

**Paxman Academy**

**Paxman Avenue, Colchester**

**School Travel Plan**



## Definitions

School Travel Plan shall mean this document containing a mixture of measures to encourage sustainable travel to and from the school alongside disincentives to driving with one pupil in the car

School Travel Plan Co-ordinator shall mean a permanent member of staff with the appropriate skills, budgetary provision and resources to produce and update a School Travel Plan, manage the continued implementation of the School Travel Plan including the provision of information to the Council and the County Council

Sustainable Travel Planning Team means the County's Sustainable Travel Planning Team whose role includes but is not limited to providing recommendations and advice concerning all matters associated with the School Travel Plan together with monitoring

Pupil Travel Survey shall mean a questionnaire approved by the Sustainable Travel Planning Team and undertaken to identify the modes of travel used by pupils to get between their homes and school, and their preferred modes

Staff Travel Surveys shall mean a questionnaire approved by the Sustainable Travel Planning Team and undertaken to identify the main modes of travel used by staff to travel between their homes and school, and their preferred modes

Parent Questionnaire shall mean the consultation with pupils' parents and families to gauge their opinions and ideas with regards to how their children travel to and from school. The exact format of this will be specific to the school and agreed with the Sustainable Travel Planning Team

Action Plan shall mean the identification of all sustainable travel opportunities and activities that should be taken to help achieve the Plan's Objectives.

School Travel Plan shall mean a working plan to include all measures to ensure sustainable means of travel are available to pupils, staff and visitors to the school in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework and amended and supplemented from time to time under the provisions of the S106 Agreement and the Annual Travel Plan Reviews

Section 106 Agreement (S106) is a legal agreement between Local Authorities and developers; linked to planning permissions or obligations

Annual Travel Plan Review shall contain a yearly report including the results and analysis of the Pupil and Staff Travel Surveys indicating how the School Travel Plan has been performing.

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## 1.0 Travel Plan Aims and Objectives

### a) Travel Plan Aim

The primary aim of this School Travel Plan is to:

**'Encourage parents and students to use healthy forms of transport to and from school where possible.'**

### b) Travel Plan Objectives

The primary objectives of the *Paxman Academy* School Travel Plan is to:

- Increase the number of students cycling to school
- Reduce the number of car trips made to/from school by parents, pupils, staff and visitors
- Increase awareness amongst students, parents and staff about the health, environmental and safety benefits of more walking and other forms of sustainable and active travel
- Provide a relevant focus for class work within the curriculum and increase the number of pupils benefiting from sustainable travel and road safety education
- Reduce traffic congestion around the school
- Highlight school travel and transport issues and problems and propose practical initiatives to make the journey feel safer and more enjoyable for everyone
- Provide opportunities for consultation particularly with students and parents
- Encourage a responsible attitude in all members of the school community, towards the safety of themselves and others on the school journey
- Promote safe and considerate driving and parking for those who have to travel by car

## 2.0 Introduction

Paxman Academy have drafted this School Travel Plan with the cooperation of school staff, pupils, governors, parents/carers and local residents.

In recent times there has been a marked increase in the number of short vehicle journeys undertaken instead of more traditional physical methods for getting pupils to school such as walking or cycling. The reasons for this increase are many; a lack of suitable and reliable public transport and the rising number of working parents who have little time and drop children off on their way to work are among the reasons given.

With growing concerns, both at national and local levels, about the rising incidents of obesity and implications for the health and fitness of individuals, initiatives have been developed in an attempt to combat future problems. The School Travel Plan project is one such initiative and Paxman Academy welcomes the chance to make our students healthier individuals.

Formal educational sports activities can make a difference to the fitness levels of our children but so can less structured activities with friends and families. Other studies undertaken in the UK show that walking, cycling or scootering to school can make a significant contribution to the fitness levels of the pupils and is a big part of the daily hour of exercise recommended by leading experts to help increase an individual's health.

Children miss out on regular, daily exercise by not walking or cycling to school. The benefits are not only short term, but long term – a healthy lifestyle in childhood will hopefully encourage children to continue on into adulthood with similar attitudes to health and have an effect on the numbers of people who suffer annually from illness and premature death from heart disease, obesity, high blood pressure and bone disorders such as osteoporosis.

