

2024

Pumpkin Patch Nursery Travel Plan

Travel SMART for staff and families

21 St Botolphs Road, Worthing

Worthing

Pumpkin Patch

Nursery & Forest School

pumpkinpatchnursery.com

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Introduction
Pumpkin Patch Nursery, Worthing currently has a total of 90 children attending. We have submitted a planning application to increase capacity to a total of 120 spaces. To facilitate the increase in numbers but also in support of our ongoing commitment to Green Travel we have produced this document which sets out our aims, initiatives and benefits of our plans to educate and support improvements in how our customers and staff travel to and from our nursery. This is part of a wider initiative set out by the government in the white paper, 'A New Deal for Transport: Better for Everyone.'

Travel plans are also affected by policy on improving health and education and combating social exclusion. They contribute to the local agenda strategies which will implement the Government's commitment to sustainable development in every community. Better for children Better for everyone

Nursery Location
Pumpkin Patch Nursery is located in a residential area which also has a large variety of care homes and other local businesses. Pumpkin Patch Nursery provides daytime nursery facilities for babies, toddlers and pre-school age children. The Nursery setting is a detached Victorian villa with a large garden. As the property sits on a corner plot there are no imediate neighbours to the south and east. To the north of the property there is a block of flats with several off road parking bays and a largely unused communal garden. To the west of the property is No.2 Rugby Road, an end of terrace residential property.

The nursery is well connected by road, train and bus services. The train station and bus routes are a 5 to 10 minute walk from the nursery. Worthing town centre is approximately a mile and a half away. There is ample on road parking without parking restrictions and the nursery has some off road parking for deliveries. There is ample space to park cycles and an onsite buggy park for parents and staff.

Staffing
To support the increase in child spaces there will be in increase of six members of staff. The increase will likely lead to an additional 3 cars parking on the local roads based on the travel behavior of our existing staff.

Our aim
- Reduce our carbon impact through cutting the amount we travel, using cars more efficiently and switching to public transport, walking and cycling.
- Reduce traffic and congestion on the surrounding roads.

Benefits
We realise the benefits to parents, children and staff in encouraging alternate travel to and from the nursery.
- Increased safety for children and families entering and exiting the building.
- Improved Health and Fitness

Objectives
- To make alternate forms of travel to and from nursery more accessible to the nurseries families and staff.
- To achieve the minimum number of additional single occupancy car traffic movements to and from the Nursery
- To improve the safety of the children, families and staff on their journey to and from the nursery. encouraging more active travel with gains for health

Monitoring and Evaluation
We will undertake a review of our Travel Plan in 12 months time

Sustainable Travel Initiatives

Arris Shananhan
Travel plan co-ordinator

Arris has extensive knowledge of travel planning and has operated a successful Green Travel Plan at our nurseries in Brighton and Hove. We carry out annual audits on travel and have taken part in 'walking weeks' as well as promoting scooter/bike/walk safety through role play with the children and visits from the Police. These have proven to be very successful. We will carry out the same audits and promoting walking/other ways to travel to/from nursery at the Worthing nursery.

Park and stride has proven to be popular at the other nurseries and has reduced congestion and promoted a healthy lifestyle by adding in 10/20mins of exercise daily.

Due to the nature of our nursery the large majority of families walk to/from the setting as the majority choose a nursery closer to home so that their children make friends locally and do not have to take part in any onward commute. We are also well placed for parents to then use the train to commute on to work destinations or walk/bus into Worthing for more local employment.

A Road Safety Play Box has been ordered as part of our garden redevelopment project.
Basic road safety skills need to be introduced to pre–school children as early as possible to help their development as small children have very little road safety knowledge until they attend primary school. Research has shown that a child's brain goes through a tremendous acceleration of development from an early age and they respond quickly to learning and this happens through practical interactive play.

Arris Shanahan
Travel plan co-ordinator
worthing@pumpkinpatchnursery.com

Initiatives for Staff

Cycling
Secure cycle parking is available at the Nursery.

Car Sharing
Car sharing - also known as lift-sharing, carpooling or ride-sharing - is when two or more people arrange to share a car journey. We will be promoting car sharing to cut back on car use, save staff money and help to cut congestion and pollution. This will be supported by a notice board in our staff room to help employees to find colleagues looking to share journeys. We will also include information on websites such as liftshare (https://liftshare.com/uk). This will be further promoted through staff newsletters and emails.

Public Transport
As part of our recruitment process, we advertise that our nursery has excellent public transport links. As part of induction of new staff including students, we ensure all staff know how to access public transport and where their nearest bus and train stations are.

Initiatives for Parents

Storage
Providing safe and easily accessible storage for buggies has been highly appreciated by parents who use the buggy storage daily. The new cycle storage will also provide a further incentive for parents to cycle to nursery.

