Downlands Community School Travel Plan Statement

A School Travel Plan was produced as part of a planning application (ref WSCC/054/16/HA) for a previous development in 2017, a copy of this is appended to this statement as **Appendix A**.

A new planning application has now been submitted in connection with a proposal to provide a new two classroom modular building with associated landscaping and alterations to the existing car park, including 5 nr new electrical vehicle charging points.

The School Travel Plan document dated 2017 is provided in support of the new application. It has been reviewed by the school and subsequent confirmation has been received of the actions that have been progressed and or completed. The details of these actions are included within **Appendix B.**

In addition to this details are provided of the anticipated increase in trips associated with the new development. This information can also be found within **Appendix B**

It is acknowledged that residual actions from the previous School Travel Plan remain. It is confirmed that these will be comprehensively reviewed taken forward in a new STP and maintained thereafter.

Appendix A

Jane Moseley County Planning Manager

Please respond to James Neave Tel: 0330 2225 571 email: james.neave@westsussex.gov.uk

www.westsussex.gov.uk

County Planning

County Hall Chichester West Sussex PO19 1RH



Tel: 01243 777 100

1st September 2017

Tim Crabb (Capital Project manager) Northleigh (2nd Floor) County hall West Street Chichester PO19 1RH

By email only

Dear Mr. Crabb

Application WSCC/054/16/HA reference:

Description of

Development: Partial demolition of the existing school building to allow the construction of a new three storey teaching block to provide a music suite and 10No. classrooms and an extension to provide new circulation and teaching support areas. Further extension work to provide a new SEN area as well as new changing rooms and a new dance studio.

Address: Downlands School, Dale Avenue, Hassocks, BN6 8LP

Condition(s):

Thank you for your recent submission regarding the above. The Council has considered the information provided and I am now able to inform you that:

Condition 5 – School Travel Plan

The submitted details for condition no. 5 (ref: 2017 Downlands Community College Hassocks School Travel Plan, and accompanying letter of commitment dated 24/08/17) are acceptable and the 'prior to occupation' element of condition 5 is now **discharged**. Please note the requirement for surveys to be completed and ongoing review.

Yours sincerely

James Neave Principal Planner

Economy Planning and Place Capital Planning and Projects

03302 223037 (Direct) (01243) 786118 (Fax) tim.crabb@westsussex.gov.uk www.westsussex.gov.uk Northleigh (Second Floor) County Hall West Street Chichester PO19 1RH



24th August 2017

James Neave County Planning Office County Hall CHICHESTER

Dear James

West Sussex County Council – Downlands School, Hassocks Planning Application Reference - WSCC/054/16/HA

Please find attached the first draft of the School Travel Plan (STP). I can confirm that full staff and pupil surveys will be undertaken in first term following the first occupation of any new building permitted under WSCC/054/16/HA. Thereafter, the STP will be updated and submitted to the Highways Authority for final approval within 3 months. Subsequent reviews of the STP will be undertaken on an annual basis in consultation with the Highway Authority, and all reasonable endeavours made to implement sustainable transport initiatives identified.'

Yours sincerely,

Tim Crabb Capital Project Manager West Sussex County Council





2017 Downlands Community College Hassocks

School Travel Plan

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Travel & Transport Infrastructure
- 3. Surveys, Modal Shift & Targets
- 4. Travel & Transport Issues
- 5. Actions
- 6. Sign off
- 7. Planning

Introduction

School Details	
Name of school*	Downlands Community College Hassocks
Name of STP Champion*	Philip Cole
DfE Number*	4105
Telephone Number*	01273845892
E-mail address*	office@downlands.org
Address*	Dale Avenue, Hassocks, BN6 8LP
Location*	Budgens Keymer Rd
Website*	http://www.downlands.w-sussex.sch.uk/
Type of School*	Secondary

Pupil and Staff Information		
Age Range of Pupils*	11-16	
Number of Pupils* including Nursery	1030	
Full Time Staff*	85	
Part Time Staff	45	

Pupil and Staff Information	
Where our pupils travel from	Downlands Community School is an 11-16 school with approximately 130 staff and 1030 students. The school has a semi rural location and serves the local villages as well a proportion of Burgess Hill. The School is situated to the southern side of the growing village of Hassocks, which is just outside the South Downs National Park. The school comes under the West Sussex jurisdiction, however as it is located on the border of East and West Sussex it is a popular choice for residents of Ditchling (in East Sussex). Staff live in East and West Sussex but also Brighton and Hove.

