



Walking Buses in Staffordshire

A guide for new intake parents



How to get involved with the Walking Bus at your school

How does it work?

- Adult volunteers organise a rota to walk children to school.
- They walk along a designated 'bus route', picking up passengers en-route.
- Routes are risk assessed.
- All adult volunteers receive training.
- Adult volunteers and children all wear high visibility jackets provided by the County Council.

What are the benefits?

- It promotes a healthy active lifestyle for children and adults.
- Reduces school gate congestion.
- Can give more time to working parents.
- Children are rewarded for taking part in the scheme.
- Good for the environment - a green alternative to the school run.
- Children improve their road safety skills.

How does the Road Safety and Sustainable Travel Unit help?

- The Walking Bus Co-ordinator helps set up the scheme initially, providing the school with all the necessary resources and equipment to promote and launch the Walking Bus.
- Afterwards they will offer continued support to both the school and its parent volunteers to keep the Bus running.
- The Walking Bus Co-ordinator will maintain regular contact with all of the Walking Buses and will provide training as and when required for any new parents who want to get involved.





What's involved in becoming a volunteer?

- Volunteers operate on a rota basis, so the more volunteers the better.
- Even helping one day a week can make a difference.
- If you are unable to walk for any reason, systems are in place to cover your turn.
- All volunteers will be CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) checked.
- All Walking Bus volunteers receive training and are covered by Staffordshire County Council's public liability and personal accident insurance.



Interested? Here's how to get involved.



- If you would like to find out more, contact your school or the Walking Bus Co-ordinator (details below).
- If you would like your child to walk to school on the Walking Bus, obtain a Parent Consent Form from the school office.
- If you would like to walk with your child on the Walking Bus, you are more than welcome.
- If you would like to become a Walking Bus Driver, training takes approximately one hour, and involves walking the route and instruction on how Walking Buses operate.
- You will be issued with a high visibility jacket and an information pack with details of what to do next.
- Why not get involved? We are always looking for new parents and children to join the Walking Bus. We already have more than 140 Walking Buses at schools across Staffordshire. Walking to school is good for you and your children and great for the environment too!
- Walking Buses are fun and a great way for you and your children to make new friends.

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