

# Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy 2018

Published 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018



Westminster City Council 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 booklet, along with the work that is delivered and commissioned by the Road Safety Education Team at Westminster City Council, meets the statutory duty.

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## Executive Summary

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

- 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.

The SMoT Strategy outlines how Westminster City Council 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 the ages of 5-18 year olds<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Compulsory school age' and 'sixth-form age

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

To achieve the objectives of the Strategy, the following aims of the City are:

- To encourage all schools in the City to have a travel plan and level of accreditation in place with a view to monitor and evaluate in accordance to Transport for London's [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 of London's Transport Strategy 2018](#) and [Westminster's Air Quality Manifesto](#).
- To contribute to the long term health and well-being 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 31,775 pupils that attend the 93 schools. The education establishment types are as follows:

- 16 Academies
- 7 Free Schools
- 28 Independent
- 4 Local Authority Schools - Nursery
- 33 Local Authority Schools – Primary
- 1 Local authority School – Secondary
- 4 Special/Alternative Provision

The Strategy will build upon the work already being undertaken by the Council and partners to ensure the maximum success using 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 31<sup>st</sup> August annually.

For more information, please contact:

Telephone number: 020 7641 4095

Email: [schooltravelplan@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:schooltravelplan@westminster.gov.uk)

## What is a School Travel Plan?

School travel plans aim to encourage healthier, sustainable travel on the journey to and from school – i.e. walking, cycling and public transport use - and away from private car trips and the 'school run'. They set out a number of practical steps and measures which will encourage and promote sustainable and healthy modes of transport.

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 travel survey data. This is then 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**

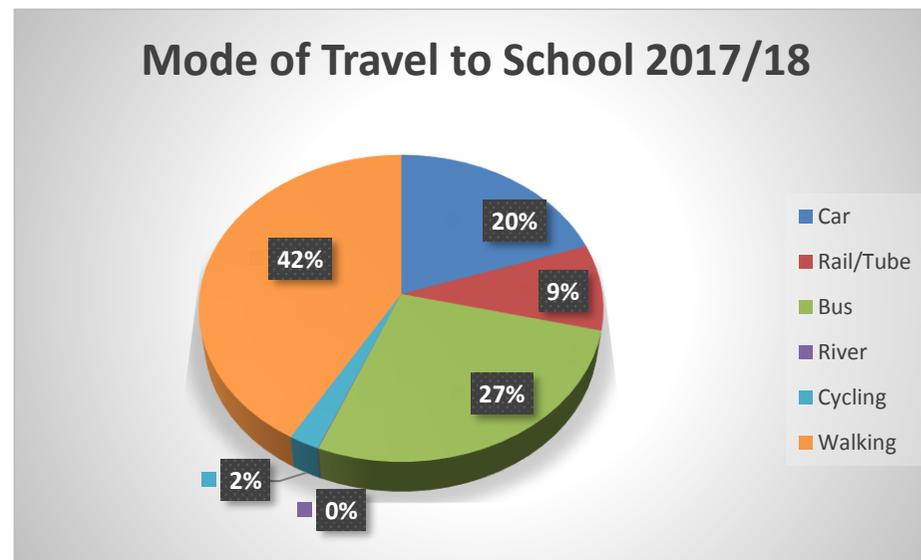
There are 93 schools in Westminster City Council. Currently there are 88 schools (95%) that have renewed their travel plan as of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018.

This academic year 20 schools have been awarded Transport for London's STARS Accreditation Level which recognises the work, time and effort schools have made to increase sustainable mode of travel use and road safety awareness.

Westminster City Council: Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (SMoTS) 31.8.2018

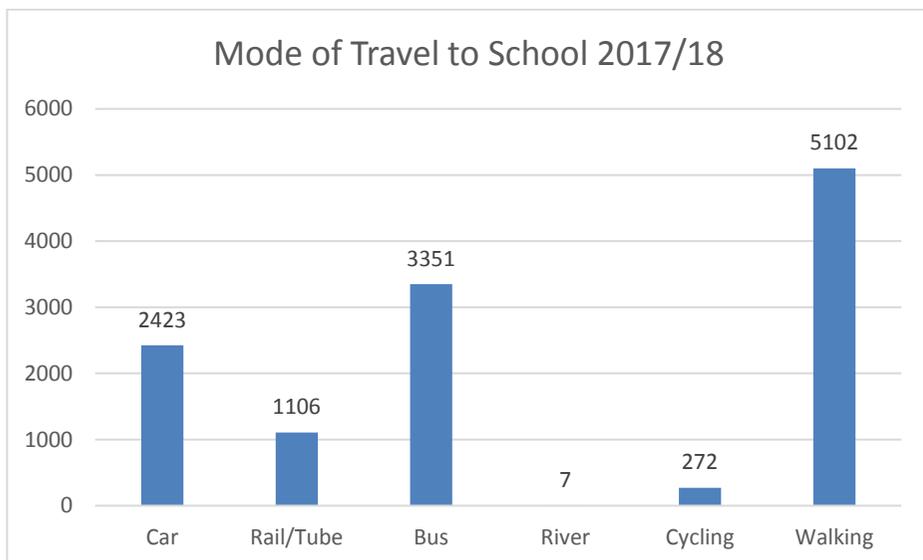
There are three levels of accreditation: Bronze, Silver and Gold. This academic year there were 7 Bronze, 1 Silver and 12 Gold. There is also the Top School Award where Transport for London select the best schools that have succeeded in making a huge change for their school community.