	Opening times	Closing times
School Site*	7:00am	5:30pm
Pupils Official Times*	8:45am	3:05pm
Breakfast Clubs (if applicable)	8.15	8.50
After School Clubs (if applicable)	3.05	4.00 - 4.30pm
Other timings e.g. Nursery timings	Downlands shares a campus with Windmills students, and all children arrive and leave b other in Dale Avenue. Our School day is from 8.45am – 3.05pm, w 8.30am and leaving by 3.15pm. There are n between 4pm and 6pm. Windmills junior school, also situated in Dale finishes at 3.15pm. Parking on the school site is always tight, th with members of the local community who d hall and Gym facilities.	y two entrances/exits within 100m of each with children arriving at School from about hany after-school clubs each day finishing e Avenue, starts at the same time and ere are two areas but one is also shared

Engineering & Planning

Working Group

How many volunteers have been involved in supporting the school travel plan work and initiatives, this year? i.e. working group members, transition mentors, Footsteps tutors, Crocodile escorts, cycle trainers etc

downlands_School_Travel_Plan_2014_draft2pdf	
Name	Role
Mark Wignall	Head Teacher
Philip cole	Other

Other Information

We currently have covered racks for bicycles. Away from the school site there are car parks at the Western end of Dale Avenue. Parking is either free long-term or short-term parking discs. There is further parking nearby parallel to the high street (behind Budgens supermarket) and at Adastra Park, which is across Keymer Road to the north of the School and which can be accessed through Willowbrook Way opposite Windmills. Dale Avenue itself has no parking restrictions.

Walking along Dale Avenue is a safe option as the pavement is wide enough for 2 people to walk

side by side, and there is a wide grass verge separating the pavement from the road. In constructing this plan we have tried to address three groups of people who travel to and from the School:

PUPILS; the issues caused by travel of pupils from their various locations are diverse and locations will be treated separately

STAFF; few tend to live locally due in part to housing costs

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY; the school has extensive community facilities on site including a gym, all weather pitch and Sports Hall.

Facilities			
	Description	Numbers	
	Staff parking spaces*	80	
Car Park*	Visitors parking spaces*	0	
	Disabled parking spaces*	2	
	Covered Sheffield Stands	25	
	Sheffield Stands*	0	
Cycle Parking*	Cycle Pod / Mini Pod*	0	
	Other Cycle Spaces*	0	
	Total pupil cycle parking spaces*	25	
	Total staff cycle parking spaces*	0	
Scooter Parking*	Total Scooter Parking Spaces*	3	
Storage Lockers*	Number of storage lockers for equipment*	0	
Showers available*	Number of showers available*	0	
Coach Parking*	Spaces for coaches to park* Details of coach parking facilities	0 0	

Travel & Transport Infrastructure

Transportation Links	
Buses*	several bus routes leave and pick up from Hassocks high street Some buses specifically are used for the school run and pick up/drop off outside the school gate
Rail*	Hassocks train station - within walking distance
Roads*	The school is accessible from Dale avenue which is a residential road. This road is very busy at the beginning/end of the school day
Walking Routes*	There are many walking routes which converge on Dale avenue
Cycling Routes*	There is a cycle route that runs part of the way from Burgess Hill

STARS Routes to School Audit

The STARS Routes to School Audit has been designed to assist schools with identifying the sustainable travel and transport network that surrounds the school site. The audit is a great activity to conduct with your pupils and will count as evidence towards the 'Consultation Initiatives' in your Action Plan.

You can use the audit below to identify any 'Travel & Transport Issues' that the school faces and begin to think about solutions that may need to be put in place to make it safer and easier for people to travel to your school.

