

# Bike and Scooter Policy



<b>Approved by:</b>	Local Authority and School Governors
<b>Date approved:</b>	March 2026
<b>Date of next review:</b>	Feb 2028

At Meadowhead Community Junior School we recognise both the environmental and health benefits of cycling to school and wish to promote safe cycling to school. Cycling gives children freedom as it provides an opportunity for independent travel. The school encourages cycling as a safe and affordable means of getting to and from school with minimal impact on the environment. Parents are responsible for the safe transport of children to school. Partnership with parents and a clear understanding of responsibilities will help to support safe cycling/scooting. While the school provides a cycle and scooter storage area and cycle training for older children, the decision to allow a child to cycle to school rests with parents.

**We strongly recommend that children who cycle to school are accompanied by an adult, until such time as the parent is confident the child has the knowledge and skills to be allowed to cycle unsupervised.**

a) Our school promotes cycling in the following ways:

- Undertaking cycle training for all pupils in Years 5 and 6.
- As part of the curriculum on health, safety, environment and welfare.

b) All pupils are asked to:

1. Provide and be responsible for their own bicycle/scooter and lock.
2. Wear clothes that are visible to other road users.
3. To be courteous roads users and to cycle/scoot in accordance with the Highway Code.
4. Investigate a suitable cycle route for their journey to and from school.
5. Let parents/guardians know the route they will be using.
6. Report any problems with their route to either the school or their parents/guardians.
7. Complete a cycle permit form School
8. Dismount on arrival at the school gate. Children who do not dismount before entering school grounds and/or ride bikes and/or scooters in a dangerous or unsafe manner will be asked to leave them at home and will not be permitted to bring them into school. For the safety of all members of the school community, children must dismount before entering through the school gates and walk their bikes or scooters onto the premises.

c) In order to help with this cycle policy the school provides a safe place for bikes to be stored.

## **Liability and insurance**

Schools are not liable for property brought onto their premises including pupils' bicycles or scooters being stolen or damaged by a third party while they are at school. The school's insurance does not cover cycles on the premises, so parents are advised to make their own arrangements. Responsibility for children while they are on their way to or from school rests with parents. The school can take no responsibility for the safety of children outside school. We recommend that cycles are clearly marked or post-coded and that all equipment is named.

## **Storage**

The Cycle and scooter racks are available on school premises for those with cycle/scooter permits. We recommend that all cycles and scooters are securely locked to a stand. **(Pupils/parents/guardians are responsible for the locks for the bike).**

## **Training**

All pupils will be encouraged to undertake cycle training if they have not already done so. Cycling training courses are available for pupils in Year 5 and 6. The school arranges for appropriately qualified companies to run courses. A scooter club is also arranged by school at Junction 4 Skate Park, Blackburn.

## **Maintenance checks**

Cycles ridden to school should be fully roadworthy and properly maintained. Regular checks should include:

- both brakes working
- tyres pumped up, and wheels not wobbling sideways
- handlebars and saddle straight and tight
- front and rear reflectors and wheel reflectors
- both lights working

## **Safety**

We recommend the use of high visibility garments such as jackets or tabards. Children are also strongly encouraged to wear appropriate reflective clothing and bike lights when visibility is poor. Lights should be in good working order. All cyclists should be aware of the rules of the Highway Code that relate to cycling and should follow these at all times. We suggest that parents identify the safest cycling route to school with their children and point out particular hazards and danger points. Cyclists must dismount on entering the school and carefully wheel the bike/scooter and secure it to the cycle rack.

**No cycle or scooter may be ridden anywhere on the school site including the paths or carpark area.**

## **Cycle Helmets**

Although it is not a legal requirement for children to wear cycling helmets, **pupils are expected to wear a correctly fitted cycle helmet when riding to and from school.** These should fit well and conform to current British Standards.

## **Useful Website**

[www.bikeability.com](http://www.bikeability.com)