## **How are children currently travelling to school?**



The data shows that academic year<sup>2</sup> 2017/18 had 20% of pupils travelling to school by car, but 80% utilise a sustainable mode of transport to get to school.

Walking, bus and car are the top three modal choices of transport for pupils in all academic years. This has been the trend for previous years.



In total there were 12,261 pupils that took part in the hands up survey in 2017/18.

The bar graph above shows the number of pupils that travelled via differing modes of transport during the academic year.

It is apparent that getting to school by foot and bus are the most popular mode of transport, however car still remains higher than rail and/or tube use.

<sup>2</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> September to 26<sup>th</sup> July, dependent on school type and INSET day(s) allocations

## **Sustainable Travel and Road Safety Education**

### **Walk to School Campaign**

Many schools in Westminster take part in Walk to School Week in May and International Walk to School Month in October. 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 mode of transport.

### **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 between a 30 to 60 minute long walk in groups of upto 6 children.

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 315 children this academic year.

### **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 can positively contribute to reducing vehicle congestion around the school entrance and improving air quality.

### **Parking legislation**

Westminster City Council allows for a ten minute window for drop off/collection of children 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.

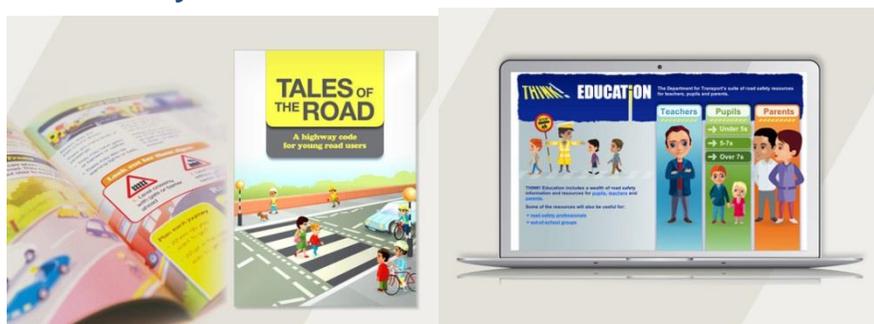
### **School Crossing Patrol Service**



Westminster City Council 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 9 School Crossing Patrols operating at various sites across the City of Westminster.

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.

### Road Safety Lessons and resources



Throughout each academic year, road safety education is offered to all schools. Schools can opt to have the lessons delivered by a road safety officer or facilitated through resources or staff training. Free resources are also offered to reinforce safety whilst travelling in Westminster.

Schools receive road safety literature such as a Highway Code for young users, bus/cycle/tube maps, parent/carer guidance for 3-5 year olds and 7-11 year olds.

### Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Transport

Every academic year, pupils' journeys to and from school are assessed by the SEND and if deemed appropriate, they will have

## Cycle Training



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

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

Cycle Confident, Westminster City Council's cycling provider saw 1468 pupils cycle trained from September 2017 to July 2018.

## Cycle Led Rides

Westminster Road Safety in conjunction with Cycle Confident have produced cycle-led rides that are themed around its history and culture.

Some of these rides are available to schools.

## Cycle/Scooter Storage

A level of funding from Transport for London was available to all schools up until March 2017 that had a school travel plan or were STARS accredited and would like cycle and scooter parking.

Where there was no available space on school sites, Westminster City Council are scoping locations for on-street cycle parking that schools may be able to benefit from. There have been approximately 50 cycle parking spaces provided via the Transport for London scheme as well as Westminster City Council.

## Bike It Plus Programme

This programme 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.
- Westminster City Council funds Bike It Plus.
- Sustrans deliver the scheme in partnership with the City.

The Bike It Plus programme has been delivered in schools in the Marylebone Low Emission Neighbourhood (MLEN). There have been 6 intensively engaged schools in the MLEN and 4 non schools outside of the MLEN.



### 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 disseminate 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 alleviate a travel and/or road safety issue that affects them and their local community.

St Marylebone CE School and St Marylebone CE Bridge School have participated in the programme this academic year.

