

9th March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

## Join us for The Big Walk and Wheel (16<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026)

We are excited to let you know that our school will be taking part in **The Big Walk and Wheel 2026**, a national event that encourages children and families to choose active ways to travel to school.

During these dates, we will be encouraging pupils to walk, cycle, or scoot, to get to school whenever possible. Taking part is a great way for children to stay active, build healthy habits, and help reduce traffic and pollution around our school.

Walking and wheeling to school also helps children:

- Improve their physical and mental wellbeing
- Develop road safety awareness
- Start the day feeling energised and ready to learn
- Help protect the environment by reducing car use

Throughout this time, pupils will be able to record their journeys and take part in fun activities and challenges in school.

If you normally travel by car, you might like to try parking a little further away and walking the last part of the journey together. Every step counts.

### Park and Stride

We are re-launching our new 'Park & Stride' site at Bidston Nature Reserve (off Boundary Road).

### What are we asking pupils and parents to do?

If you live too far away from school to walk the whole way, park at least 5 minutes' walk away from the school - and use the Park and Stride site.

Find us on: Insta, X, BlueSky, Facebook and LinkedIn



### What is Park & Stride?

This means that those who live too far away to walk to school will be able to use the car park at Bidston Nature Reserve (off Boundary Road) and then walk the rest of the way into school each morning and do the reverse in the afternoon.

We understand that not everyone is able to walk, cycle, or scoot the whole way to school, but we would like to give everyone the opportunity to make at least part of their journey active. This helps to achieve many of the benefits of exercise, air quality improvement, and safety around school - plus, pupils who park and stride instead of driving the whole way to school will be eligible for WOW badges!

We have formed an agreement to trial the use of the council car park at Bidston Nature Reserve (off Boundary Road) as a "Park and Stride" site until Summer 2026. If it works successfully, then the trial will be extended.

### Where is the Park & Stride site?

The car park is a 6-minute walk from the school gates, located at Bidston Nature Reserve (off Boundary Road).

### How do I get a Park & Stride permit?

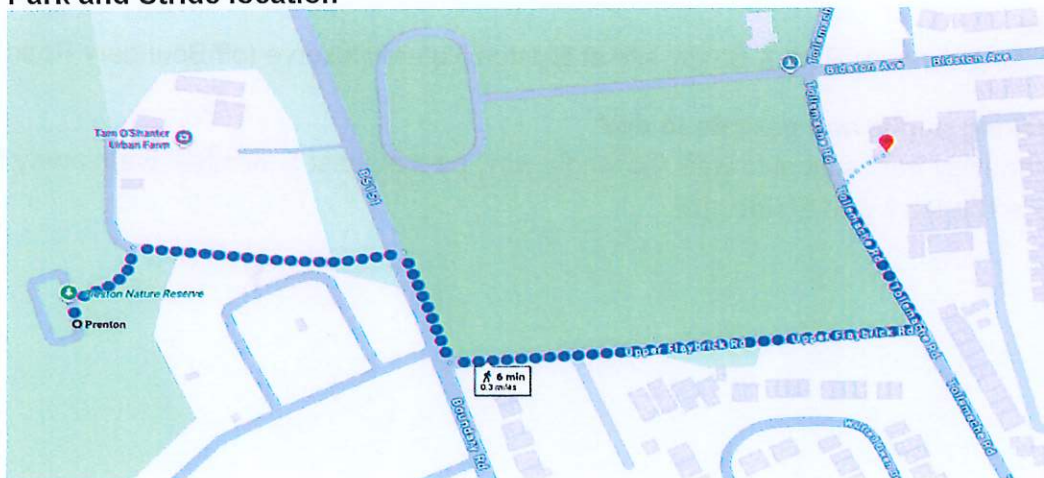
Any family can apply for one. Please contact Mrs Roberts in the school office and she will arrange a park and stride permit for you.