### a) Reasons for Travel Plan

As part of the planning permission for Paxman Academy, a number of planning conditions and obligations have been set which relate to the implementation and delivery of a School Travel Plan.

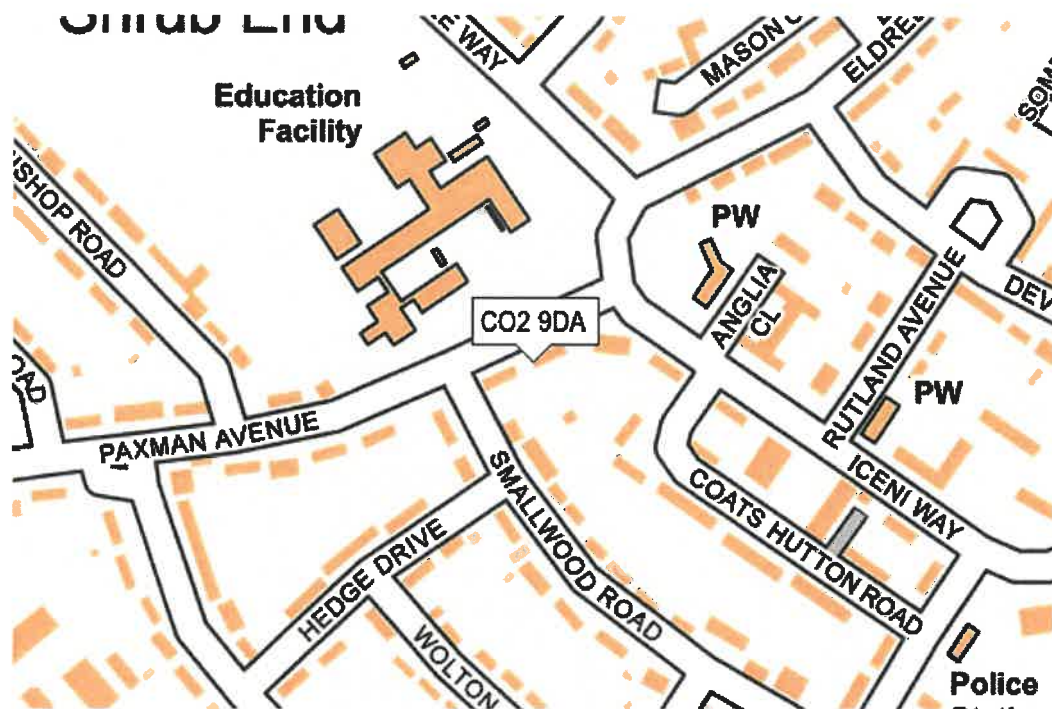
This School Travel Plan aims to positively influence the travel patterns and behaviours of future pupils and staff through the encouragement of greater use of active travel, public transport and other sustainable modes of travel to reduce the numbers of cars accessing the school.

Paxman Academy is a community focused school which provides excellent education and support for children in Colchester. Healthy living is at the forefront of the school's inclusive approach which can be seen in the morning breakfast club which ensures all pupils start the day with a healthy meal. Beyond this, enriched lunchtime and after school clubs provide opportunities to enhance physical and mental well being. STEM is a significant part of the school's curriculum and through this the school has links with local industry representatives.

## b) Background Information and Description of School

Paxman Academy (DfES number 881/4034) - is a new Secondary school which opened to pupils 4th September 2019. The school has opened for 180 Year 7 pupils and will increase by one year group at a time until full capacity is reached with 900 pupils in Years 7-11 in September 2023. The school is currently oversubscribed.

Paxman Academy is located in the Shrub End estate in Colchester and sits on the same site as the now demolished Alderman-Blaxhill school. The Paxman name comes from the old Paxman Engineering firm which was once a large employer in Colchester located in this area. The school site is located amongst residential houses. Many of the school's feeder Primary Schools are located within close walking distance of the school. There are local shops within walking distance of the school and there is a bus stop immediately outside the school.



