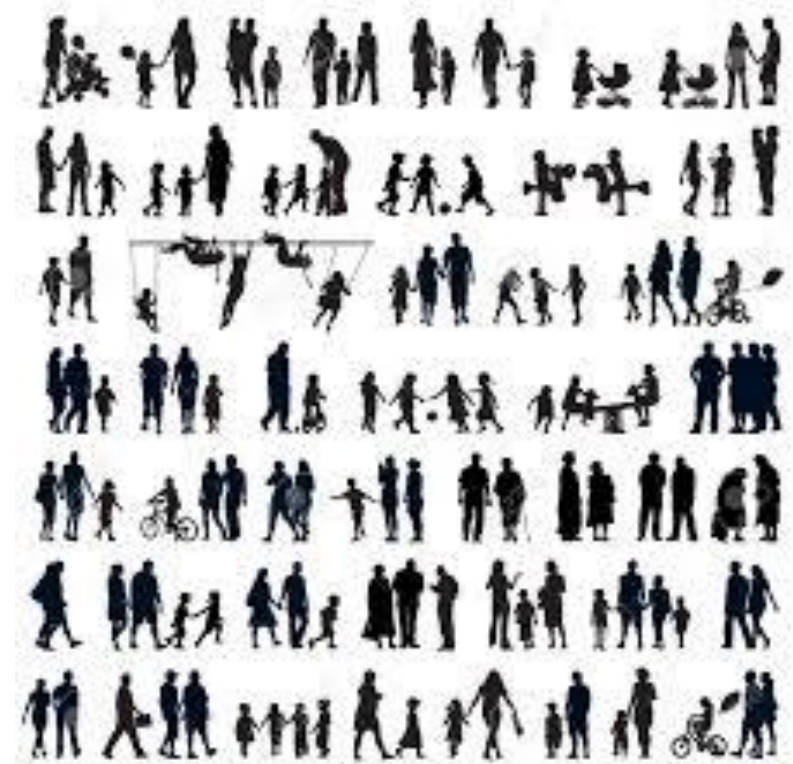


Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy 2019



City of Westminster

City of Westminster has a statutory duty under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to promote sustainable travel to and from school, and between schools and other institutions.

This strategy document, along with the work that is delivered and commissioned by the Road Safety Officer at City of Westminster, meets the statutory duty.

It was originally written by City of Westminster and updated for the academic school year of 2019-20 by MP Smarter Travel.

Contents

- Executive summary
- What is a school travel plan?
- Sustainable travel and road safety education
- School Travel Plan measures
- Partnership working
- Communications
- Good practice
- Schools overview
- Useful contacts and websites



Executive summary

City of Westminster has developed a Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (SMoTS) in line with the requirements outlined in the Education and Inspections Act 2006 which incorporates five main objectives:

- An assessment of the travel and transport needs of children, and young people within the authority's area;
- An audit of the sustainable travel and transport infrastructure within the authority that may be used when travelling to and from, or between schools/institutions;
- A strategy to develop the sustainable travel and transport infrastructure within the authority so that the travel and transport needs of children and young people are better catered for;
- The promotion of sustainable travel and transport modes on the journey to, from and between schools and other institutions; and
- The publication of Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy.

SMoTS outlines how City of Westminster are assisting schools to produce and maintain approved School Travel Plans and promote and encourage sustainable travel and transport for children and young people from ages five to 18.

This Strategy will set out all the proposals and programmes that will be undertaken to encourage school communities to choose safer, healthier and more environmentally friendly modes of travel.

To achieve the objectives of this Strategy, the following aims of WCC are:

- To encourage all schools in the City to have a School Travel Plan and level of accreditation in place with a view to monitor and evaluate in accordance to the Transport for London (TfL) [STARS](#) programme on an annual basis.
- To implement the [City for All](#) Plan to make Westminster a safer, healthier, more enterprising and more connected city.
- To investigate areas that have been identified as a road safety concern and where deemed feasible and funding available, improve the City's infrastructure for walking and cycling. This can help increase walking and cycling, and enhance the skills needed for safe and independent travel.
- To ease vehicle congestion and improve air quality outside schools in consideration of the [Mayor's Transport Strategy 2018](#) and [Westminster's Air Quality Manifesto](#).
- To contribute to the long-term health and wellbeing of children and young people by choosing a sustainable mode of transport via [Westminster's Walking Strategy](#) and [Cycling Strategy](#).
- To provide support, guidance and educational resources to encourage sustainable transport choices.