Name of road (main gate)		
Name of other roads surrounding the school	Keymer Road	
Date of assesment	25-02-2017	
Time of assesment	14.00	
What is the speed limit of the road outside the main gate?	20mph	
What is the speed limit on the other roads surrounding your school? (please select all that apply)	30mph	
How many of the following crossings are present?	Pelican Crossing	0
	Puffin Crossing	0
	Toucan Crossing	0
	Zebra Crossing	0
	School Crossing Patrol	1
	Traffic Island	0
Is there any traffic calming within 500m of school, e.g. speed bumps, build outs? (If yes, please provide details)	No There are speed bumps al because of building work)	long the main school drive (currently dismantled
Are there railings present outside or near the main gate? (If yes, please provide details)	No	
Is the main vehicular entrance used for pedestrians/cyclists as well as cars? (If yes, please provide details)	Yes Yes	
Does the school have a dedicated car park for parents (not teachers)? (If yes, please provide details)	No	
Are there any dedicated cycle lanes leading to the school?	No	

What is the quality of the pavements like within 500m of the school? (If poor/Inadequate, please record any details)	Average
What is the quality of the 'SCHOOL' and zig-zag road markings like?	Good fairly recently repainted
Please record any other obstacles or road layout issues within 500 metres of the school entrance which could be deemed as preventing young people or making it more difficult for them to use sustainable transport on the journey to and from school.	parents dropping and collecting students and Local residents park opposite the school bus parking bays which often reduces Dale avenue down to one lane or less (no lanes) at busy times. This dangerous for students who are walking but especially those who are cycling. All local residents have off road parking in drives and so a no stopping zone should be enforced either side of the school gates

Surveys

Pupil Survey Results

Responses:

Response Rate: (Responses + Absent Pupils / Pupils on Roll)

No data to display.

No data to display.

Pupil Survey Comments

Staff Survey Results

Responses: Response Rate: 0%

No data to display.

Historical Pupil Mode of Travel Data

Pupils Walk Cycle Public Dedicated Park & Train/Tube/Metro Modal Service School Bus Stride Split	Car Share	Car	Scooting	Total
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Historical Staff Mode of Travel Data

Staff Modal Split Walk Cycle Bus Park & Stride Train / Tube Car Share Car Tot

Travel & Transport Issues

No travel / transport issues were identified last year.

New travel / transport Issues

Dates	Details of Issue	How the issue was identified	Possible Solutions	Resolution
Personal Safety				
Stonepound crossroads	High levels of traffic pollution Difficult to cross as a cyclist and as a pedestrian	Bike it Week	Cycle track Pedestrian crossing	
School entrance	Students who walk from Hassocks high street (the majority) have to cross the entrance to the school drive as there is only pavement along one side of the school drive	Bike it week	new pavement on the left hand side of the drive	
travel plan 2014	In response to questions about cycle lanes: A cycle lane (Hurst to Hassocks) would make 35% of students more likely to cycle (of those 242 students that responded to the question) A cycle lane (Ditchling to Hassocks) would make 26% of students more likely to cycle (of those 145 students that responded to the question) A cycle lane (Burgess Hill to Hassocks) would make 37% of students more likely to cycle (of those 147 students that responded to the question)	from a survey about travelling to school	cycle lanes	
March 2017	Congestion at the school gate entrance and in the immediate vicinity is increasingly a cause for concern.	Observed on a daily basis by SLT on duty.		
Parking				
cars parked blocking Dale avenue	At busy times parents dropping off/collecting students and local residents leave cars opposite the bus bays - this adds to congestion and sometimes blocks the road itself	travel plan Daily observation	extend double yellow lines or zig zag lines in Dale avenue	
not enough parking available	With a growing number of staff working at Downlands, the parking is increasingly inadequate. There is hardly ever any free parking spaces available for visitors and often not for staff either	travel plan Day to day	extra parking nearer the entrance or next to the sports centre	

March 2017	Parking will continue to be an issue as pupil numbers increase to 1110 from Sept 2017 & there will be increased community use when the new Dance studio opens next academic year (also sept 2017) this will hold adult classes during the school day - this is anticipated to increase traffic by approx 20+ extra community visits each day.	Identified because of the current building works		
School facilities				
March 2017	Following the installation of a security fence - the cycle storage facility is now outside. The relocation of the bike sheds therefore becomes an important issue.	Identified because of the current building works	One suggestion was for them to be relocated outside the Schering Suite on the front playground, where the table tennis tables currently are, this would make them	

more secure & accessible to students.