The programme will again reopen to secondary schools in September 2018.

### Public Transportation

#### *Transport for London Zip Oyster*



Since September 2005 all children living in London under the age of 16 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 photocard that allows free bus and tram travel for those that are in full time education.

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

### *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.

## 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 highway. 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 Transport for London.

## 20mph Limits



20mph speed limits has been implemented at up to 40 schools from September 2017. This trial is part of the City's drive to create a safer, healthier and more pleasant environment. The aim is to increase walking and cycling, 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 because of residents' requests for speed restrictions.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Locations can be found on [www.westminster.gov.uk/20mph-trials](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/20mph-trials)

## **Partnership working**

### **Air Quality Manifesto**

To improve air quality, the City has its own [manifesto](#) to address air quality.

Pledge 5 states 'We will create low emission zones around our schools'.

In order to ease congestion and improve air quality outside the main entrance of schools, Westminster will be launching Active Streets, which will create pedestrian and cycling zones at certain times of the day.

### **Low Emission Neighbourhood (LEN)**



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

There are 14 schools, 15 sites in this area and they are being offered and currently benefitting 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

There have been three successful Play Streets this academic year. There is a Play Street planned for World Car Free Day on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2018.

The Marylebone area as a whole will be seeing:

- A new dedicated 'air force' team of parking marshals
- new green spaces in the Marylebone community
- new electric vehicle charging points
- shared electric vehicle resident parking spaces
- initiatives to minimise deliveries
- no engine idling days

## Healthy Schools Awards



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.

A school travel plan is one of the criteria to obtain a Healthy Schools Award.

## Westminster Sports Unit



To keep children active, the Sports Team 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.

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

## **Communications**

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

The Westminster Road Safety Education Team maintains contact with education establishments via telephone calls, emails, visits, video calls, seminars and events.

## Good Practice

### St Mary's Bryanston Square CE Primary School – Walk to School Week 2018



Under the School Air Quality initiative launched by the Mayor of London last year, detailed air quality audits had been carried out in 50 schools across 23 London boroughs. The audits assessed the air quality in some of the capital's worst polluted schools and have made a series of recommendations to protect pupils. These included major infrastructure measures, such as closing roads or moving playgrounds and school entrances, as well as targeting indoor pollution using improved ventilation systems, and installing green 'pollution barrier' hedges, tackling engine idling outside schools and promoting cycling and walking.

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May during Walk to School Week, the Mayor of London visited St Mary's Bryanston Square CE Primary School to announce that there will be a £1 million fund made available to implement the recommendations within the audits. Leader of the Council, Cllr Nicky Aitkin was also a special guest.

Westminster City Council: Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (SMoTS) 31.8.2018

### St Marylebone CE School – Apps for Good



Students in the Green Team at St Marylebone CE School were winners of the Apps for Good Awards Rising Stars Category supported by Spotify. Their app idea provides a custom plan to help reduce a person's carbon footprint.

The Green Team researched extensively to produce the app, which included contacting the Youth Travel Ambassador Team at the Transport Museum, Westminster Road Safety Team and working with Sustran's Air Quality Officer.

<b>Education Establishment</b>	<b>Travel Plan/STARS Accreditation Level</b>
Abercorn School	Engaged
Abingdon House School	Engaged
All Souls CofE Primary School	Engaged
Ark Atwood Primary Academy	Engaged
Ark King Solomon Academy	Engaged
Ark Paddington Green Primary Academy	Engaged
Arnold House School	Engaged
Bales College	Engaged
Barrow Hill Junior School	Engaged
Beachcroft AP Academy	Engaged
Burdett-Coutts and Townshend Foundation CofE Primary School	Engaged
Christ Church Bentinck CofE Primary School	Gold Accreditation
Churchill Gardens Primary Academy	Engaged
College Park School	Gold Accreditation
Connaught House School	Engaged
Dorothy Gardner Centre	Engaged
Eaton House School	Engaged
Eaton Square School	Engaged
Eaton Square Upper School, Mayfair	Not engaged
Edward Wilson Primary School	Engaged
Essendine Primary School	Engaged
Fairley House School	Engaged
Francis Holland School	Engaged
Francis Holland School	Engaged
Gateway Academy	Gold Accreditation
George Eliot Primary School	Silver Accreditation
Halcyon London International School	Gold Accreditation
Hallfield Primary School	Bronze Accreditation
Hampden Gurney CofE Primary School	Engaged
Harris Academy St John's Wood	Not engaged
Harris Westminster Sixth Form	Engaged
International Community School	Engaged
Kensington Park School	Not engaged
L'Ecole Bilingue Elementaire	Engaged
L'ecole Internationale Franco-Anglaise Ltd	Engaged
Mary Paterson Nursery School	Engaged
Marylebone Boys' School	Engaged
Millbank Academy	Engaged
Naima Jewish Preparatory School	Engaged
Our Lady of Dolours RC Primary School	Engaged
Paddington Academy	Engaged