City of Westminster have approximately 31,433 pupils that attend the 92 schools. The education establishment types are as follows:

17 Academies

32 Independent

39 Local authority schools

4 Special/alternative provision

This Strategy builds upon the work already being undertaken by WCC and its partners to increase sustainable transport in the borough with the resources available. Priority will be given to groups of schools where the potential for achieving beneficial change in terms of safety, congestion, health and the environment is greatest.

Westminster City Council's Strategy is a living document and will be reviewed and published by 31st August annually.

For more information, please contact:

Telephone number: 020 7641 4095

Email: schooltravelplan@westminster.gov.uk

What is a School Travel Plan?

A School Travel Plan aims to encourage healthier and more sustainable travel for journeys to and from school (i.e. walking, scootering, cycling and public transport use) and away from private car trips and the 'school run'. They identify practical measures to shift travel behaviour towards more sustainable and healthy modes.

School Travel Plans are online documents which are produced by schools in response to their own community, road safety and sustainable travel needs and issues.

They are reviewed annually along with completing a school Hands Up travel survey which is used to inform any initiatives the school can implement to increase sustainable travel and improve road safety.

A School Travel Plan is a whole school project which can be linked to the curriculum and address a range of issues around school travel; from environmental education, to health benefits, from skills and safety training and school-based activities to streetscape measures.

Westminster City Schools

There are 93 schools in Westminster City Council. Currently there are 54 schools (58%) that have renewed their travel plan as of 31st July 2019.

This academic year 46 schools have achieved STARS accreditation which recognises the work, time and effort schools have made to increase use of sustainable modes of travel and road safety awareness.

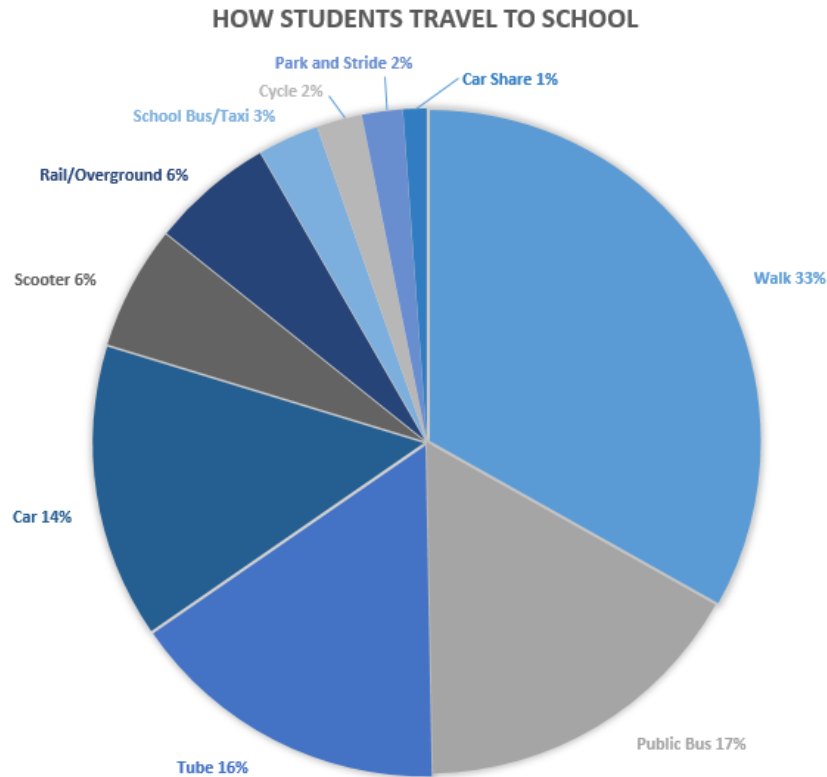
There are three levels of accreditation: Bronze, Silver and Gold. This academic year there were 32 schools achieving Bronze, 5 achieving Silver and 9 achieving Gold. There is also the Top School Award where Transport for London select the best schools that have achieved the most significant results through their School Travel Plan.



