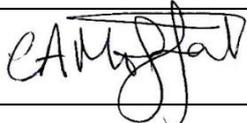
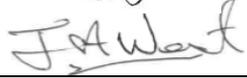

Bicycle Policy

DOCUMENT DETAILS	
Category:	Risk Policy
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Signed:	Headteacher 
	Chair of Governors 

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Introduction

Cycling is always popular when school children are asked how they would like to travel to and from school. However, nationally, less than 1% of young people cycle to school.

Benefits of Students Cycling to School

- Cycling to and from school is a relatively low cost way to integrate physical activity into daily routines and the majority of children already own a bike.
- Regular cyclists typically have a level of fitness equivalent to someone ten years younger. If students start cycling whilst at school, they may be more likely to carry on into their adult lives - those cycling regularly beyond their mid-thirties could add two years to their life expectancy.
- Nearly a quarter of all journeys by car are currently one mile or less and 42% are within two miles.

Cycling has a positive impact on student well-being and the two schools supports cycling as transportation as long as students maintain their bikes in a good, roadworthy condition and cycle safely, using cycle paths only when on the school grounds, or on their way to and from school.

To ensure the safety of all students and staff, on entering school grounds, students must dismount from their bicycles and walk them to the bike storage facilities. Bicycles are the personal belongings of individual students and must be appropriately and securely stored within the bike storage facilities.

The prime responsibility for transporting students to and from school rests with parents, not the School. As school travel does not occur within 'school hours' or on school premises and as it does not involve supervision by school staff, **the School does not accept any legal liability for any accident or injury that occurred while students were riding to and from school.**

The decision as to whether a child is competent to cycle to and from school, rests solely with the parents. Parents are advised to take out appropriate insurance cover as the School's insurance does not cover road accidents or loss or damage to bicycles on, or off, school premises. We would also recommend that parents ensure that their child has followed appropriate bicycle training or a similar safety course before riding to and from school. The School can help to facilitate this. Further guidance on cycling safety can be found at:

The Essex.gov.uk website

<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Travel-School/Pages/Cycling-to-School.aspx> The direct.gov.uk website (<http://talesoftheroad.direct.gov.uk>)

In the interest of health and safety, Paxman Academy recommends that students who have been granted permission to bring their bicycle to school wear an approved bicycle safety helmet.

Cycle Rules

1. Bicycles brought to school by students must only access the school via the front entrance.
2. Within the school, cycling is not permitted.
3. Bicycles brought to school must be in a good, safe working order and must be fitted with working brakes.
4. Bicycles used in the winter months (i.e. outside British summertime clock changes) must be equipped with appropriate head and tail lights, before being brought onto school grounds. (If finance is an issue then the school may be able to loan some lights.)
5. Bicycles are to be stored in the bike shed provided. Bicycles must be locked with a chain/padlock or appropriate bicycle lock supplied by the bicycle owner.
6. Bicycles and safety helmets are brought and stored on school grounds entirely at the owner's risk.
7. No students will be allowed into the bicycle shed during school hours without staff permission. Only bicycle riders may go into the bicycle shed before and after school.
8. Students should under no circumstances tamper in any way with another student's bicycle, lock or helmet. A student found to have done this, particularly in a way which might endanger the user's safety, will be expected to pay for any damage caused and further sanctions may be applied. For serious offences the police may be involved.
9. Parents will be notified if students do not adhere to the school's Bicycle Policy. This may lead to the student being refused entry with their bicycle to school. After one formal warning, if there is a further infringement, permission to bring a bicycle on to the school site, will be withdrawn.
10. Any students riding dangerously on public footpaths or public roads, being disrespectful to others on the way to school or when leaving school, will receive a formal warning. If there is a further infringement, permission to bring a bicycle on to the school site will be withdrawn

Please note that cycling, or not being able to cycle to school should permission be withdrawn, cannot be used by a student as an excuse for late arrival. Parents should ensure that students are on time for school.

N.B. it is highly recommended that students wear a cycle helmet when riding to and from school.

Bicycle Permission Note

(To be completed by a parent/carer)

- I give permission for _____ (child's name) _____ (tutor group) to ride their bicycle to and from school.
- I understand that the roads around Paxman Academy are very busy and quite dangerous, especially at the commencement and finish of the school day.
- I have read and understand the bicycle information provided.
- I have read and explained the bicycle information provided to my child.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to keep the bicycle well-maintained and road worthy, with all component parts working correctly.
- I understand that bicycles are brought to school entirely at the owner's own risk.
- I understand that if the policy is not followed, my child may not be allowed to bring their bicycle onto school grounds.
- I understand that Paxman Academy highly recommends the use of safety helmets when riding to and from school.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Bicycle User's Contract

(To be completed by students)

- I have read and understand the bicycle information provided.
- I understand that it is a joint responsibility between my parents/carers and I, to keep my bicycle well maintained with all parts working correctly.
- I understand wearing an approved and appropriate bicycle safety helmet when riding my bicycle reduces the risk of injury.
- I understand that I must not ride my bicycle at any time on school grounds.
- I understand that I bring my bicycle to school at my own risk and will secure it with a lock and chain in the bicycle shed provided.
- I understand that if the rules are not followed, I may be refused entry to school grounds with my bicycle.

Student Name: _____

Form Group: _____

Type of bike:

MTB	RACER	HYBRID	BMX	OTHER
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Make of bike: _____

Colour: _____

Signed: (student): _____

Signed: (Parent/Carer): _____

Date: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Allowed	Not Allowed	Issue Date

Signed: (Pastoral Manager): _____