



Oathall Community College

School Travel Plan

Date completed: October 2024

Completed by: Zoe Froud Position: Assistant Headteacher

Amended: February 2026 by Jo Godbolt

Introduction

Oathall Community College is a secondary school located between Lindfield and Haywards Heath in West Sussex, England. There are 1300 students at Oathall, between the ages of 11 and 16. The college has a full spectrum of specialist accommodation, including a 5-acre (20,000 m²) farm, a music centre, specialist art building, recently refurbished Science and Maths building, conference facilities and well-equipped classrooms.

Oathall serves Haywards Heath and surrounding areas, accommodating students from Ardingly, Horsted Keynes, Burgess Hill, Scaynes Hill and Danehill.

The school is half a mile from the train station with a few students using this mode of transport to get to and from school. Other students walk, cycle, get the bus or are given a lift to school.

School opening hours: 7.30am – 5pm (Staff)
8.30am – 4.30pm (Students)

The school also offers a number of external lets in the evenings and at weekends.

Travel Plan Working Group

Zoe Froud – Staff member
Jo Godbolt – Business Manager
Dan Cannons – Site Manager
Toby Houghton– Headteacher

Communication with all stakeholders is via the website which is updated regularly.

Current Travel to School – Survey Results

Number of Pupils on Roll 1308			Information on chart is based on the pupil's survey which was 35 % of the pupils on Roll.			
Number of Pupils surveyed 460						
2024	Walking	Cycling	Car	Car Share	Bus	Other
Numbers	276	17	96	6	40	25
Percentages	59.9%	3.4%	20.9%	1.3%	8.8%	5.4% (train)

Staff Survey Results

2024	Walking	Cycling	Car	Car Share	Bus	Train	Other
Numbers	20	1	79	3	1	5	1
Percentages	18.2	0.9%	71.8%	2.7	0.9	4.5	0.9

Of the three main entrances to Oathall the following volume of students use each:

Washington Road = 43.4%
Appledore Gardens = 31.3%
Albermarle Drive = 25.3%

Staff Travel

We have approximately **170** full time and part time staff. The majority of our staff travel to school by car and use the large car park which is on site and has sufficient parking. There is further parking for staff if required on the residential street. 18.2% of staff walk to work, a minority get the train or cycle. The train station is within 5 minutes walking distance and is a mainline link to Brighton and London.

Futures Plans at the school

The school has a published admission number (PAN) of 1350 pupils. The current number on roll is 1308 having increased consistently over recent years. The pattern of increasing student numbers is predicted to increase over coming years not least due to the considerable new property development in the surrounding areas. A new build has been awarded by the DFE. Dates of the start of this project is TBC. This will not, however, address any increased vehicular traffic into the school in the immediate future. In 2026, the college was awarded a grant to build a 4-lane practice net cricket facility on the school field. If built it will be available to hire by the wider community. It is not anticipated that this will increase traffic significantly to the school and any car parking can be accommodated in the existing provision.

Travelling to School - Identified areas of concern

Location	Identified Concern	Identified By	Action
Washington Road entrance	Increased Volume of traffic at Washington Road roundabout	Local residents	Speed control measures
Washington Road	Lane width allows for acceleration around a blind bend	Local residents and school staff (ZF)	Reducing the lane width
East end of Oathall Avenue	Lack of safe crossing points for students	Residents, school and students	Island crossing point
Oathall Avenue	Excessive Speed	Residents, students	School signage/ reduced speed limit
Appledore Gardens	Narrow driveway	School	Widen the driveway by removing one path
Appledore Gardens	Turning Point for Coaches and Buses	School	Create a suitable turning point/roundabout
Main Entrance	Volume of traffic and students on bikes and scooters	School	Signage, communication with parents and students

Initiatives and Promotions of Sustainable Transport.

Oathall runs a Student Council who address measures such as carbon footprint etc.

The school has sufficient storage to allow students to cycle to school.

The Oathall travel plan will be promoted through the website.

Working with Others

There are no direct external links associated with the school regarding school travel, however there are good relationships with local residents, local PCSO's and school liaison officers. We liaise closely with West Sussex County Council when required.

School Trips and Extended School Activities

Oathall has two minibuses for use for school trips and visits. The school has 14 qualified minibus drivers who are tested every three years to maintain safety. The maintenance of the minibuses lies with the site team. For larger extra-curricular activities the school hires coaches. The coaches are safely able to access the school via Appledore Gardens and usually park where the school buses would arrive. There is sufficient turning space.

Parents are not asked to help to transport students and we do not share travel with another school.

Action and Review Plan

Using the concerns highlighted in the survey and through the schools knowledge of the school environment and the community around the school complete the table below. (Example Included)

Identified Concern and Date	Action	Responsibility	Reviewed
Increased Volume of traffic at Washington Road roundabout	Traffic calming by physical means is required to the western exit of the Washington Roundabout. A traffic island in Oathall Avenue and a single lane on the roundabout.	West Sussex County Council WSCC Highways	
Lane width allows for acceleration around a blind bend	Reduction in lane width to a single outer lane	West Sussex County Council WSCC Highways	
Lack of safe crossing points for students	Traffic island positioned on Oathall Road near the roundabout exit	West Sussex County Council WSCC Highways	
Excessive Speed	Traffic calming by physical means is required to the western exit of the Washington Roundabout. A traffic island in Oathall Avenue and a single lane on the roundabout. Signage for school and speed signage.	West Sussex County Council WSCC Highways	
Narrow driveway	Extend the width by removing one of the footpaths	West Sussex County Council	

		WSCC Highways	
Turning Point for Coaches and Buses		West Sussex County Council WSCC Highways	

Monitoring

Please state who will be monitoring the plan and how often reviews will be carried out.
Annual reviews supported by termly updates which are fed back to WSCC via the Safer Routes to School Team at srts.team@westsussex.gov.uk

Authorised on behalf of the school

Headteacher	
Chair of Governors	
Travel Plan Lead	

Appendix

Photos supporting details from the above plan including parking problems, broken signage or faded lines initiatives that the school has taken part in.etc