How are children currently travelling to school?

In total there were 19,245 pupils that took part in the Hands Up Survey in Westminster. Students were asked two questions: 1) *what mode of transport do you use to get to school* and 2) *what mode would you prefer to use*.

Figure 1: How students in Westminster travelled to school

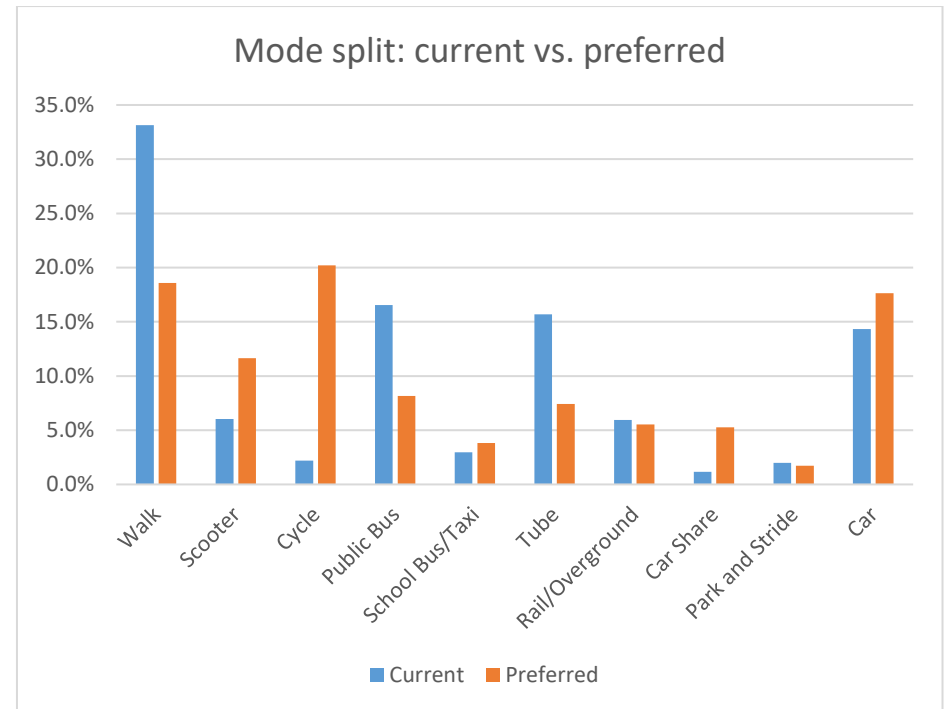


This academic year 14% of students travelled to school by car, a reduction from the 20% last year. Active transport made up for 41% of all transport to school, similar to that of last year at 42%. Active transport consists of walking, cycling and scootering, which are modes of transport that are both beneficial to their health and aiding in the reduction of air pollution.

Walking to school is the most popular mode of travel. Like previous years, catching the tube or the bus are slightly higher than that of car use with cycling and scootering usage remaining low.

The aim of asking students what mode they would prefer to use helps shape future initiatives by both the school and City of Westminster.

Figure 2: What students would prefer compared to how they currently travel



Most significant is the number of students that would prefer to be biking or scootering to school. City of Westminster and Schools can use this result to try and identify potential barriers students currently face preventing them from using this mode of transport. For example, it could be as a result of infrastructure, cycling training provision or road safety concerns.

Sustainable Travel and Road Safety Education

Walk to School Campaign

Walk to School Week in May and *International Walk to School Month* in October are promoted to all education establishments. At both times of the year, schools are encouraged to take part in activities that promote the benefits of walking, which in turn will encourage children, parents and staff to travel to school by a more sustainable and active mode of transport. Walking is the preferred mode of transport for pupils in City of Westminster.