Actions Planned Actions

Completed Actions

Walking & Scooting Actions						
W2 Living Streets Free Your Feet / Citizenship Challenge campaign delivered	Person Responsible	Target Completion	Reporting	Completion date	Funding acquired	Uploads
FYF We celebrated the 'free your feet' initiative In conjunction with the Living Streets charity in March 2015. This was publicised in school assemblies, a promotional video was made which was shown in the school canteen at break times during the week. There was also material made available for tutors and used in form time. A hands up walk/travel survey was also completed, the results were sent to the Living Streets organisation The week culminated in a 'Car free friday' this was coordinated with nearby 'Windmills' junior school.	P Cole	March 2015	none	06-03-2015		
W6 Walk to school week	Person Responsible	Target Completion	Reporting	Completion date	Funding acquired	Uploads
FYF We celebrated the 'free your feet' initiative In conjunction with the Living Streets charity in Oct 2015. This was publicised in school assemblies, a promotional video was made which was shown in the school canteen at break times during the week. There was also material made available for tutors and used in form time. A hands up walk/travel survey was also completed, the results were sent to the Living Streets organisation	p cole	October 2015	none	06-03-2015		
W6 Walk to school week	Person Responsible	Target Completion	Reporting	Completion date	Funding acquired	Uploads
Walk to school week We celebrated WTSW in 2016. This was publicised in school assemblies, a promotional video was made which was shown in the school canteen at break times during the week. There was also material made available for tutors and used in form time.	P cole	June 2016	none	17-06-2016		
W6 Walk to school week	Person Responsible	Target Completion	Reporting	Completion date	Funding acquired	Uploads
Walk to School Week Encourage pupils to walk to school or walk part of their journey to school. We will produce tutor materials, a poster campaign and we will complete the modeshift stars travel survey during this week	P Cole	May 2017	WTSW was completed week beginning Monday 15th May 2017 unfortunately we could not complete car free friday as the school was closed due to a burst watermain	26-07-2017		Chart_Q8_170724.png
Road Safety Actions						
R6 Independent travel training	Person Responsible	Target Completion	Reporting	Completion date	Funding acquired	Uploads
Walk to school audit In December 2015 we organised a school travel audit for a small group of students who usually walk to school from the station end of Hassocks (or from Hurst). The purpose of the audit was to gather some feedback from students about any difficulties or hazards that they or other students might encounter on their way to school. The audit should help with the school travel plan and highlight areas that may be of concern. The walk was organised by Mr P. Cole and he and pupils were accompanied by Eleanor Togut from the Living Streets organisation and Juliet Merrifield from local group HKD (Hassocks, Keymer and Ditchling in Transition)	p cole	December 2015	none	11-12-2015		auditwalk.pdf
Cycling Actions						

