

# *Sacred Heart RC Primary School*

*Headteacher: Mrs S. Walker*  
*Knutsford Road, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7NJ*  
*Telephone – 0161 223 0231 Fax – 0161 223 0367*  
*[admin@sacredheart-jun.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sacredheart-jun.manchester.sch.uk)*  
*[www.sacredheartschool-gorton.org.uk](http://www.sacredheartschool-gorton.org.uk)*

*‘Where Every Heart is Sacred’*

## *Mission Statement*

*Our school community of Sacred Heart reflects the love that Jesus has for us. This creates a successful learning environment where we welcome people so they feel happy, settled and included. We honour each other and our school with pride.*

## **School Travel Plan 2017-2020**



## INTRODUCTION

### School Address

Sacred Heart RC Primary School  
Knutsford Road  
Gorton  
Manchester  
M18 7NJ

**Headteacher** Suzanne Walker

**Contact numbers:** 0161 223 0231

**Contact email if available:** [head@sacredheart-jun.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:head@sacredheart-jun.manchester.sch.uk)

admin@sacredheart-jun.manchester.sch.uk

**DFE reference .** 352 3505

## **About Sacred Heart RC Primary School.**

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Primary School is a primary school serving the area of Gorton. In response to the increasing demand for more school places in the local area and in consultation with Manchester Local Authority and Salford Diocese, a decision was reached to increase the PAN to 45 pupils in the Reception year, in the first instance.

From September 2017 the school has been supporting 285 children and approximately 47 teaching, non-teaching, administration, lunchtime, kitchen and premises staff.

There is parking available for approximately 20 staff vehicles (including one accessible parking bay) and 10 secure bike stands. There are a further 8 parking spaces available on the church car park. The new two storey building, which opened in September 2016 consists of four classrooms, male and female toilets, and two intervention rooms. There may be some issues with parking due to a shortfall of parking places.

School is open from 7.00 am to 6.00 pm Monday to Friday. Staff can access the site between these hours. The hours of opening and closing are to accommodate the cleaning staff and kitchen staff to arrive early and finish cleaning at the end of the day.

Staff normal working patterns are from 8.00 am until 5.00 pm. Staff can work either side of these hours should they wish as long as they are within the opening hours of 7.00 am to 6.00pm, and for events such as planning and assessment time, parents' evenings, workshops and staff training.

Staff are deployed to patrol outside the school between 8.40am and 9.00am in order to direct parents dropping children off at school and to deter parents from parking within the restricted parking areas on Knutsford Road. Children from the school support with this task in their role as PCSOs. The Junior PCSO scheme has high profile and has been in operation for five years, and proves very successful in encouraging parents and carers to park safely

The staff car park is open from 7.00 am until 6.00 pm Monday to Friday., and can also accommodate a small number of visitors' cars.

Deliveries are accepted between 8.00 am and 4.00 pm Monday to Friday. Parcels are delivered daily to the school office.

Refuse collections are every Tuesday morning, usually any time between 9.30 am and 12.00 noon

The School has achieved the OFSTED grading of outstanding in all keys areas.

## **Serious Road Safety Concern**

Observations suggest that there is a serious risk to children's safety between 8.50 and 9am and 3.15 and 3.25pm due to parents parking illegally and often driving dangerously. The junction between Brookhurst Road and Knutsford Road is

seriously congested at these times as buses and other vehicles are travelling around a bend where often vehicles are parked. 300 children are entering or exiting a gate very close to this bend. The school has tried to resolve this problem by placing cones around the bend but often the cones are moved. Residents complain on a daily basis and have requested that the council look into options to prevent these issues. The school has informed the local council of this and recommends fixed posts being secured around this bend or Knutsford Road being restricted to a one way system.

The school will continue to put in place all measures possible to try to alleviate this problem but the erection of fixed posts or restricting the road to one way would be the most effective way to ensure the children's safety.

### **Current in-school additional provision**

- Daily Breakfast Club 8.00am until 8.40 am.
- Booster sessions for small groups daily between 3.15pm and 4.15pm
- Weekly after-school clubs from 3.15 pm to 4.15pm
  - Multisports – 2 nights per week
  - Karate – (1 night per week)
  - Choir – 1 night per week
- Weekly assembly each Friday for parents between 9.15am and 9.45am
- Annual cycle proficiency training with Year 5 & 6 at Level 1
- Annual open day for new parents
- Annual craft mornings for parents
- Annual EYFS, KS1 & KS2 sports day

In developing our Travel Plan, Sacred Heart RC Primary School will consult with a wide body of interested parties.

- **Children** will be involved in the “Hands Up” survey in the classrooms and the teachers will count the number of children who respond in each class (see results table below)
- Consultations will take place with the Staff in the form of a questionnaire with regard to their travelling to and from school, and mode of transport.
- **The School Council** will be approached for their views on road safety around school.