Westminster Wiser Walking Scheme

This child pedestrian training scheme is offered to Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils at all Westminster primary schools and takes place throughout the academic year during term time. It consists of two sessions; a 20 minute classroom session and a 30 to 60 minute on-road session in groups of up to 6 pupils.

Years 2, 3 and 4 learn road safety skills to use with the help of an adult. We strongly recommend that this age group are always supervised by an adult when crossing roads. The scheme is based off of the Department for Transport's Kerbcraft model.

Years 5 and 6 are provided with training that is intended to give them the skills for independent travel in the future.

The scheme has trained 499 children this academic year.



is

Park & Stride

This initiative requires parents/carers to park a short distance away from the school entrance and then walk the rest of the way. This is an easy and gradual step for parent/carers to increase their families' amount of activity every day.

It also reduces vehicle idling, congestion around the school entrance and improves air quality.

Parking legislation

City of Westminster allows for a ten minute window for drop off/collection of pupils only on single and double yellow lines during term time, and for the period before and after start and finish time of schools/nurseries.

This is to help reduce inappropriate parking behaviour and practices which can impact on road safety around the immediate vicinity of a school such as double parking, engine idling and blocking of residential driveways. Other road safety and school travel initiatives are offered to schools in conjunction with this scheme. Travel plans are encouraged so road safety and travel concerns can be addressed.

School Crossing Patrol Service

City of Westminster adopted the *School Crossing Patrol Service* from the Metropolitan Police in 2001 and maintains a service at sites which meet the recommended criteria to help both children and adults alike to cross the road safely.

There are currently 8 School Crossing Patrols operating at various sites across the City of Westminster.

Road Safety Education and resources

Throughout each academic year, road safety education is offered to all schools. Schools can opt to book in theatre in education shows and workshops that are offered free of charge. They cover subject matter such as pedestrian and cycle safety, in-car safety and more.

Age appropriate and free resources are available on the Department for Transport's THINK website.

There are also resources offered to schools throughout the academic year as well as general road safety support, guidance and advice from the Road Safety Officer.



Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Transport

Every academic year, pupils' journeys to and from school are assessed by the SEND. If deemed appropriate, they will have assistance via a travel escort (including walking and public transport).

If this travel intervention is not appropriate, then transport on a shared bus or individual taxi is arranged.

Cycle training

City of Westminster: Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (SMoTS) 31 August 2019

The City of Westminster is committed to making cycling enjoyable and one of the preferred modes of transport for children travelling to and from school.

Anybody who lives, works or studies in Westminster is eligible to make use of this free service.

Cycle Confident, Westminster City Council's cycling provider saw 1528 pupils cycle trained from September 2018 to July 2019.



Cycle Led Rides

Westminster Road Safety Officers in conjunction with Cycle Confident have produced cycle-led rides that are themed around the City's history and culture.

Some of these rides are available to schools.

Cycle/scooter storage

Funding from Transport for London is being made available to STARS accredited schools and education establishments that would like cycle parking and is applied for via the Road Safety Officer.



Bike It Programme

This programme, delivered by Sustrans aims to increase awareness and levels of cycling to school through tailored assisted activities to meet each schools' needs and create a pro-cycling culture.

A Bike It Officer works with pupils, staff, parents and the wider community to achieve:

- Sustained increase in the number of children and young people (and parents) cycling to school.
- Reduction in the use of private motor vehicles to take children and young people to school.
- Provide children and young people with cycling skills for life.
- The Bike It Plus programme has been delivered in schools in and around the Marylebone Low Emission Neighbourhood (MLEN). There have been 2 engaged schools in the MLN and 1 school outside of the MLN.



The Bike It Programme comes to end 31st August 2019.

Express Bike Markets

Express markets facilitated by Peddle My Wheels provide parents/guardians the opportunity to clear out old, unwanted bikes and in doing so create affordable bikes for others in the community by selling them at the market based on school grounds.