The school is open Monday to Friday with the school day running 8:35 - 3:00pm. Breakfast club opens at 8:00am whilst after school provision runs 3:15 - 4:15pm.

Paxman Academy does allow use of its facilities to be booked by the local community for evening use.

There are 33 staff who work at Paxman Academy. 18 of these staff work full time and 15 work part time. Many staff live within close proximity to the school whilst others travel in from further afield from locations such as Chelmsford, Mersea, Frinton-on-Sea, Harwich and Felixstowe.

Most students live in Colchester and many live in close travelling proximity to the school. This provides strong opportunities for pupils to use active forms of exercise to travel to and from school. There are a small number of pupils who travel in from further afield.

Many students walk, cycle or scooter to school. A very small proportion of students use public transport - there is a bus stop immediately outside the school. Some students are driven to and from school by their parents.

Students enter the school site through the gate on the corner of Walnut Tree Way. Visitors including parents can enter the school site at reception on Paxman

Avenue. There are a number of different directions that students can come from to enter the school. All roads and paths are appropriately surfaced. Following a student campaign, there will be a zebra crossing put in place to allow children and others to cross safely.

Upon arrival to the school, staff can place items securely in the staff room whilst students are all provided with lockers. There are shower facilities available for staff.

Cycling is actively encouraged for staff and students. There are a total of 10 spaces for staff bicycles and 130 spaces for student bicycles or scooters. All students are provided with a locker to place their cycle helmet. Students are encouraged to take the bikeability course. All students who requested a place this year received the training. Assemblies take place encouraging students to cycle safely.

There is a bus stop immediately outside the school on Paxman Avenue. This area and the local pathways are supervised by members of the Staff.

There are two car parks at the school. The staff car park provides 46 parking spaces. The visitors car park provides 19 spaces; 3 of which are disabled access and 4 of which are large spaces for coaches. There is one further access point for deliveries for the canteen and the site team. The school gates are closed at school opening and closing times to prevent congestion with parents collecting students.

Journeys during the school day will typically be for sports fixtures but other events may also take place. Coaches are provided for these types of activities.

The main concerns with regard to traffic are the busy road where the speed limit is 30mph and the high number of parents who will stop immediately outside the school to drop off children, causing a hold up with the traffic. The school is working with the police, local council and local MP to deal with these issues.

There are no planned developments near to the school at this current time. There is however an area of land adjacent to the school which currently is not in use. There could be developments on this land in the near future which could increase traffic. The school will increase one further year group at a time until it reaches capacity in 23/24 with 900 pupils. During this time, the number of people walking, cycling and driving will increase.



## 3.0 Travel Plan Management

**This section should outline the roles and responsibilities for the management of Paxman Academy Travel Plan.**

### a) School Travel Plan Co-ordinator

The School Travel Plan Co-ordinator shall mean a permanent member of staff with the appropriate skills, budgetary provision and resources to fulfil the role. This person is Nick Mussett.

The School Travel Plan Co-ordinator will be made responsible for developing and implementing the School Travel Plan and collecting data at the school. They will lead on this initiative and act as the correspondent between the local authority and the school. He will ensure ongoing development and implementation of the School Travel Plan, taking responsibility for liaison with external agencies as appropriate, whilst ensuring that the pupil, staff, parents and visitors are kept fully informed of any new developments in the Plan's implementation.

The duties of the School Travel Plan Co-ordinator will include:

- Present a business case to secure a budget for School Travel Plan development and ensure its efficient and effective use
- Undertake annual Pupil and Staff Travel Surveys over five consecutive years and supply evidence of this to the District/Borough/City Council and the County Council
- Take responsibility for data collection and review of the School Travel Plan
- Oversee the development and implementation of the School Travel Plan on a day-to-day basis
- Obtain and maintain commitment and support from senior staff, governors, union representatives, etc
- Design and implement effective marketing and awareness-raising campaigns to promote the School Travel Plan
- Set up, co-ordinate and attend relevant Working Groups, etc
- Act as a point of contact for all pupils, staff and parents requiring information
- Ensure the travel information available is always up to date
- Liaise with external organisations, e.g. local authorities
- Co-ordinate the monitoring programme for the School Travel Plan, including target setting (in agreement with Essex County Council) and make necessary changes if the targets are not being met

- Upload School Travel Plan content to the Modeshift STARS website, enabling efficient online monitoring and review; and progress through the measures and/or actions to meet associated criteria for Accreditation at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels

The contact details for the School Travel Plan Co-ordinator will be submitted to Essex County Council's Sustainable Travel Planning Team upon appointment to the role.