C8 Bike week	Person Responsible	Target Completion	Reporting	Completion date	Funding acquired	Uploads
Bike it Week In September 2015 we celebrated 'Bike it' Week because we strongly believe that our students should be fit and active, we encouraged them to cycle to and from school. We understand that for many students this is not feasible because of the difficulty of their journey, or because the journey is too dangerous. It may be that they do not possess a bike that is roadworthy or have safety the right aftery equipment (bike helmet). Despite the many good reasons not to cycle, we endeavored to encourage those that were able or would relish the challenge, and to that end, we arranged a number of incentives for them to do so. As a number of our staff cycle in from Hurst, we organised a bike train that students could join in order to cycle with others and more safety. The bike train left from the village green every morning around 8.15 am and from the top of the school drive around 3.20pm. The cycling challenge involved students agreeing to cycle part d, rail all of their journey to and from school during 'Bike it' week. Students that participated completed a card which were collected at the end of the week for a prize draw. Also bike related prizes were awarded to participating students through a prize draw during assemblies the following week. The events organised were as follows: A Slow bike Race. A lunchtime 'Dr Bike' advice and help session care of 'Hassocks Community Bike Hire' for those students who might need any help getting their bikes roadworthy. A lunchtime to rubuse who would like the challenge of pedaling their way to a fruit smoothie. A lunchtime skills presentation from BMX Street & Flatland pro, Amos Burke in the school playground. This initiative was supported by local bike cale: Proper Coffee and Hassocks Community Bike Hire also Matthew Bird of Mid Sussesx Council helped with funding and daily support.	p cole	September 2015	BIKE IT WEEK - review (a shortened version following completion of the week) Data that shows the degree of pupil involvement in Bike it week' Sept/Oct 2015: a. I cycled to school - From 68 – 62 bikes counted in the bike sheds each day during the week b. I took part in the Slow Bike Ride - 17 contestants took part in this and 1 staff member c. I took part in the Bike Train – Over 25 students and at least 2 members of staff took part every morning. It was available after school but only a handful of students took part d. I took part in Dr Bike - More than 10 students with their bikes and 1 staff member e. I took part in the smoothie bike – Up to 40 students took part f. I watched the BMX skills presentation – Over 150 students watched the presentation g. I completed the Bike Quiz - More than 30 entries – some students entered as a team some pupil comments: "Dr Bike was a really good idea, I went and watched but didn't take part as my bike is fine. I think that it was excellent that you could get your bike serviced and learn sometime' "I liked the smoothies. The BMX guy's skills were really good' "The doctor bike raised my seat, straightened my handles and heightened them. Now my racer is much faster' "A lot of people want to cycle but can't - have a bike train going back' "It was amazing eight out of eight, well done'	02-10-2015		bikeitQuestionnaire.pdf bikeitQuestionnaire.pdf bikeit.pdf bikeit.pdf

Sign off & Formal Approval

Title	Name (for pupils a name is not required,e.g. school council)	Sign off
STP Champion	Philip Cole	
Head teacher	Mr M Wignall	
Governor (if applicable)		
Pupils		

LA Officer

Planning Applications

Details of Application	Monitoring Details	Upload(s)
Application Number: Pending Date of application: 08/06/2016 Date application approved: 00/00/0000 Development overview:	Next Monitoring Date: 01st Feb 2018 (188 days) Date of annual visit:01-02-2017	Planning Application: Downlands_Project_Brief_v0_4_RevA.doc
Added By: Schools Capital Project Team 5 year(s) Ci.capitalprojects@westsussex.gov.uk Monitoring Fee: £ 08/06/2016 Objectives of the Travel Plan: Description	Other uploads	
		Postcode Plots
		Site Plan
	Planning Status: Pending	
	Secured by condition: Approved School Travel Plan by 31 May 2017	
	Transport Summary:	
	Details of SEN pupils (number) and if they have a transport statement:	
	Travel Plan Author: PTAL Input:	
	Future development likely to increase traffic levels or influence travel patterns:	

Planning/ Review Details	Monitoring	Approval Details
Review date: 01st Feb 2017 Number of days until review date: - day(s)	Upload Finalised STP:	Pending Administrative Approval

Monitoring Fee Paid (if applicable): \pounds

Review date: 01st Feb 2017 Number of days until review date: - day(s)	Upload Finalised STP:	Pending Administrative Approval
	Monitoring Fee Paid (if applicable): \pounds	
Review date: 01st Feb 2017 Number of days until review date: - day(s)	Upload Finalised STP:	Pending Administrative Approval
	Monitoring Fee Paid (if applicable): \pounds	
Review date: 01st Feb 2017 Number of days until review date: - day(s)	Upload Finalised STP:	Pending Administrative Approval
	Monitoring Fee Paid (if applicable): \pounds	
Review date: 01st Feb 2017 Number of days until review date: - day(s)	Upload Finalised STP:	Pending Administrative Approval

Monitoring Fee Paid (if applicable): \pounds

	Current	New
Pupil Roll		
Staff Roll	0	
Staff Car parking space(s)	0	
Visitor Car parking space(s)		
Accessible Car parking space(s)		
Cycle parking space(s)	0	
Scooter parking space(s)		
Public Transport drop off arrangements	-	
Storage lockers		
Shower Facilities		
Proposed Opening/ Closing times Are there any proposed changes to opening/ closing times. If yes please provide details:		
School site:		

Pupil times:

Breakfast Clubs:

After school clubs:

Other e.g. Nursery:

Appendix B

Downlands Community School Travel Plan Actions

1) Promote safe and sustainable transport, (the desires of pupils highlighted above indicate areas where education can be used to promote sustainable transport over cars) continue to support walk to school weeks.