It is usually from 08:00 to 09:30 Monday to Friday has a minimal impact on the school day. All [Peddle My Wheels](#) require is the participating school to distribute the poster and letter to their school community.

Try Before You Bike

This [scheme](#) allows parents/guardians, students and staff to trial bikes at a reduced weekly rate with cycle safety lessons. There are no deposits or fixed contracts and participants can cancel and return the bike at any time with no added fee.

The bike and any accessories are delivered directly to the participants house and Peddle My Wheels will exchange children's bikes for the next size up free of charge.

This scheme is available to all schools in the City of Westminster.

Junior Travel Ambassadors (JTA)



The scheme encourages peer-to-peer engagement and provides schools with free toolkits and guidance in order to promote safer, active and independent travel within the school community.

Westminster schools have a mixture of JTAs, school councils or eco teams to communicate road safety and sustainable travel information to their schools.

Youth Travel Ambassadors (YTA)

This is a youth-led education project developed by Transport for London delivered by the London Transport Museum in conjunction with Westminster City Council and other stakeholders.

Young people are given the opportunity to create and deliver a campaign to address a travel and/or road safety issue that affects them and their local community.

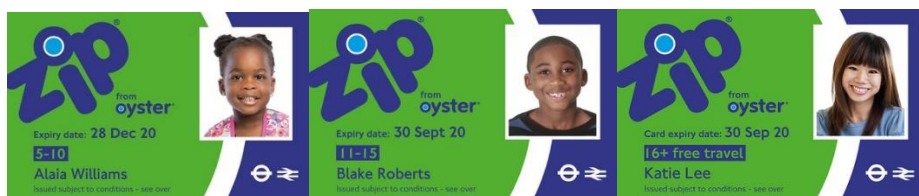
Westminster City School and St Marylebone CE Bridge School have participated in the programme this academic year and presented their ideas at the YTA Pitch held at the London Transport Museum in June 2019.

The programme will again be available to secondary and 6th forms for academic year 2019-20.

Transport for London School Party Travel Scheme

This scheme provides free off-peak travel from Monday to Friday to schools based in London (including summer, special needs and nursery schools) that are visiting an educational or cultural venue within the city. Schools just have to register to take advantage of the scheme. All Westminster schools are eligible for this scheme.

Public Transportation



Transport for London Zip Oyster

Since September 2005 all children living in London who are 15 or under in age have been able to travel for free on London's buses and trams if they hold the relevant Zip Oyster Card. There is also a 16+ Zip Oyster photo card that allows free bus and tram travel for those that live in London.

Parents/carers can apply online via Transport for London's website.

School Travel Plan measures

Through the travel plan programme, schools highlight road safety concerns that they feel have a direct impact on the safety of their pupils.

Through assessing these concerns, it is sometimes deemed appropriate to implement changes to the roads.



Engineering schemes could include, but are not limited to, school warning signs, review of school keep clear markings, road closures and improvement of pedestrian crossings.

Engineering schemes are implemented via funding from TfL.

20mph Limits

20mph speed limits have been implemented around 39 schools in Westminster. This trial is linked to the City for All to create a safer, healthier and more pleasant environment.



The aim is to increase active modes of travel, and to make more road users, like cyclists, older people and school children feel safer.

The 20mph limits are in areas highlighted by a road safety review and residents' requests for speed restrictions, which can be found at:

www.westminster.gov.uk/20mph

A borough wide scheme is yet to be considered.

Air Quality for Schools

Marylebone Low Emission Neighbourhood (MLEN)

City of Westminster won £1 million from the Mayor's Air Quality Fund in July 2016 to create a low emission neighbourhood in Marylebone. This included a whole range of green innovations that helped deliver cleaner air and a greener city.

The MLEN Education and Play Street Programme ended on July 2019.

There were 15 schools in this area and they were offered and benefited from the following:

- Air Quality lessons
- Air Quality Filming project
- Pedestrian/scooter and cycle training
- Weather stations
- Walk on Wednesday/Walk once a Week promotion
- Greening schools
- Play Streets
- No engine idling days

As a continuation of the MLEN, City of Westminster is undertaking new initiatives to monitor and reduce air pollution around the City, specifically focusing on schools. This commitment is embedded in the [Air Quality Manifesto](#) - Pledge 5 states 'We will create low emission zones around our schools'.