## b) Partnerships and Consultation

The roles and responsibilities of other individuals and/or groups involved in developing and maintaining the School Travel Plan:

- School Council. This is a democratically run student voice body that meets regularly to discuss key matters affecting students. The group have met with the Sustainable Travel Officer from Essex County Council. The School Council have reviewed the survey results and liaised with the student body through form group discussion to identify key issues.
- Student body took part in a whole school survey to identify the travel behaviour of students. The student body also communicated with the School Council regarding any concerns that they had.
- Staff will take part in a whole school survey regarding travel arrangements for staff.
- Parents will take part in a whole school survey regarding travel arrangements.

Name of person /organisation	Number of representatives	How they were consulted (a paragraph or two – not a single line)	Key points raised
School Council	12	Weekly meetings and liaison with form groups.	-Crossing roads is an issue as these are busy -Some pavements are not suitably surfaced and seen to be dangerous -Students sometimes feel intimidated by students from other schools

Students	180	School survey	-Students are keen to cycle more -Students are keen to drive less -A lot of students see the benefit in walking
Staff	33	School survey	<b>To be completed Sept 2020</b>
Parents	180	School survey	<b>To be completed Sept 2020</b>
Governors	8	Governor meeting	<b>To be completed Sept 2020</b>

## 4.0 School Travel Patterns

### a) Pupil Travel Surveys

#### Overview

Number of students surveyed: 180

Number of students responded: 159

Date of survey: February 2020

#### Actual Mode of Travel

<b>Pupils who usually:</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Walk	59	37%
Cycle	33	21%
Car (only pupil)	45	28%
Car Share (other pupils)	11	7%
Public Bus	11	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>159</b>	

#### Preferred Mode of Travel

<b>How pupils would like to travel :</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Walk	48	30%
Cycle	62	39%
Car (only pupil)	30	19%
Car Share (other pupils)	9	6%
Public Bus	10	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>159</b>	

### b) Staff Travel Surveys

The School Travel Plan also needs to regularly monitor **staff travel** to and from the school in an effort to **reduce single occupancy car trips**, as staff can contribute to a substantial proportion of the cars accessing the school site. This survey will take place in September 2020 with an increased staff  
When this has taken place, staff who continue to drive to school will be reminded of the Cycle to work scheme and will be encouraged to Car share where possible

## 5.0 Travel Plan Targets

The success of the School Travel Plan will be measured against the number of pupils (and/or staff) making single occupancy vehicular trips, and the level of modal-shift from single vehicular use to sustainable modes such as walking, cycling, scooting, car sharing and public transport.

The targets for Paxman Academy have been identified below.

		February 2020	February 2021 target
Reduce drive alone school trips	Increase journeys to school by cycling	21%	26%
	Reduce journeys to site by car	35%	30%
	Encourage walking / scootering as a method of transport	37%	37%

c) Action Plan

The actions designed to meet the School Travel Plan Objectives and Targets should be set out in the table below, detailing the implementation date, resources required and who is responsible for each one:

Increase journeys to school by cycling	Offer bikeability courses	Pupils	Autumn 2020	£0	DNA	Pastoral team
	Offer staff cycle to work scheme	Staff	Summer 2020	£0	Travel Plan Co-ordinator	Sigma HR
Reduce journeys to site by car	Ensure school site is not accessible by car at peak times	Parents and pupils	Summer 2020	£10K Security gate to be installed	Site Manager	Facilities Management
	Discourage inappropriate driving and parking local to school	Parents and pupils	Summer 2020	£0	Headteacher	Police force and Local Council
Encourage	Share map of	Students and parents	September 2020	£0	Travel Plan Co-ordinator	Facilities Management

walking/s cootering	appropriate walk routes					
	Use PSHE time to encourage healthy lifestyles	Students	October 2020	£0	PSHE Co-ordinator	Travel Plan coordinator

The Action Plan should be revised each time the School Travel Plan is reviewed, using results from the Travel Surveys to update the targets and actions as required.