Pimlico Academy	Engaged
Pimlico Primary	Engaged
Portland Place School	Bronze Accreditation
Portman Early Childhood Centre	Engaged
Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee School	Engaged
Queen's College London	Engaged
Queen's Park Primary School	Gold Accreditation
Robinsfield Infant School	Gold Accreditation
Sir Simon Milton Westminster University Technical College	Not engaged
Soho Parish CofE Primary School	Engaged
Southbank International School Westminster	Not engaged
St Augustine's CofE High School	Engaged
St Augustine's CofE Primary School	Bronze Accreditation
St Barnabas' CofE Primary School	Engaged
St Christina's School	Engaged
St Clement Danes CofE Primary School	Engaged
St Edward's Catholic Primary School	Bronze Accreditation
St Gabriel's CofE Primary School	Engaged
St George's Catholic School	Engaged
St George's Hanover Square CofE Primary School	Engaged
St James & St John Church of England Primary School	Engaged
St John's Wood Pre-Preparatory School	Engaged
St Joseph's RC Primary School	Engaged
St Luke's CofE Primary School	Engaged
St Mary Magdalene CofE Primary School	Engaged
St Mary's Bryanston Square CofE School	Gold Accreditation
St Matthew's School, Westminster	Engaged
St Nicholas Preparatory School	Engaged
St Peter's CofE School	Engaged
St Peter's Eaton Square CofE Primary School	Engaged
St Saviour's CofE Primary School	Gold Accreditation
St Stephen's CofE Primary School	Engaged
St Vincent de Paul RC Primary School	Engaged
St Vincent's Catholic Primary School	Gold Accreditation
St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School	Gold Accreditation
Tachbrook Nursery School	Engaged
The American School in London	Bronze Accreditation
The Grey Coat Hospital	Engaged
The Minerva Academy	Engaged
The St Marylebone Church of England Bridge School	Engaged
The St Marylebone CofE School	Bronze Accreditation
The Sylvia Young Theatre School	Engaged
Westminster Abbey Choir School	Engaged
Westminster Academy	Gold Accreditation

Westminster Cathedral Choir School	Engaged
Westminster Cathedral RC Primary School	Engaged
Westminster City School	Engaged
Westminster School	Engaged
Westminster Under School	Engaged
Wetherby Preparatory School	Gold Accreditation
Wetherby Senior School	Bronze Accreditation
Wilberforce Primary	Engaged

*All information and data within this document accurate as of 31.8.18*

## **Useful contacts at Westminster City Council 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](mailto:schooltravelplan@westminster.gov.uk)

### **Legible London**

Anthony Sabato, Service Development Manager

E: [asabato@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:asabato@westminster.gov.uk)

### **Marylebone Low Emission Neighbourhood**

Vicky Keeble, Deliver London Programme Manager

T: 020 7641 2036

E: [vickykeeble@crossriverpartnership.org](mailto:vickykeeble@crossriverpartnership.org)

### **Cycle Training**

W: [www.westminster.gov.uk/cycling-courses-schools](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/cycling-courses-schools)

### **SEND Transport**

Transport Commissioning Team

T: 020 7361 3623

E: [passengertransport@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:passengertransport@rbkc.gov.uk)

### **Schools Admissions Team**

T: 020 7745 6433

E: [schooladmissions@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissions@westminster.gov.uk)

W: [www.westminster.gov.uk/assistance-home-to-school-travel](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/assistance-home-to-school-travel)

### **Parking Service**

Vicky Nock, Head of Parking

E: [vnock@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:vnock@westminster.gov.uk)

### **Westminster Sports Unit**

Eugene Minogue, Head of Sports & Wellbeing

E: [eminogue@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:eminogue@westminster.gov.uk)

### **Westminster's Children First Magazine**

E: [childrenfirst@westminster.gov.uk](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/fares-and-payments/travel-for-under-18s)

W: [www.tfl.gov.uk/info-for/schools-and-young-people/](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/info-for/schools-and-young-people/)

W: [www.tfl.gov.uk/fares-and-payments/travel-for-under-18s/school-parties](http://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](http://www.met.police.uk/a/your-area/met/safer-transport-team/westminster2)

#### **Healthy Schools Partnership**

David Millard, Healthy Schools Tri-Borough Coordinator

T: 0773 847 6236

E: [david.millard@healtheducationpartnership.com](mailto:david.millard@healtheducationpartnership.com)

W: [www.healtheducationpartnership.com/healthyschools.aspx](http://www.healtheducationpartnership.com/healthyschools.aspx)