The initiatives include:

School Air Quality Audit Programme

Every education establishment (with the age ranges of 5-18 years old) will be provided with an Air Quality Audit. Once the report is complete, the education establishments will have an opportunity to action the recommendations with

City of Westminster: Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (SMoTS) 31 August 2019

financial assistance from the *School Clean Air Fund* and other funding streams identified with the support of City of Westminster.

School Air Quality Marshals

There will also be dedicated School Air Quality Marshals that will visit schools on a rota basis to enforce the *Don't Be Idle* Campaign and improve parking behaviours around education establishments.

The Marshals will start September 2019.



ActiveStreets Programme

The [ActiveStreets](#) programme is a key strategy commitment of the ActiveWestminster strategy - Activate Your City, Lives and Neighbourhoods, as well as our [Biodiversity and Open Spaces](#) strategy.

It aims to develop and implement ActiveStreets across Westminster to:

- Enable physical activity, leisure and sport opportunities on the doorstep in our neighbourhoods by children, young people and families.
- Increase in the number of people who report they know their neighbours and can ask them for help.
- Improve air quality and increasing active travel and physical activity, leisure & sport opportunities.

The ActiveStreets programme consists of three types of ActiveStreets:

- **‘Play Streets’** a permanent designation which will provide priority over traffic to children and families to play in streets at specified times. This is underpinned by Department for Transport legislation (Section 29, Road Traffic Act 1984).

- **‘Street Play’** facilitated by temporary road closures for children and families to play in streets at specified days, times and locations.

- **‘School Streets’** provided by permanent or temporary road closures for school children to play in the streets outside the school at specified days and times.

The first School Street was launched on Enford Street outside St Mary’s Bryanston Square CE Primary School on Tuesday 23rd April 2019.

The first Play Street was installed on Fisherton Street and Luton Street on 29th April 2019.

The Street Play Policy is due to launch in late Summer 2019.

Partnership working

Healthy Schools Awards



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
LONDON

The Healthy Schools Partnership (HSP) is the local programme award and *Healthy Schools London (HSL)* is the pan-London award. Both award structures support and encourage schools to develop and deepen their focus on health and wellbeing to support the attainment, achievement and happiness of their pupils, staff and wider school communities.

The partnership is an alliance of local authority and health services together with a range of other agencies and, most importantly, schools.

[Schools](#) can participate and gain recognition for their work at Bronze, Silver and Gold accreditation levels.

Physical Activity, Leisure and Sports (PALS)



To keep children active, PALS offer activities in the form of borough wide competitions such as cross country, netball, sports hall athletics, football, swimming, golf, basketball, tennis, cricket, athletics, dance, tag rugby and multi-skill exercises.

They have an ever-growing leadership programme that provides training for young people to be effective and responsible volunteers.

This department also offers other partnership activities as and when they are available.

ActiveStreets is the current programme being delivered in collaboration with other departments within City of Westminster in order to create a street that can create more opportunities for physical activity, active travel and improved air quality.

Good practice

St Mary's Bryanston Square CE Primary School Westminster's first "School Street" ActiveStreets Programme



On the 23rd of April 2019, St Mary's Bryanston Square CE Primary became the first school in Westminster to operate timed road closures to increase air quality and student safety.

The school's location measured the highest recorded levels of the toxic gas nitrogen dioxide in London, the majority of which is a result from vehicle emissions.

The School Streets is a term-time programme of agreed timed road closures which operates from Monday to Friday 8-9am and 3-4pm. During this time, students, staff and parents can only access the school by foot, scooter or bike. Not only does this increase air quality but also incentivises active travel options to better students' health.

Westminster Academy

Active involvement in the YTA programme



This year Westminster Academy KS5 students met with TfL over the year to run several activities promoting safe travel. They conducted their own research of travel issues their student cohort face. They identified road safety and oyster card usage as two of their primary areas.