<b>Date of survey</b>	<b>17 November 2017</b>
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To School this morning ( 158 children replied out of 210 asked)	Number	%
Put your hand up if you walked to school this morning?	75	48
Put your hand up if you came to school by bike or scooter this morning?	4	3
Put your hand up if you came to school by car this morning?	73	46
Put your hand up if you came to school by bus	6	4
Other questions ( children replied out of 285 asked)	Number	%
If you could choose how would you most like to come to school in the morning?		
Walk	49	32
Bike or scooter (ticked more than once)	71	46
Car	29	19
Public Transport	4	3

This survey was carried out on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November and reflects the results on this day alone.

The children were asked how they travel to and from school, and how they would ideally like to travel, given the choice.

Some suggestions from children include:

- Tell children how healthy it is to walk and cycle.
- Cycle or walk with a friend.
- Prizes for walking / cycling to school for however many days.
- Bike raffle tickets for children that choose to walk or cycle.
- Teach child how to be safe when crossing roads.

### **School Council**

The School council believe that the school is a safe place to walk, cycle or commute to due to there being no road incidents with our children. They feel that the school does a lot to ensure the pupils are safe due to the high fences and road safety lessons. For example, walk to school initiatives, Bike Month Manchester campaign and life skills lessons. They also believe that the Junior PCSO's have a positive impact on the safety of our school community.

The school council have highlighted that the high number of vehicles at drop off and pick up times and where they park could pose a risk.

### **Parent Survey**

Out of 285 letters sent home, only 25 surveys were completed and returned. Below are the statistics.

<b>1. Would you be prepared to “Car share” (to take someone else’s child to/from school or let your child travel to/from school with another parent/carer) to reduce the number of cars around school and on the school run?</b>			
Yes 32%	No	Maybe 52%	I already car share 16%
<b>2. If your child cannot walk to school every day, would you consider letting them take part in the “Walk once a week” scheme?</b>			
Yes 52%	No 4%	Maybe 20%	We already walk 24%
<b>3. Would you consider letting your child take part in a “Cycle Once a Week” scheme?</b>			
Yes 44%	No 20%	Maybe 4%	When they are older 32%

We remind parents on a weekly basis about safe parking and alternatives to driving to school. They have easy access via the school website to local bus routes and cycle routes.

Cones are placed around 'hotspots' where parents illegally park to avoid this. Junior PCSOs are on patrol with staff at drop off time to direct parents parking. Requests to park legally is posted around the school grounds.

### Staff Survey – 27 out of 44 responded

<p><b>1. How do you usually travel to school in the morning?</b></p> <p>Walk 37%    Bike 3%    Bus 0%    Car 70%</p>
<p><b>2. How far do you usually travel?</b></p> <p>Up to 1 mile 26%    1 – 2 miles 10%    2 – 4 miles 15%</p> <p>4 – 10 miles 22%    10 miles 19%</p>
<p><b>3. If you could choose, how would you most like to come to school in the morning?</b></p> <p>Walk 37%    Bike 22%    Bus    Car 41%</p>
<p><b>4. Would you be prepared to “Car share”?</b></p> <p>Yes 37%    No 20%    Maybe 32%    Already car share 11%</p>
<p><b>5. Which of the following would encourage you to share a car with someone you work with?</b></p> <p><b>Helping find a car share partner 11%</b></p> <p><b>A free taxi home in emergency 8%</b></p> <p><b>Reserved parking space 19%</b></p> <p><b>Nothing 15%</b></p> <p><b>Other 47%</b></p>

Staff were also asked 'What might make your journey to school easier/more environmentally friendly?'

Suggestions included;

Reserved parking space.

Showers for those who would like to cycle

Electric car charge point in school

Less parents dropping off at other schools en route to school

To be on a tram route

We do encourage all staff to use public transport wherever possible and practical. We advise them of this regularly at staff meetings.

We encourage staff who live close to each other to car share.

We can provide information on the Tax Free Cycle to Work Scheme which provides assistance in purchasing a bike from designated suppliers.

## **Travel Plan**

### **Actions**

The school recognises the benefits an effective Travel Plan can bring, including benefits from health, fitness and safety for pupils, parents staff and visitors, which in turn will lead to reduced commuting costs (walking and cycling to and from school) and benefits to the environment associated with reduced vehicular emissions. The road safety of the community is a priority within this travel plan.

Key to a successful Travel Plan is to identify the most suitable modes of transport that are both realistic and practical for pupils, staff, parents and visitors to adopt. Different people will respond to different measures and there is no single solution to any one person.