## 5.0 Monitoring and Review

The School Travel Plan Coordinator will monitor the implementation and success of the School Travel Plan, by ensuring that measures are promoted and the relevant data is captured. This will be done by ensuring surveys are carried out in line with the timescales. Upon completion of the relevant data collection, modal-shift targets will be agreed and Action Plans revised. This will be done at least annually.

### a) Pupil Travel Surveys

A Pupil Travel Survey will be undertaken by the School Travel Plan Co-Ordinator within one year of occupation and/or engagement, from which baseline data will be retrieved and targets set.

The survey will aim to:

- Identify current travel choices
- Identify which modes of transport could be promoted in light of the survey findings
- Establish the popular alternative modes of travel to the school. What do pupils want to use but currently do not/cannot.

The results of each Pupil Travel Survey will provide information on the established travel choices of pupils and hence will provide a basis for the setting of targets in the School Travel Plan.

Agreed targets between Essex County Council and the School Travel Plan Co-ordinator will be set which are relevant, measurable and achievable and monitored on an on-going basis.

### b) Staff Travel Surveys

A Staff Travel Survey will be undertaken on an annual basis, at the same point in the school year, in order to monitor travel habits and demands. The results of these can shape further measures within the Action Plan to engender sustainable travel within the whole school community.

### c) Parent Questionnaire

Parents' and guardians' views and ideas on the transport choices and opportunities available to their children provide an important asset to the School Travel Plan. These should be collected and detailed on an annual basis and will



be achieved through a Google form which will be sent to parents in February of each academic year.

#### d) Reporting

The Paxman Academy School Travel Plan is a living document which will be entered into the Modeshift STARS free-to-use online framework, allowing both the Sustainable Travel Planning Team and Paxman Academy to review the information, data, issues and actions, amending where necessary to develop and evolve with the school. Additions can be made to the Plan at any time, with the Annual Travel Plan Review taking place in the same term each academic year.

On an annual basis *Paxman Academy* will commit to:

- Carry out travel survey(s) to enable comparison with previous years. The next survey will be conducted on or before *February 2021*
- Review the issues affecting travel to and from school, discussing possible solutions
- Review and update our Action Plan
- Revise the targets and actions in our Action Plan (annually)
- Work with the Sustainable Travel Planning Team at Essex County Council for support and advice.

The School Travel Plan will be reviewed and revised accordingly by the School Travel Plan Co-ordinator to take account of any new developments in education or transport provision, e.g. a change in the rules governing school transport.

## **6.0 Summary**

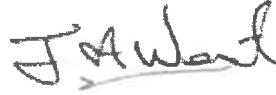
Paxman Academy has agreed to these School Travel Plan arrangements, which demonstrate the importance of the environmental, health, economic and social benefits of increasing the use of more sustainable modes of travel as an alternative to the private car. Paxman Academy is committed to developing this programme with the support of Essex County Council.

a) Agreement on School Travel Plan

**Chair of Governors, for the school**

Name: JOHN WEST

Signature:



Date: 16/06/2020

**Head Teacher**

Name: CAROL ANNE MOFFAT

Signature:



Date: 16/06/2020

**School Council (1)**

Name: Charlie Elsom

Signature: Charlie Elsom

Date: 19/06/2020

**School Council (2)**

Name: Bailey Bennett

Signature: B. Bennett

Date: 19/06/2020

**Parent**

Name: Camilla Baird.

Signature: C. Baird.

Date: 24/06/20

***Sustainable Travel Planning Advisor, Essex County Council***

Name: \_\_Nick Hill\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_N.J. Hill\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_17/06/2020\_\_\_\_\_