



Heatherlands Primary School Travel Plan



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October
2026

School details

Heatherlands Primary School, Library Rd, Parkstone, Poole BH122BG

We are part of the Coastal Learning Partnership, which is a MAT consisting of 20 schools from across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole.

The school is a through Primary from EYFS to Year 6.

Total children on role 618

Total number of Staff on role 78 (not all full time)

'The Breakfast Lounge' starts from 7.45am and afterschool 'Explorers' club runs up until 17.15

Normal school hours are from 8.45 – 15.15.



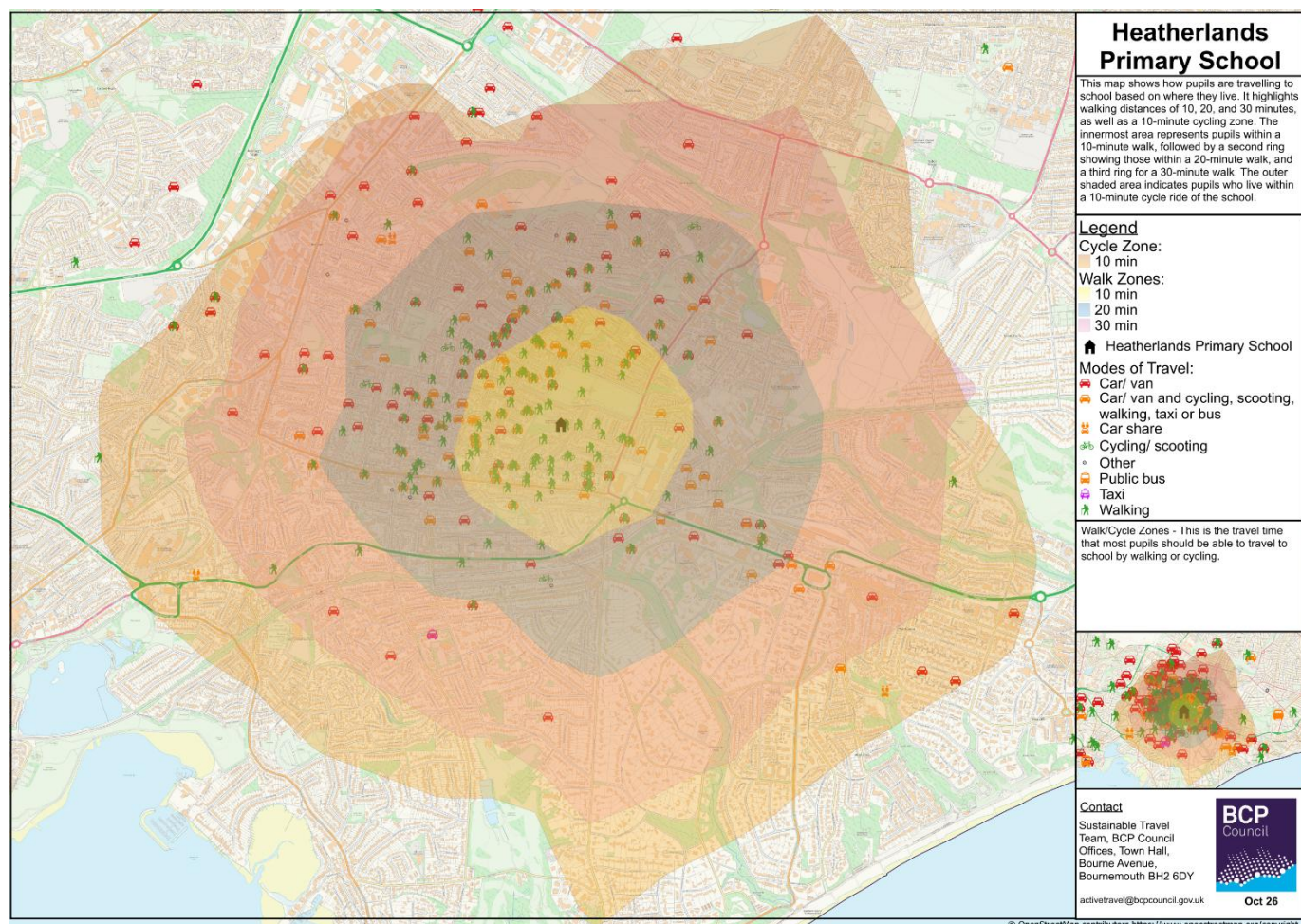
'At Heatherlands we believe every child deserves the best start in life'

