



THE WAY TO GO

Welcome to our Way to Go schools newsletter!

We really hope that you'll find the information useful and that it will help you encourage your pupils and their families – as well as your staff – to **walk, cycle, wheel** or **scoot** to school.

As the academic year comes to a close, here are some updates as to what schools have been up to this summer term!



Suffolk schools celebrate Walk to School Week

This term we saw schools across Suffolk take part in the 5-day Walk to School Week challenge. Pupils and families were encouraged to walk, cycle, wheel or scoot as many days as they could between 20th-24th May, celebrating the benefits of actively travelling to school.

Below are comments from some of the schools who took part:

The children loved Walk to School Week, and even the bad weather couldn't stop them. Being in a small village means that many of our families walk, scoot or cycle to school. Whereas those who don't walk to school often live miles from the school site, therefore it was really nice to see the number of children who parked away from the school and then walked the final part so that they could join in too.

Mendlesham Primary School

All of Fairfield and Colneis enjoyed participating in 'Walk to School' week. Everyone enjoyed being active – 1142 pupils over the week either walked, cycled or scooted to/from school. It has made everyone think about the way they travel and they loved completing the activities. We even gave a prize to the most active class!

Junior Road Safety Officer team at Federation of Fairfield Infant and Colneis Junior School

The Junior Road Safety Officers had great fun organising Walk to School Week and encouraging the children to take part in the event. The children enjoyed recording their achievements on the class poster and receiving their bookmark at the end of the week. Most of our children usually travel by car but they always try hard to change their mode of transport when we take part in Walk to School Week.

Stratford St Mary Primary School



#CleanAirDay

Thursday 20th June marked national Clean Air Day which saw many of our Suffolk schools thinking about the impact of air pollution and exploring practical ways to tackle it.

Thank you to all the schools and communities who took part in celebrating the day with us.

If you want more information and how you can set up your own Clean Air Day, check out the [Global Action Plan Action for Clean Air website](#).



Book your Bikeability sessions for next year!

We're inviting all our Suffolk schools to book onto our training for the autumn term – we still have some availability.

Bikeability training gives children the confidence to cycle safely which in turn encourages them to cycle more often.

Why not give our road safety officer John Showell a ring on **07515 187353**. Leave a message and he'll return your call or email john.showell@suffolkhighways.org



Schools out for summer - but carry on walking!

As the academic year comes to a close, it is important to encourage families to continue actively travelling during the summer holidays, helping to keep the spirit of active travel alive and make the most of their summer by staying healthy and connected with nature.

Living Streets (a charity that aims to inspire people to choose walking for their everyday local journeys) have produced an activity booklet and diary for families with a range of activities to complete during any walk. Access it on the [Living Streets website](#).



Congratulations to all the Modeshift STARS schools!

We're celebrating all the schools who have received their **Modeshift STARS** national accreditation, highlighting the hard work towards encouraging active and sustainable travel to school.

Congratulations to Abbot's Hall Community Primary School, Castle Hill Infant and Junior School and Great Barton Church of England Primary Academy for achieving their Modeshift STARS Good Travel Plan Accreditation this term!

Modeshift STARS is a national school travel awards scheme that celebrates schools who demonstrate excellence in supporting cycling, walking and other forms of sustainable travel.

The scheme is supported by Active Travel England and is FREE for schools to register. The School Travel Plan Team can support you in developing and delivering your School Travel Plan and work towards your national accreditation.

If you would like more information regarding Modeshift STARS, please get in contact with schooltravelplans@suffolk.gov.uk

Coming up: dates for your autumn diary

16th-22nd September

Modeshift TravelWise week

A week promoting active and sustainable transport, to raise awareness on the impact our travel choices have on our health and our environment. Participating schools can be recognised for their efforts in Modeshift's TravelWise Week Awards. Access resources on the **Modeshift website**. We'll give you more information nearer the time.

23rd-27th September

Cycle to School week

A week where pupils and their families are encouraged to cycle and scoot to school. Teaching resources including lesson plans and activities are provided on the **Bikeability website**. Again, we'll give you more information nearer the time.

And that's a wrap on this academic year!

Let's keep in touch

We'd love to hear from you with any news, updates or photos about your school and how you're encouraging active travel. Please email schooltravelplans@suffolk.gov.uk

And if you're interested in finding out how we can work with you to encourage more of your pupils, their families and staff members to actively travel to school, please get in touch!



Thank you for helping us make travelling to school in Suffolk safer and healthier for everyone!

