TRAVEL POLICY

Travel Policy

Objective:

Amesbury encourages all pupils, parents and staff to optimise use of the car for journeys to and from school, recognising that its semi-rural location effectively prevents the use of alternative means of active travel.

1. Preamble

Amesbury is located in a low-density semi-rural area to the south of Grayshott and Hindhead, between the A3 to the west and the A287 between Hindhead and Haslemere to the south-east. It is accessed from two directions – at the front from the north via Hazel Grove and its junction with the A3/A333 Portsmouth Road and at the rear from the south and west from High Pitfold. A local access restriction (rising bollard, available only to local residents) on Hazel Grove just south of the school prevents access to the front of the school from the south.

The site is remote from public transport: the nearest bus stops are on the A333 Portsmouth Road and B3002 Headley Road to the west, some 25 minutes' walk away, and with only a two-hourly service between 0700 and 1900 on weekdays. Hazel Grove and High Pitfold are narrow roads without footways that are unsuitable for walking and cycling, especially by primary age children.

In these circumstances, we recognise that the opportunities for alternative active means of travel are limited. We seek therefore to promote optimal car use through the promotion of our minibus services and car-sharing among parents and staff.

2. Minibuses

We encourage all parents to make use of our school minibuses. We currently operate three routes – from Godalming, Chiddingfold and Dunsfold – which is simply a function of where pupils using the service currently live. We will adjust routes to serve any family that expresses an interest in using this service.

Use of the minibus service is a paid for service, although subsidised by the school and is currently £2.50 per journey. Further details are available from the school office at: enquiries@amesburyschool.co.uk

3. Car sharing – pupils/parents

We encourage all parents to explore every opportunity for sharing lifts with siblings and other pupils on a regular basis. We recognise of course that there will be occasions where car-sharing is not possible owing to specific family circumstances.

We ask on an annual basis whether current families are willing to offer or wanting to share lifts. Please contact the school office if you wish to be added to this list at: enquiries@amesburyschool.co.uk. Note that this list will not be made generally available owing to data protection issues.

4. Car sharing – staff

We encourage all staff to explore every opportunity for sharing lifts with colleagues or family members on a regular basis. We recognise of course that there will be occasions where car-sharing is not possible owing to specific circumstances.

We ask on an annual basis whether current staff are willing to offer or wanting to share lifts. Staff should contact the school office if you wish to be added to this list at: enquiries@amesburyschool.co.uk. Note that this list will not be made generally available owing to data protection issues.

5. Drop-off and pick-up

We encourage considerate behaviour by all parents bringing pupils to school in the morning or picking them up in the afternoon. Parents should keep strictly to the school's 5mph speed limit on-site and be aware that children's behaviour can be unpredictable. Wherever possible, pick-up times are limited to no more than 15 minutes to avoid congestion. Visitors to the school are encouraged to drive carefully on the narrow approach roads to and from the school.

We would like to thank you in advance for supporting this travel policy. If you have any ideas on how to promote greater car-sharing or even alternative opportunities for active travel, please contact the Bursar, Sarah Jones, via the school office or at: s.jones@amesburyschool.co.uk