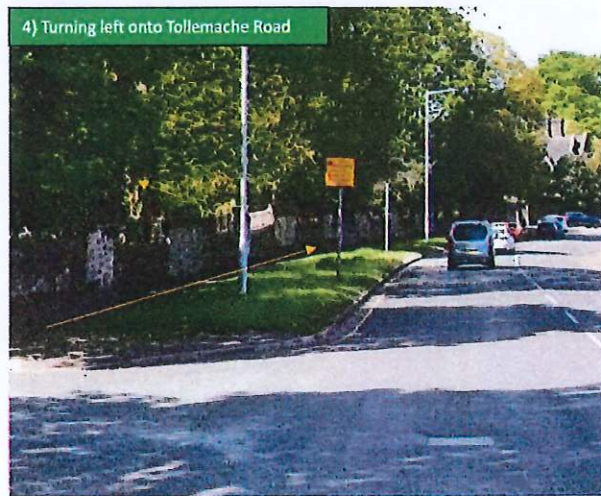
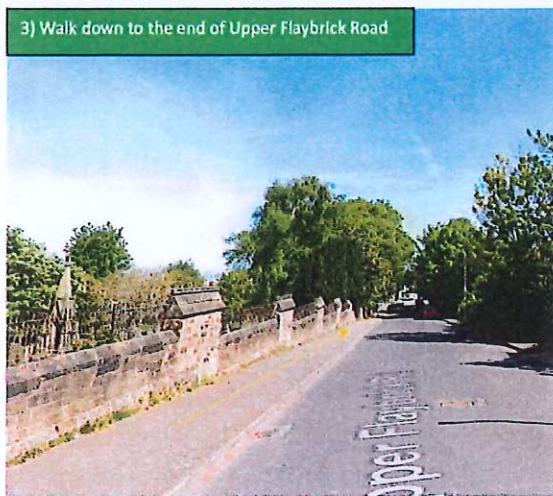
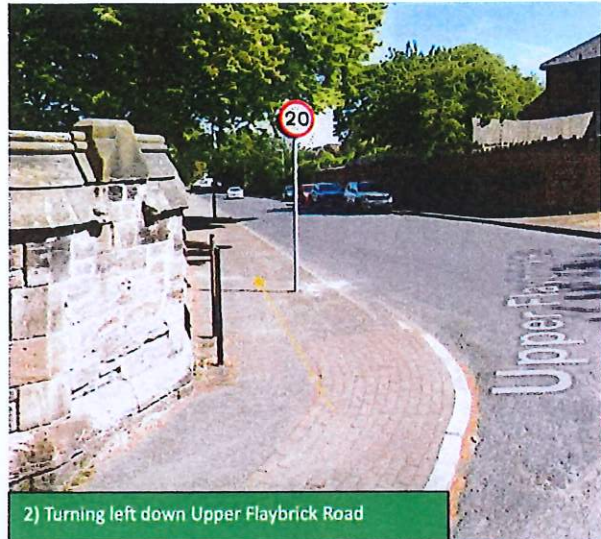
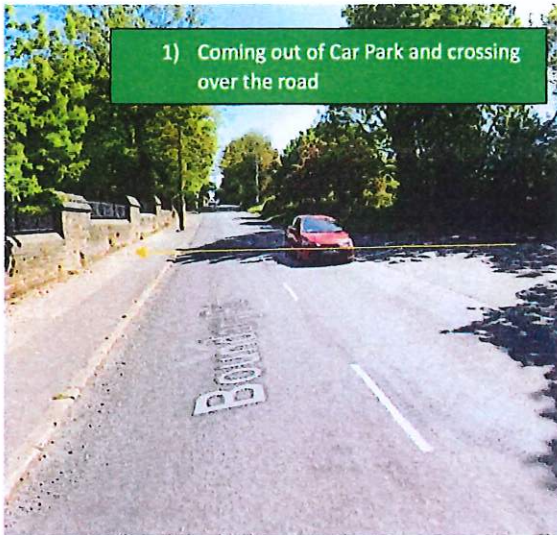
### What else is the school doing to promote safe and sustainable travel?

Bidston Avenue Primary School has been participating in many initiatives including:

- New bike and scooter storage being fitted within our school grounds.
- Upcoming Bikeability and Learn to Ride bike training for Y5
- The Wirral Council Road Safety officer is attending parents evening to discuss active travel benefits.
- Living Streets' national 'Walk Once Weekly' (or WOW) campaign where pupils can win a badge each month for walking, scooting, or cycling to school regularly.
- Upcoming School Route Audit with Living Streets, a UK based charity that works to create safer, cleaner walking routes.
- Achieving Modeshift's Gold accreditation - a nationally recognised award for commitment to active, sustainable travel.

### Park and Stride location






We hope as many families as possible will get involved and support this important event. Thank you for helping us promote healthier lifestyles and a safer environment around our school.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,



**S.G. Brady**  
Headteacher