They were successful at securing TfL funding enabling students to design their own Oyster card wallets so as to reduce the number of wallets lost during travel to and from school.

To increase road safety awareness, the YTA's ran a road safety poster competition as well as several talks to different age groups on road safety. These talks included Deadly Distractions for years 7 and 8 as well as the Riot Act for years 10 and 11.

On Saturday 15th June they walked in a loop by the Grand Union Canal for 6km, carrying 10kg to raise money for the WaterAid charity as part of their event. They have applied for Gold accreditation for STARS.

Communications

City of Westminster has its own communication team that is dedicated to disseminating information to various audiences throughout the City of Westminster and beyond. Road safety and sustainable travel information is relayed via the following methods:

- Children First,
- The Reporter
- Westminster's website
- Schools Improvements Team
- Westminster's social media accounts i.e. Twitter

Westminster's Road Safety Officer communicates with education establishments via telephone calls, emails, site visits, video calls, seminars and even

School/Education Establishment	TfL STARS Accreditation 2018-19	Hands up Surveys
Abercorn School (Early Years) (Pre-Prep) (Prep)	NONE	Completed
Abingdon House School	BRONZE	Completed
All Souls C of E Primary School	NONE	Completed
ARK Atwood Academy	BRONZE	Completed
Ark Paddington Green Primary Academy	NONE	Not Complete
Arnold House School	BRONZE	Completed
Bales Private School and Sixth Form College	NONE	Not Complete
Barrow Hill Junior School	BRONZE	Completed
Churchill Gardens Primary Academy	NONE	Not Complete
College Park School	GOLD	Completed
Connaught House School	NONE	Completed
Dorothy Gardner Centre	NONE	Completed
Eaton House School	BRONZE	Completed
Eaton Square School	NONE	Completed
Eaton Square, Upper School, Mayfair	NONE	Not completed
Edward Wilson Primary School	NONE	Completed
Essendine Primary School	BRONZE	Completed
Fairley House School	NONE	Not Complete
Francis Holland School (Regent's Park)	NONE	Completed
Francis Holland School (Sloane Square)	NONE	Completed
Gateway Academy	GOLD	Completed
George Eliot Primary School	SILVER	Completed
Halcyon London International School	GOLD	Completed
Hallfield Primary School	SILVER	Completed
Hampden Gurney C of E Primary School	BRONZE	Completed
Harris Academy, St Johns Wood (Formerly Quintin Kynaston)	NONE	Part complete
Harris Westminster Sixth Form	NONE	Completed
International Community School	NONE	Completed (Secondary site)
Kensington Park School	NONE	Not Complete
King Solomon Academy (ARK King Solomon Academy)	NONE	Not Complete
L'ecole Bilingue Elementaire	NONE	Completed
L'ecole Internationale Franco-Anglaise Ltd	NONE	Completed
Mary Paterson Nursery School	BRONZE	Completed
Marylebone Boys' School	NONE	Completed
Millbank Academy	BRONZE	Completed
Naima Jewish Preparatory School	BRONZE	Completed
Our Lady of Dolours RC Primary School	BRONZE	Completed
Paddington Academy	BRONZE	Completed
Pimlico Academy	NONE	Not Complete
Pimlico Primary	BRONZE	Completed

