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**THE HART
SCHOOL**
*Creative
Education
Trust*

RSA/SPO
28 August 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Travel to School Parent Map for September 2020 onwards

The Hart School has been working alongside Staffordshire County Council on our Travel to School Action Plan, which will support the government guidance ready for our full reopening in September.

Many children already walk or cycle to school (on average 40% in Staffordshire) and we want them to continue. Walking, cycling or scooting to school are the most accessible ways to reduce congestion and pollution, while also improving the mental and physical wellbeing of pupils. The benefits of more children walking, cycling and scooting to school are proven: they will be happier; more alert and ready to learn; with increased independence; social skills; more road safety aware and fitter.

As children return to school and parents/carers to work, the benefits that active travel brings are more important than ever. There are many ways you can support your school and we ask you to join with us in these unusual times to reduce the number of cars in the immediate school vicinity, for the benefit of residents, for the safety of students and for the environment.

At the end of this letter is Staffordshire County Council's Journey Plan Map for The Hart School, which is intended to support you in your back to school planning. The School Routes Checker at <https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/scc/schoolroutes/> is also available for parents and carers and shows an option for an appropriate route to school.

The Journey Plan Map aims to reduce traffic congestion in the immediate vicinity of the school. The map shows that a 10-15 minute walk can make a big difference to the safety of pedestrians and residents in the school's local area as well as to air quality. Please remember to switch off engines when parked. Rugeley Leisure Centre has kindly offered to be the site of the parking area for our Park and Stride provision. Please park as far away from the Leisure Centre building as possible. The school has a secure shelter for bicycle and scooter storage. The bicycle shelter has full CCTV coverage. We strongly support the use of bicycle helmets.

The School Transport Service will be operating its usual service from Thursday 3 September. Students who live the furthest away will board first and disembark last. Face coverings are strongly recommended to be worn on school transport.

Our School Crossing Patrol will be back on duty when students return. Students must remember to socially distance from the Patrol and crossing patrols may be withdrawn where social distancing has not been maintained.



When approaching the School Crossing Patrol, drivers should be prepared to reduce their speed and stop and to be patient and considerate. School Crossing Patrols need to see and be seen. It can be difficult to see children on the pavement, especially if there is increased traffic and parked cars by the school.

Parents are urged to put safety first by parking responsibly during drop-off and pick-up times. Parking on the pavement can obstruct and seriously inconvenience pedestrians, people in wheelchairs or with visual impairments and people with prams or pushchairs. There is also less room to social distance if cars are parked inconsiderately.

Please remember that the school site is not available to parents and carers for routine drop-off or collection of students. Visits to school are by prior arrangement only and the reception area will be relocated to The Hub at the front of the school for the duration of Covid-19 restrictions.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming back all our students when we fully re-open in September. Working together, we will make sure that everyone associated with The Hart School enjoys a safe and healthy future.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the information above, please contact Mr Lloyd via email: gary.lloyd@hartschool.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Miss R Sandham
Principal

The Hart School's Journey Plan Map