The health, welfare, and well-being of our children are critical aspects of the role of Heatherlands Primary School staff. We encourage our children to make active choices and regularly track how they travel to and from school. We are fully aware of how exercise affects attention and concentration and how this can significantly influence outcomes.

We actively encourage children to walk/scoot or cycle all or part of the way to school. We have 6 bike/scooter shelters for storage.

We appreciate that there are certain situations where it is necessary to drive to school, but we would like to draw attention to the fact that there is very limited street parking, as we are in a busy residential area, and the school car park is used by staff only. We do have access to the Recreation Road Rec car park, which is a 2 minute walk from school.

Postcode Plot Map showing where the children live in relation to the school and how they travel to school:



Heatherlands Primary Mode of Travel data 2026:

Age range and Mode of Travel	Walk	Car	Bus	Cycle	Other
5-10 years	49%	47%	1%	3%	0%

BCP School Mode of Travel data 2025/2026:

Age range and Mode of Travel	Walk	Car	Bus	Cycle	Other
5-10 years	45%	46%	4%	3%	3%
11-16 years	47%	22%	13%	10%	8%

- Primary pupil sample size 7982 pupils.

- Secondary sample size 4406 pupils.
- No specific distance was asked.

The 26/27 MOT data shows that Heatherlands Primary broadly matches the BCP average for active travel with slightly higher levels of walking to school 49% against 46% (BCP average) but higher levels of car use 47% against 34% (BCP average). Bus use and cycle rates are broadly similar.

Site Survey of Existing Safety Measures

Speed Limits, crossings, traffic calming etc	- The Speed Limit on Recreation Road is 20mph. There are speed bumps and travel calming measures on 2 of the entrance roads. There are no speed bumps/travel calming measures on the main front entrance. There are markings for no parking outside of the gate but these are sometimes still ignored by parents and visitors. - The school is situated on the corner of a one-way road/dual road in a residential area. - There are no crossings within the schools local area on any of the roads which give access to the school
Controlled Zone for Parking	- There are no controlled zones for parking but we encourage parents to park in the Rec car park. There are no parking zones other than on the road. - We do mark the road close to the entrance to the school (Library Rd), the parking zones and front gate with yellow cones to deter parking.
Footpaths/Pavements	- There are pavements on both sides of Library road, Recreation Rd and Cecil Rd; these are suitable for pushchairs and pedestrians to use. The Cecil Road pavements are often tight due to parking and specifically on bin day. (Thurs)
Separate Entrance for Cars/Pedestrians	- Vehicles are not permitted on site, apart from teachers, exceptional circumstances and deliveries/bin collections.
Staff/Visitors Car Parking Available	- There is a small staff car park for teaching staff to use. All other staff members and visitors have the use of the Rec to park in. Many also park on the roads outside and around school. There are 2 disabled parking spaces on site for staff, parents or visitors.
Local Car parks	- The Rec at the bottom of Library Rd/on Recreation Rd.

Bus Stops and rail stations	- Branksome train station is a 10-minute walk from the school. There are bus stops within 5 minutes of most entrances.
Existing Cycle/scooter shelters	- We currently have 6 bike/scooter shelters that hold 10 – 15 bikes or scooters.
SEND travel	We operate an early bird meet and greet for any SEND pupils. They are collected from the school gates by specific named members of staff and taken to provision in school to settle them and prepare them for the day ahead. There is no specific travel plan required for children with SEND, although we do have a disabled parking space on the school site which can be used if needed.

