

Streatham & Clapham High School GDST

Statement on transport for return to school September 2020

SCHS remains committed to encouraging sustainable and active transport. We recognise that in the context of Covid-19, many families will be wary of using public transport. To this end, we have redoubled our efforts to support parents and pupils choosing active transport and we have further enhanced our own school transport services. We are following government guidelines in every aspect.

- Active transport

Walking, scooting or cycling to school is a healthy choice and we encourage all families to consider these modes of travel for the school run. We are working with the Sustrans team in Lambeth to offer cycle training through the Bikeability course, Dr Bike on-site visits, and we are increasing our bike-shed provision. We have appointed travel reps in each form so we can work together with the pupils to support them to choose active transport.

- School transport

We have undertaken a detailed review of our school bus network in partnership with a specialist school transport management company, which will also be managing our school bus service this year. We have added an eighth minibus route so more families can benefit from this means of travel. Furthermore, we are creating a late bus service for pupils staying after school for sports, community or other activities as and when these resume in a Covid-safe context.

- Public transport

We have written to TfL a number of times over the past two years, asking them to increase the frequency of the 315 bus route around the start and finish of the school day. We are therefore pleased that TfL has announced they will be providing extra buses on this route (<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/buses/bus-changes?intcmp=47904#on-this-page-2>). We shall continue to monitor this provision and lobby for more buses if needed.

- Private car

For pupils arriving by car, we continue to encourage car-sharing to reduce single-occupancy car journeys. However, we ask that car-sharing takes place within school bubbles only, to maintain the efficacy of this measure and thus protect our school and wider community.

To ensure pupil safety and to protect neighbours' access, we employ traffic marshals to oversee school drop off and pick-up. We encourage parents to drop their daughters at a safe walking distance from the school where possible. All parents and pupils driving to school must agree to the school code of conduct, available on our policies and procedures page.

The school site will be open as normal from 7 am until 7 pm; however, we shall be operating staggered arrival and departure times between 7.30 and 8.20 am and from 3.55 to 4.10 pm to minimise mixing between bubbles. Each year group will have a specific point of access to the site: side gate to the driveway, playground gate next to the field, Reception and The Spinney car park. The use of The Spinney car park will be in accordance with planning permission restrictions and under staff supervision.