

CYCLE POLICY

At Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School we recognize both the environmental and health benefits of cycling to school and wish to promote safe cycling to school.

Partnership with parents and a clear understanding of responsibilities will help to support safe cycling. While the school will provide a cycle storage area and cycle training for older children, the decision to allow a child to cycle to school rests with parents. We strongly recommend that all children who cycle to school are accompanied by an adult, until such time as the parent is confident the child has the knowledge and skills to be allowed to cycle unsupervised.

Liability and insurance

Schools are not liable for property brought onto their premises, and are therefore not liable for pupils' bicycles being stolen or damaged by a third party while they are at school. The school's insurance does not cover cycles on the premises, so parents are advised to make their own arrangements.

Responsibility for children while they are on their way to or from school rests with parents. The school can take no responsibility for the safety of children outside school.

We recommend that cycles are clearly marked or post coded and that all equipment is named.

Permits

All children bringing cycles onto the school premises must have a completed cycle permit, signed by parents and countersigned by the school. This sets out the rights and responsibilities of cyclists and parents and ensures that the school knows that parents understand these.

The school may withdraw the permit at any time which will prohibit the cycle being brought onto school premises.

All cyclists must have a permit to come onto school premises, including those accompanied by parents.

Permits will be issued in order of application.

Storage

A Cycle shelter is available on the playground for those with cycle permits. We recommend that all cycles are securely locked. Storage for helmets and other cycle equipment will be made available in school.

Training

The school is able to offer training under the Safer Cycling Scheme supervised by Wigan Council Road Safety Team. This is for children who are aged 10 and over. The course is held over a week and focuses on basic cycle control and road safety.

Maintenance Checks

Cycles ridden to school should be fully roadworthy and properly maintained. Regular checks should include:

- Both brakes working
- Tyres pumped up, and wheels not wobbling sideways
- Handlebars and saddle straight and tight
- Front and rear reflectors and wheel reflectors
- Both lights working

When possible, the school will organize occasional checking, maintenance and post coding sessions in conjunction with the local police and road safety organisations.

Safety

We strongly recommend that all children wear helmets when cycling.

These should fit well and conform to current British standards. We also recommend the use of high visibility garments such as jackets or tabards. Lights should be in good working order.

All cyclists should be aware of the rules of the Highway Code that relate to cycling and should follow these at all times. We suggest that parents identify the safest cycling route to school with their children and point out particular hazards and danger points

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Cycle Parking Permit

Cycling to School - Important Notice to Parents

While Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School wishes to encourage an increase in the number of pupils cycling to school, the decision as to whether your child is competent to negotiate such hazards as may present themselves on the route from home to school and back must be yours and yours alone. Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School does not accept liability for any consequences of that decision.

If you wish your son/daughter to cycle to school, please complete the form below. It is important we know the numbers of children cycling to school even on an irregular basis in order that we can make appropriate security and safety arrangements. This also applies if you will be accompanying your child.

Parents are advised to take out appropriate insurance cover as the schools insurance does not cover loss or damage to bicycles.

Please ensure that details are updated if any items change.

Cycle Helmets

Pupils are strongly advised to wear a correctly fitted cycle helmet and use appropriate reflective clothing and bike lights when visibility is poor.

Conditions for cycling to School

1. All bicycles must be in a roadworthy condition.
2. Cyclists must ride sensibly and follow the Highway Code
3. All bicycles must be locked securely in the cycle parking area.
4. Cyclists must dismount when entering school grounds. No cycle may be ridden anywhere in school grounds.
5. In areas where there are pedestrians priority must be given to pedestrians.

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School reserves the right to revoke this permit in the event that these conditions are ignored.

Name of Child Date of Birth

Cycle Serial No. Lock Serial No.....

Cycle MakeModel

Cycle Colour Features

I accept the above conditions and request permission for (child)
To be given access to cycle parking at the school.

Signed Date

Parent/Guardian Name

Signed Date
On behalf of Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

(Return to school office where a copy will be made for home and one for school)