School Travel Surveys

In September 2026 we asked how the children from Reception to Year 6 travel to school on 1 specific day using a hands up exercise – 96% of children attended school that day.

We also emailed parents to ask them to update their travel information on Arbor to enable us to collect current data.

How did you get to school	Number of children	Percentage of Students
Car	176	28%
Walking	309	50%
Bus/Mini Bus		
Scooter	92	14.8%
Bicycle	42	6.8%
Taxi		

Based on the pupil's enrolment forms and 'hands up survey', the majority of our students come to school by car or walk. Although the numbers of children walking has increased, there are still many who are driven. These children are sometimes dropped a small distance from school and are at least walking some of the way (age dependent). We are aware that there are families that have children at other schools that need to drive to ensure drop off. However, there are many families who live close enough to walk but are still choosing to drive. This also has an impact upon parking near the school and putting our children in danger through parking illegally and unsafely. This is shown in the postcode plot where there are a significant number of families driving from within the 10-minute walk to school zone.

We will continue to keep promoting active travel to school through regular newsletters, travel information on the school website and setting out active travel expectations during induction

events. The Parent Parking Promise has been shared with all parents via the monthly communications email. BCP Council are encouraging schools in BCP to adopt this to promote safety where parents must drive to school.

Parents and local residents comment about parking issues around school and are concerned about children's safety. The school have previously contacted parking wardens and BCP and have requested support. [Report an illegally parked vehicle | BCP](#). When contacting by email always request help from the Poole enforcement team.

The school needs parents support in this area and a targeted request from them directly regarding provision for a crossing patrol in 2 zones, yellow lines and no parking zones around all 3 zones. These are now marked by yellow cones. Please see The Parent Parking Promise setting out the schools' expectations around safe driving to school.

It is often commented on by our parents that they are put off walking because of the amount of dog's mess, sharps, glass etc on the Rec. [Report a problem in a park or green space | BCP](#)

Any dog's mess/sharps/broken glass immediately outside the school the Site Manager clears, otherwise we report this to the council. [Report a litter \(rubbish\) problem | BCP](#)

Active travel promotion

Use the table below to detail your school program of activities that support active and sustainable travel.

Website and communications	- There is a section on our School website detailing the schools travel plan. This states how we encourage our children to walk, cycle or scoot to school. - Curriculum evenings, parent communication emails and messages mention our expectations for travelling to school.
Bikeability	- We offer Bikeability to all of our Yr6 children in the summer term and provide training throughout the year for EYFS children and those who do not have a bike or are less confident cycling. - We have 6 bikes at school provided by Sustrans for our own cycle lessons. We have cycle lesson planning and games to use with small groups of children. - The bikes are kept in a secure/covered area and are regularly maintained. These are then used additionally for Bikeability during the school day to maximise uptake.
Road Safety	- We often have visitors to the school to promote to the children the importance of staying safe on the streets, both where traffic and strangers are concerned. We had a whole school assembly this year from the STEPS safety training team, and they visit every year. This year they are going to provide all children with age-appropriate assemblies again and increase the road safety training to cover both KS1 and lower KS2. Year 1 children go out on the roads near to the school to promote safe crossing and road awareness.
Cycle to school week Walk to school week WOW	- We actively promote events that encourage our children to walk or scoot to school. - We hold whole school assemblies, email and post on our Facebook page and put up posters to promote this - We look for opportunities to incentive this or reward children for actively coming into school.
Cycle and scooter parking at school	- We have 6 bike/scooter shelters that hold around 12 bikes. Some staff make use of one too. This is adequate for our needs at present.