1. Sacred Heart RC Primary School have appointed a School Travel Committee (STC) and they will be supported by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and the Governing Body as appropriate, providing them with time and resources to fulfil their role.
2. A copy of our School Travel plan will be available on our school website. Websites are an ideal way to obtain current and up to date information and useful websites will be linked to travel information on our school website page. Some of the websites will include:
  - A walking route planner ([www.walkit.com](http://www.walkit.com))
  - Details of local cycle routes ([www.tfgm.com](http://www.tfgm.com)) and a cycle route planner ([www.cyclestreets.net](http://www.cyclestreets.net))
  - Public transport links ([www.tfgm.com/journey\\_planning](http://www.tfgm.com/journey_planning)) ([www.metrolink.com](http://www.metrolink.com))
  - Details of events (e.g. Cycle Training for Year 5, Walk to school week)
3. As Sacred Heart RC Primary School has been awarded "Healthy Schools Award" walking to and from school will be actively encouraged. It is the most sustainable mode of transport having zero carbon and contributes towards fitness levels, health and wellbeing. We will actively encourage parents and pupils to visit the website link from our school page to [www.togoandnogo.co.uk](http://www.togoandnogo.co.uk) where information can be found on Road Safety.
4. Cycling is an excellent mode of transport for pupils, parents and staff and will be actively encouraged. Not only does it benefit health and wellbeing, it also has a low impact on environment and traffic. We have a purpose built storage facility for bicycles, providing padlocks and chains for pupils and visitors who cycle to school.
5. We will encourage and promote car sharing amongst staff, parents and visitors who travel to and from school. Staff will be made aware of the Greater Manchester's area wide online scheme, [www.carsharegm.com](http://www.carsharegm.com) which they can access free of charge. Parent and pupil car share arrangements are to be encouraged focusing informally on the awareness of the benefits of sharing,



focusing particularly on the issue of demand for car parking at drop off/pick up times.

6. Dedicated time will be allocated to ensure that children will take part in road safety events and lessons with a focus on road safety at hometime.
7. A key issue is effective management of parent drop off/pick up. In addition to the current interventions, it will also be necessary to promote a "Considerate Drivers Code of Conduct" which will be prepared by the STC and provided to all parents and staff, making them aware of the locations where they are legally allowed to park and setting out guidelines for parking in a safe and considerate manner
7. The school will continue to update the local council of the risk to the safety of the children at drop off and pick up times and request further support and intervention; such as the request of bollards fixed around the bend at the junction of Brookhurst Road and Knutsford Road and a request to consider one way enforcement.

## Targets

1. To continue through the STC, SLT and Governing Body to ensure that the Travel Plan is updated annually, through consultation with parents, pupils, staff and visitors.
2. To decrease the number of parents travelling to school by car by at least 10% to 38%.
3. With the support of the local council, reduce congestion around the Brookhurst Road and Knutsford Road junction so that the risk to children's safety is reduced.
4. Provide a Travel Plan leaflet within the next 3 months, which will be available as a hard copy and on the school website. This leaflet will be a useful guide to the different modes of transport available to the community; including public transport information, walking and cycling information. Also included will be a guide on road safety information, parking safely and legally, and car sharing schemes.
5. Include all useful links on the school website including road safety, parking, cycle routes, bus routes, walking routes and journey planner.
6. To continue with the Junior PCSO scheme supporting safe and legal parking.
7. Continue to place cones around 'hotspot' parking areas.
8. To ensure all children participate in road safety lessons and events at least annually.

## **Monitoring & Reviewing Our Plan**

Our next hands up surveys will be: June 2018

Parents will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on travel issues supplementing staff and pupil surveys. This will be actioned on a yearly basis. We will place an online form on our website for completion and also have hard copies available in the school office.

Our Annual Progress review will be completed in: January 2019. This will involve feedback results from surveys with staff, parents and pupils with the Headteacher, SLT and Finance/HR Mgr. Appropriate changes will be made, ensuring that the Travel Plan is a "living" document, evolving and moving forward with time.

Minutes will be given to the Full Governing Body meeting termly and an annual report will be issued on the school's website.

The person(s) responsible for ensuring the annual review will be completed will be the STC, the Headteacher and Governing Body.

A full review of the School Travel Plan will be completed in January 2019. The Full Governing Body will discuss the minutes of the Annual Progress Review. Any recommendations will be taken on board and updated in the Travel Plan. The person(s) responsible for ensuring the full review will be completed is the STC, Headteacher, School Finance/HR Manager, Healthy Schools Coordinator, one member of school council.

## **Sign off and formal approval annual**

### **Review School Signatures**

The following signatures confirm the school management have read the contents of this document. By signing this document, the school is committing itself to make every effort to resolve problems identified within the enclosed document and implement the actions identified. The school further acknowledges that they have committed to achieving all targets highlighted in their action plan and to the annual review and monitoring of the plan.

**Headteacher : Suzanne Walker**  
**Deputy Headteacher: David Wilson**  
**Chair of Governors : Barbara Porter**

**Finance and Human Resources Manager: Carol Shorrocks**  
**Site Manager: Alan Whelan**