School/Education Establishment	TfL STARS Accreditation 2018-19	Hands up Surveys
Portland Place School	SILVER	Completed
Portman Early Childhood Centre	NONE	Not Complete
Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee School (Including Kennet West Skills Centre)	BRONZE	Completed
Queen's College London	NONE	Completed
Queen's Park Primary School	GOLD	Completed
Robinsfield Infant School	BRONZE	Completed
Sir Simon Milton University Technical College	NONE	Not Complete
Soho Parish C of E Primary School	NONE	Not Complete
Southbank International School (Westminster)	NONE	Completed
St Barnabas' C of E Primary School	NONE	Completed
St Christina's School	NONE	Completed
St Clement Dane's C of E Primary School	NONE	Not Complete
St Edward's RC Primary School	NONE	Not Complete
St Gabriel's C of E Primary School	BRONZE	Completed
St George's Catholic School (Maida Vale)	BRONZE	Completed
St George's Hanover Square C of E Primary School	BRONZE	Completed
St James and St John C of E Voluntary Aided Primary School	NONE	Completed
St John's Wood Pre-Preparatory School	NONE	Completed
St Joseph's RC Primary School	NONE	Completed
St Luke's C of E Primary School	BRONZE	Completed
St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School	BRONZE	Completed
St Mary of the Angels RC Primary School	BRONZE	Completed
St Marylebone CE School	NONE	Not Complete
St Mary's Bryanston Square C of E School	GOLD	Completed
St Matthew's CE Primary School	BRONZE	Completed
St Nicholas Preparatory School	NONE	Not Complete
St Peter's C of E Primary School	SILVER	Completed
St Peter's Eaton Square C of E Primary School	NONE	Not Complete
St Saviour's C of E Primary School	GOLD	Completed
St Stephen's C of E Primary School	BRONZE	Completed
St Vincent de Paul RC Primary School	BRONZE	Completed
St Vincent's RC Primary School	GOLD	Completed
Sylvia Young Theatre School	NONE	Completed
Tachbrook Nursery School	NONE	Completed
The American School in London	BRONZE	Completed
The Grey Coat Hospital (Site 1) The Grey Coat Hospital (Site 2)	BRONZE	Completed
The St Marylebone Church of England Bridge School	BRONZE	Completed
Westminster Abbey Choir School	NONE	Not Complete
Westminster Academy	GOLD	Completed
Westminster Cathedral Choir School	NONE	Not Complete
Westminster Cathedral RC Primary School	NONE	Not Complete
Westminster City School	BRONZE	Completed
Westminster School	NONE	Completed
Westminster Under School	NONE	Completed
Wetherby Preparatory School	GOLD	Completed
Wetherby Senior School	BRONZE	Completed
Wilberforce Primary School	BRONZE	Completed

Useful contacts at WCC and other services

Road Safety Education, Travel Plans and Active Travel Initiatives

Carla Leowe, Road Safety Officer

T: 020 7641 4095

E: schooltravelplan@westminster.gov.uk

Legible London

Anthony Sabato, Service Development Manager

E: asabato@westminster.gov.uk

Air Quality

Adam Webber, Principal Policy Officer (Air Quality)

E: awebber@westminster.gov.uk

Cycle Training

W: www.westminster.gov.uk/cycling-courses-schools

SEND Transport

Transport Commissioning Team

T: 020 7361 3623

E: passengertransport@rbkc.gov.uk

Schools Admissions Team

T: 020 7745 6433

E: schooladmissions@westminster.gov.uk

W: www.westminster.gov.uk/assistance-home-to-school-travel

Parking Service

Colin Ridley, Contracts Manager - Kerbside

E: caridley@westminster.gov.uk

Physical Activity, Leisure and Sports (PALS)

Eugene Minogue, Head of PALS

E: eminogue@westminster.gov.uk

Westminster's Children First Magazine

E: childrenfirst@westminster.gov.uk

Other useful contacts and websites

Sustainable Travel: Active Responsible Safe (STARS)

Transport for London, Education and Training Team

W: www.tfl.gov.uk/stars

Zip Oyster Cards and other travel information

Transport for London

W: www.tfl.gov.uk/fares-and-payments/travel-for-under-18s

W: www.tfl.gov.uk/info-for/schools-and-young-people/

W: www.tfl.gov.uk/fares-and-payments/travel-for-under-18s/school-parties

Metropolitan Police: Westminster Safer Transport Team

W: www.met.police.uk/a/your-area/met/safer-transport-team/westminster2

Healthy Education Partnership

David Millard, Healthy Schools Tri-Borough Coordinator

T: 0773 847 6236

E: david.millard@healtheducationpartnership.com

W: www.healtheducationpartnership.com/healthyschools.aspx