Key school issues

Concern	Solution	Benefits
High levels of idling cars outside the school gate	- Encourage parents to use the Rec for parking for pick up and drop times - Encourage active walking to school – to include a 'parent Walking Bus' if necessary - We will utilise the Clean Air Toolkit: The Clean Air Toolkit Transforming Travel to educate parents and pupils about the importance of clean air.	- Health benefits. Children will breathe in less car fumes. - More children will actively walk to school
Cars illegally parking on the pavement and on double yellow lines, blocking Recreation Rd to drop children off.	- Traffic cars/wardens to do random checks at school - Put cones out on the road to dissuade parking - School to remind parents of safe parking areas ie. Rec car park - Report an illegally parked vehicle BCP	- Safer area
Children being driven short distances to school.	- Encourage more active travel, incentives for children - Use of Living Streets WOW and the Walk Wheel Cycle Trust (formally Sustrans) to help with this.	- Healthier children, burning of some of their excess energy to enable better concentration in lessons.

Incentivising and therefore increasing numbers of pupils cycling and scooting to and from school.	- All children to have opportunity for Bikeability. Opportunities to promote cycling to school etc - Locations and active travel provisions on website and pre-admission information - Run incentive schemes - Take part in daily mile at school – bikes and scoot version? - Introduce Balancability for younger pupils: <u>Bikeability balance BCP</u>	- Pupils and parents know what's available and its location - Increased parent confidence - Less congestion around school - Improved pupil health - Improved air quality at school
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Aims, objectives and targets

	MAIN TARGETS	TARGET DATE
1	To reduce the percentage of parents driving their children directly to school area, by 10%. Currently 47% of our children come to school by car, according to the latest MOT data	March 2027
2	To increase the percentage of children walking at least part of the way to school to 55%. Currently at 52%, according to the latest MOT data	
3	To increase the percentage of children cycling to school from 3% to 5%	
4	To increase awareness of parking availability by encouraging parents to walk short distances from the Rec, rather than dropping off and blocking roads and corners near entrances. Introduce the Parent Parking Promise to help with this.	

Action Plan

Target	Resource required	Person responsible	Measure of success	Deadline
To reduce the percentage of parents driving their children directly to school area, by 10%	- Promotion of the Rec parking facility via letters, parent email and website - Completed STP with awareness of actions raised to staff and parents - Calendar of incentive schemes that encourage active travel - Bikeability - Introduce and promote the Parent Parking Promise	AHT Office staff PE lead	- % of car journeys reduces year on year - Less traffic outside the school	March 27

To increase the percentage of children walking at least part of the way to school to 55% from 52% (benchmarked against the latest MOT data)	- Promoting WOW and other promotional activities - Details of travel expectations on the website and in schools comms - Promote the park and stride car park location - Rewards for active classes (WOW, etc) - Offer road safety training across the school	AHT Office staff PE lead	- Increase in walking to school - Reduced cars around the school - Healthier children - Cleaner air around school - Parent understanding of travel offers and expectations	March 2027
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To increase the percentage of children cycling to school from 3% to 5% (benchmarked against the latest MOT data)	- Promote the BCP learn to ride holiday courses - Look at the possibility of booking learn to ride sessions in school - Participate in the Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel - Highlight where the cycle parking is in school and include it when you show new parents round	AHT Office staff PE lead	- Uptake of learn to ride/Bikeability and more children gaining confidence with cycling - Increased use of cycle parking in school	March 2027
To increase awareness of parking availability by encouraging parents to walk short distances from the Rec, rather than idling, dropping off and blocking roads and corners near entrances	- Raise awareness of www.liftshare.com - Produce a map for the school website to show how close the Rec is, detailing the crossing points and time it takes to walk and add to website - Contact council for	AHT Office staff BCP Council for the map	- Completed and communicated map - Reduced cars at the school gate/corners of road and on Recreation Rd at drop off/pick up times	March 2026
	parking safely signs for Recreation Rd entrance area - Introduce Parent Parking Promise			

	- Highlight the concerns regarding idling or parked vehicles outside the school gate on Air Quality and how this negatively impacts children's health in the long term - Utilise The Clean Air Toolkit Transforming Travel			
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Sign off

Bea Collis	Assistant headteacher	October 2026
Julian Churchill	Headteacher	October 2026
Sam Flint	Site Manager	October 2026
Jonathan Thompson	Travel Planning Officer, BCP Council	

Next review due – October 2027 (update data) March 2027 review plan