Wk Comm. 15.5.23 – walk to school week and 'car free Friday' promoted to staff

2) Consider the feasibility of increasing the bicycle storage and provide lockers for helmet storage in the cloakroom area.

Enlarged bike storage for students in 2022, with added security gates and CCTV. School purchased secure bike pods from Gatwick airport for staff and patrons of the sports centre. Bike thefts have since reduced.

3) To tackle the use of cars from areas without public transport by implementing transport solutions such as park and stride schemes or car sharing initiatives. To continue a Car free day with car drivers encouraged to drop off before the entrance to Dale Avenue so that students walk a little and congestion in Dale avenue is reduced

Wk Comm. 15.5.23 – walk to school week and 'car free Friday' promoted to staff

4) Many parents also have to drop off and collect children from Windmills School.

New school opening hours for Sept 2023 (increase to school day) was set in consultation with Windmills.

5) At least two Bikes have been stolen from the bike sheds even though intruders have been recorded on the school CCTV – they have not been apprehended or the bikes recovered.

Enlarged bike storage for students in 2022, with added security gates and CCTV. School purchased secure bike pods from Gatwick airport for staff and patrons of the sports centre. Bike thefts have since reduced.

	Action	Responsibilit	By When	Review
Raise awareness of problems of cars parking on both sides of Dale Avenue	Ask coach company to ensure that coaches arrive at Downlands on time so that they can get through Remind parents through regular newsletters	y Head teacher, Governing Body	July 15	On-going
(on-going) School bus parking	g bays and yellow line marking has been p	painted outside t	he school on	Dale avenue.
	Upload to website in prominent	P Rawlcliffe	Dec14	Travel Policy uploaded
Upload Travel Plan to Website	position			Travel Plan circulated
Plan to Website				Travel Plan circulated
Plan to Website	position	Head teacher	On-going	Travel Plan circulated

Target	Action	Responsibility	By When	Review
Encourage use of 'Park and Stride'	Identify suitable areas in the village for 'Park and Stride'	PC & the Eco Club	July 18 '	
	This initiative to be launched alongside			
	the Walk to school week and car free Friday			
Increase available	More parking spaces created at foot of	Head teacher,	July 18	
number of Parking	the drive and adjacent to sports centre	Governing	July 10	
spaces	(drama studio)	Body		
Increase walking /	Continue to promote walk to school	Head teacher		
scootering / cycling	week and 'Car free Friday' with car	and SMT	July 18	
to school	drivers encouraged to drop off before the entrance to Dale avenue so that		,	
	students walk a little and congestion in	Eco		
	Dale avenue is reduced.	Committee	and	
	Promote with Windmills			
		Tutors and	On-going	
		Class teachers		
	1	1		
Promote car sharing	Encourage staff to share cars by trying	Head teacher	July 2018	
	out, e.g. specific spaces for car shares			
	Promote the use car sharing between families by advertising the health and financial benefits	Governing		
	On-going	Body		
	Reserve specific spaces for 4 car – share			
	cars			

Anticipated Increase in Trips Associated with New Development

Number / Percentage	Walking	Cycling	Car	Car & Walk	Car Share	Coach / Bus	Train & Walk	Other
Pupil No.s in 2023	22	2	7	4	1	13	10	1
Pupil % in 2023	36 - 38%	4%	11 -12%	6 - 8%	2%	22%	16 – 17%	1%
Staff No.s in 2023	0 - 1	0 -1	3	0	0 -1	0	0 -1	0 -1
Staff % in 2023	2 %	4%	85%		6%		2%	4%

Assuming 60 students and 4 staff we can equate that to: