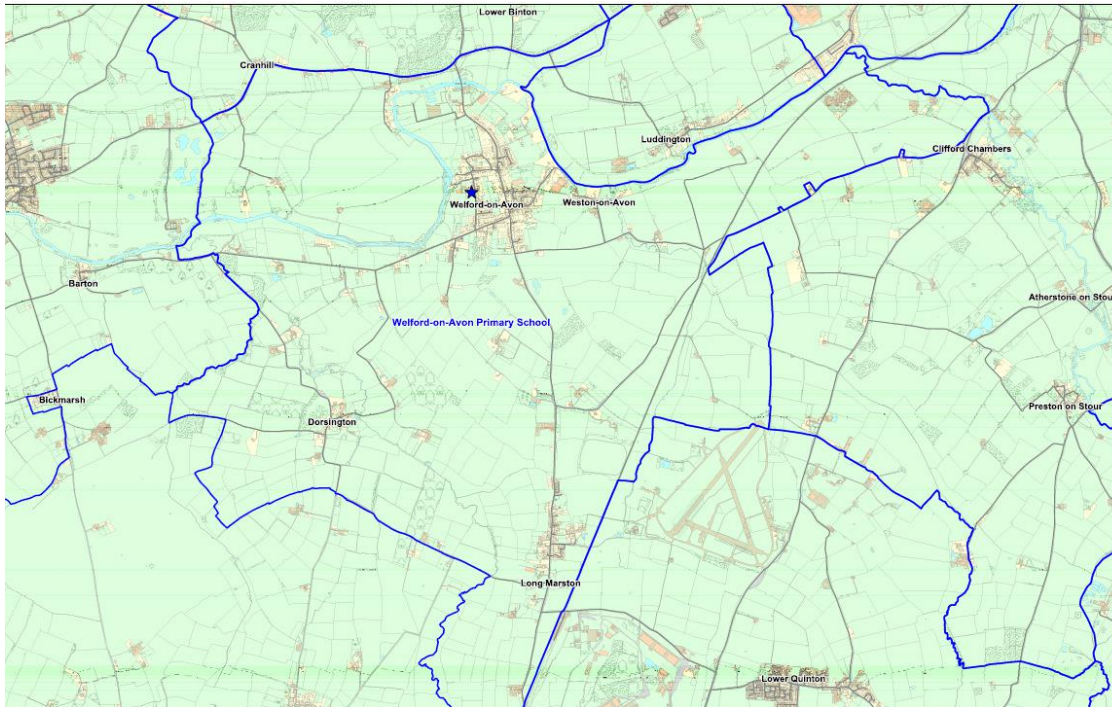
The schools' catchment area encompasses the residential area of Welford on Avon, some rural areas and smaller villages such as Weston on Avon, Long Marston and Dorsington. New housing developments are underway in the Long Marston area and this may result in other primary school's being built in the future. 73% of children come from within the catchment area and 27% of children com from outside the catchment area. A map of the catchment area is on the next page.

Site accessibility

There are two pedestrian access points from Headland Road which are use by children entering and exiting the school. There is also a lockable gate at the rear of the school which is used by teachers entering the school from the carpark.

During the period of construction a further vehicular access point may be made from Headland Road to the school field to allow for easier and safer access for construction vehicles. Provision will be made for this as outlined later in this document, as our priority has to remain keeping the children safe and congestion from traffic to a minimum.

Catchment Area



The table below shows the children who live in and outside of the school's catchment area.

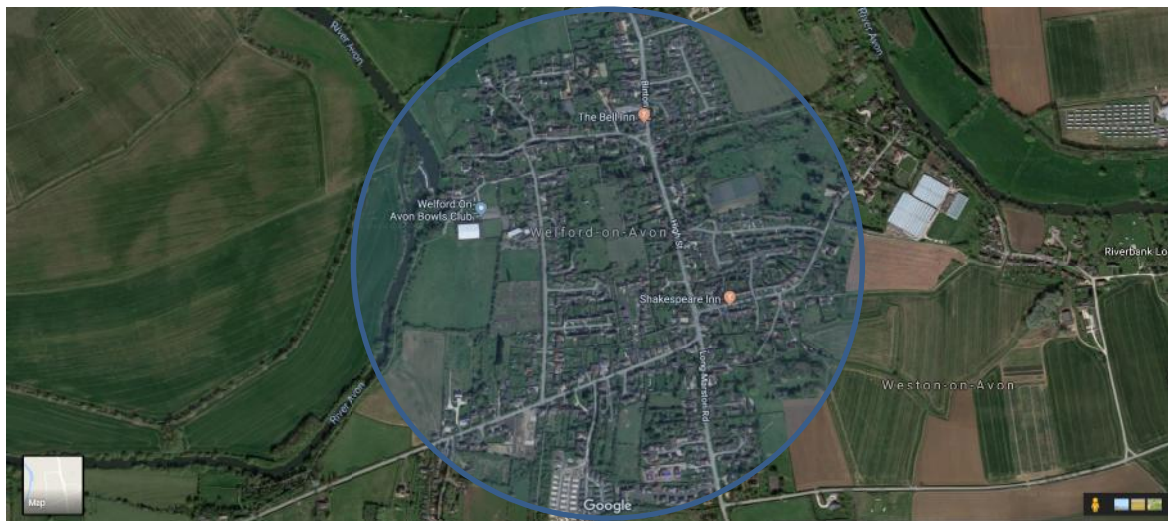
	In Catchment		Not in Catchment	
	Number of children	%	Number of children	%
Nursery	31	78%	9	22%
Reception	26	84%	5	16%
Year 1	24	71%	7	23%
Year 2	17	59%	12	41%
Year 3	24	73%	9	27%
Year 4	19	58%	14	42%
Year 5	27	82%	6	18%
Year 6	22	71%	9	29%
Totals	195	73%	64	27%

Journeys to School

Map showing the immediate local area of the school



Area within approximately 5 minute walk of the school site.



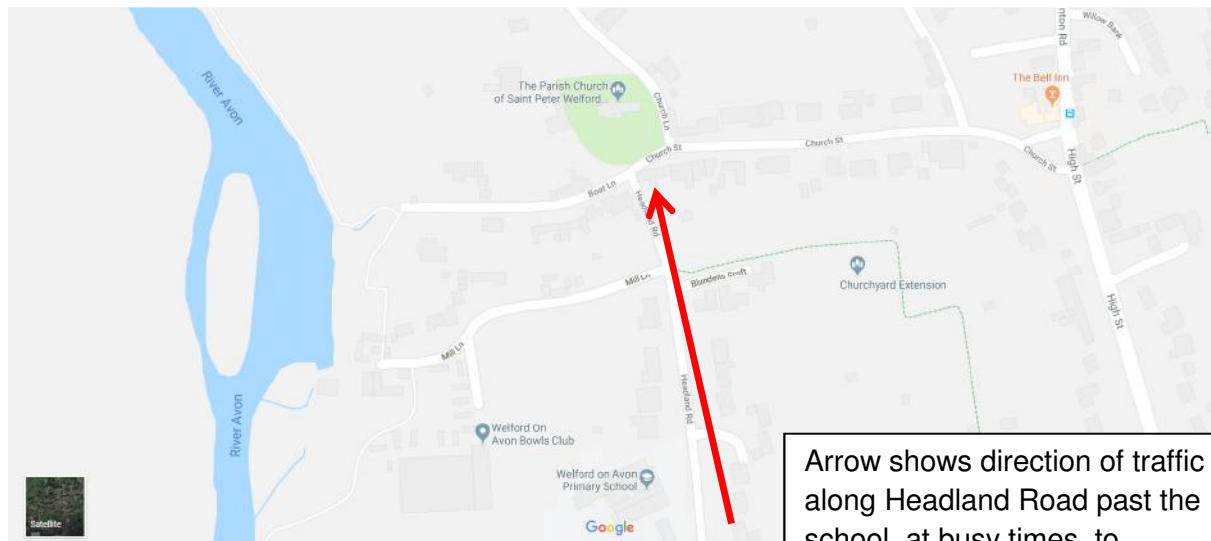
Area within approximately a 5- 15 minute walk of the school site.

Walking

Children who live within the village, as shown above can walk to school and this needs to be encouraged as much as possible. Pavements along much of Headland Road make this a possible option, and several footpaths run through the centre of the village, from the main road to Headland Road.

The far end of Headland Road (from the junction with Mill Lane down to the junction with Boat Lane) does not have pavement, so this is a more dangerous section of road for walking on.

To counteract this the school has setup a 'one way' system which is in operation at the busy times of the day, ensuring that traffic drives down Headland Road towards Boat Lane and does not come the other way, where the road is narrow. This is an attempt to cut down congestion and ensure that it is safer for children walking from Boat Lane to come to school safely.



Arrow shows direction of traffic along Headland Road past the school, at busy times, to minimise congestion at the narrow part of Headland Road

There is currently no crossing patrol outside the school on Headland Road. The one-way system makes the road easier to cross, but it is planned that, during the construction period the school will have staff outside the school at busy times of day to support children in crossing the road and coming safely into school.

Car Journeys

A significant amount of children come to school by car. For children who live within a 15 minute walk we are working to encourage walking by making it as safe an option as possible as detailed in our action plan.

Cars park along Headland Road from approximately 8.30am. There is a zigzag area outside the school which allows the school entrances to be kept clear.

During the period of construction it may be that further restrictions need to be placed on car parking on Headland Road to enable the access to the site to remain clear. By attempting to reduce the number of children coming to school by car, and by having additional adults supporting road safety at busy times of day, we hope that this will not cause additional disruption.

Cycling

The school does have provision for approximately twenty six bikes and scooters to be stored during the school day. This is currently underused, although safety concerns about children riding along Headland Road at busy times of the school day are valid, and traffic needs to be reduced to make this a safer and viable option. There are no established cycle paths in the area immediately surrounding the school, so although some children do choose to cycle, it's not a safe independent option.

The school does participate in the Bikeability scheme every year where children in Year 5 complete the Level 1 certificate and children in Year 6 work towards the Level 2. This gives the children a wide range of skills to use their bikes on the roads safely.

Private Bus

As the villages of Dorsington and Long Marston are within the schools' catchment area private transportation is provided for children living in these areas. 21 children are eligible for bus transportation although because of attendance at clubs and other reasons, not all of these children use the bus regularly. The bus parks in the area immediately outside school before and after school to allow the children to get on and off safely. Two members of school staff escort the children onto the bus in the afternoon and the school caretaker or another member of staff supports the children in getting off the bus in the morning and coming safely into school.

Public buses

The local public bus service runs at two hourly intervals between Stratford and Long Marston along the High Street. Due to the infrequency of this service it is not a practical means of getting to school for the children.

Current Statistics on Journeys to School

In a survey carried out in September 2017 the following information was gathered about journeys to school.

	Walking		Car		Private Bus		Other	
	Number of children	%	Number of children	%	Number of children	%	Number of children	%
Nursery	19	48%	21	52%	0	0%	0	0%
Reception	15	48%	4	45%	2	6%	0	0%
Year 1	14	44%	17	53%	1	3%	0	0%
Year 2	11	38%	15	52%	3	10%	0	0%
Year 3	11	33%	19	58%	3	9%	0	0%
Year 4	15	45%	16	48%	2	6%	0	0%
Year 5	16	48%	10	30%	7	21%	0	0%
Year 6	14	42%	12	36%	5	15%	0	0%
Totals	115	44%	114	44%	21	9%	0	0%

There is a very even split between the number of pupils who come by car and those who walk. 73% of children live within the catchment area, although since the catchment area is relatively large and rural, not all of these children would realistically be able to walk. This 73% also includes children who live in the surrounding villages eligible for bus transportation. Although we can continue to promote walking to school arrangements, these numbers are unlikely to change significantly because the majority of children who live outside of the catchment area (27% of children) and a significant proportion of those who live within the catchment area but do not qualify for bus travel, have little alternative to using the car.

Action Plan

Aim 1

- To sustain, and where possible, encourage a greater use of more sustainable modes of travel for journeys to and from school, and therefore reduce the impact of travel to school on the local community, particularly whilst building work is taking place

Target	What needs to happen	Priority	Actions	Responsibility	Review Date
To promote walking to school for those children who are able to as much as possible by September 2019 in time for the construction work to start	<p>Safe journeys to school to be promoted</p> <p>Parents to be kept informed of construction site</p> <p>Staff to be visible outside the school to encourage those walking to school and support with crossing the road.</p>	High	<p>Ensure road safety training is booked and delivered to each group</p> <p>Rota to be drawn up to ensure staff are visible on the road at busy times of day.</p>	<p>JL and class teachers to arrange</p> <p>SLT to make a timetable and share with staff.</p>	July 2018 – review what has happened this year and plan for next year

Aim 2

To increase awareness of the importance of safe travel to and from school

Target	What needs to happen	Priority	Actions	Responsibility	Review Date
To promote the importance of road safety	Road safety awareness training teaches children about being safe on the roads. Children understand the importance of a safe journey to school	High	Ensure road safety training is booked and delivered to each group	JL and class teachers to arrange	July 2018 – review what has happened this year and plan for next year

Aim 3

- To ensure safety around the site at busy times of day, particularly during the period of construction.

Target	What needs to happen	Priority	Actions	Responsibility	Review Date
To ensure the construction entrance is kept clear of cars at all time	Parents to be informed of the construction plans and the importance of keeping the site clear.	High	Letter to be written to parents when construction arrangements are confirmed advising of the area that needs to be kept clear. Site entrance to be monitored and any problems to be reported	JL and class teachers to arrange	July 2018 – review what has happened this year and plan for next year
To ensure children have a safe access to school	Staff to be on duty outside the school site at the beginning and end of the school day to ensure that children can access and leave the school site safely	High	Rota to be created Staff to be aware of what needs to happen	SLT to arrange rota Matter to be addressed at staff meeting so that staff understand responsibilities to ensure safe entrance to school.	To be setup and working by September 2018