Education
Pumpkin Patch regularly promotes green travel in our newsletters and through our displays. Our most recent initiative is our 'Think Local' project which encourages families to shop locally and use local amenities.
The children have visited local businesses and then promoted this on our nursery notice boards. The children regularly walk to local places of interest such as Worthing library. As part of local walks nursery nurses promote pedestrian training with the children to maximise safety whilst walking. This education will also be passed on to parents via newsletters.
The nursery also participates in additional events such as the Living Streets Walk to School Week. This is promoted through newsletters to parents (please see attached letter to parents). Green travel information will also be on the parent's notice board in the entry of the nursery.

Alternatives to car travel

Train
West Worthing Station is 6 minute walk from Pumpkin Patch Nursery. More information about train timetables and routes is available on: www.nationalrail.co.uk

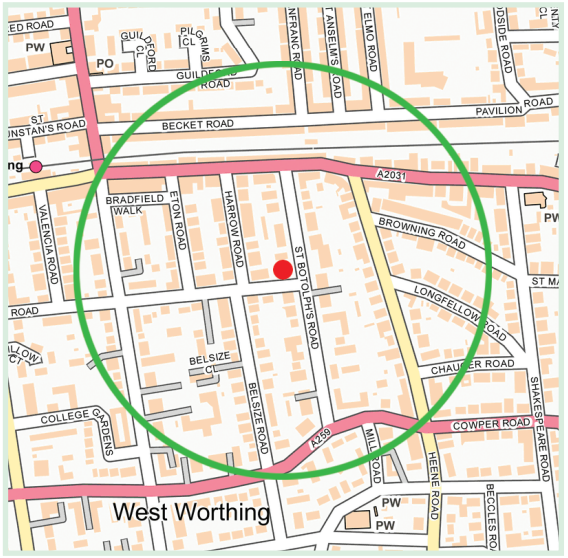
Walking
Why not consider walking to and from the nursery with your children. It is a great way to stay fit and healthy. The nursery has a buggy store where you can safely store your buggy until you return to collect them.

Bicycle
If you have a bicycle with a child seat you may like to use this mode of transport to bring your child/ren to nursery. You can leave your bike in our bike/buggy store ensuring it is kept safe until you return and maybe make the rest of your journey using public transport.
Keep fit and reduce the amount of cars on our roads using the environmentally friendly travel alternative.

Bus
There are a number of buses that stop within 3 minutes walk of the nursery that offer frequent services making it easy to make all or part of your journey using public transport.

More details about the bus routes and timetables can be found on www.bustimes.org

Park & Stride initiative



Park ourtside the green circle and walk the last 5 minutes to nursery



Action Plan

Area	Objective	Action	Frequency	Action by	Review
Commuting	Identify current modes of travel for comparison with targets and baselines to assist in further informing and developing the Travel Plan	Travel survey of both staff and families	Bi-annually	Travel Plan Coordinator	12/24 Train strike disruptions have been resolved leaving a more reliable train service
	Identify staff and family routes to nursery	Map and analyse current routes travelled by commuters/ families and cross reference with local travel services	Bi-annually	Travel Plan Coordinator	
Marketing and Communication	Increase awareness of the travel plan	Use of social media, events, inductions and regular communications to staff and families to raise awareness	Ongoing	Travel Plan Coordinator	12/24 Liaise calaborate with local schools ahead of May Walk to School Week
Increasing numbers of people walking to Nursery	Introduce and monitor a range of initiatives to encourage people to walk	Participate in Walk to Work weeks. Through education encourage walking for health benefits	Annually Ongoing	Travel Plan Coordinator	12/24 Promote the May Walk to School Week to include parents and staff
Increase numbers of staff and families cycling to nursery	Introduce and monitor a range of initiatives to encourage people to cycle	National Bike Week in June each year with Cycle to Work day in August Increase and improve cycle parking at the nursery Staff loan bike scheme- providing interest free loans to staff to purchase bikes	Annually Ongoing Ongoing	Travel Plan Coordinator	12/24 High uptake in summer months. Bike loan Scheme part of induction programme for new staff (HR to monitor)
Increase the number of people car sharing to the nursery	Continue to increase the number of staff signed up to the Liftshare system	Offer flexible staffing shifts to allow staff to share journeys Highlight staff who make similar travel journeys	Ongoing Ongoing	Travel Plan Coordinator	12/24 Include information in HR onboarding package, Managers to include in the 6 Weeks In induction review
Business Travel	Reduce the carbon footprint generated from business activities	Encourage staff to drive lower emission vehicles	Ongoing	Travel Plan Coordinator	12/24 70 % of suppliers are now using electric vehicles
Car Parking	Reduce car parking in local area/ reduce inconsiderate parking	Education to parents through social media/ newsletters about car parking Staff policy on car parking. Managers monitoring parking at busy times	Ongoing Ongoing	Travel Plan Coordinator	12/24 Regular reminders to staff and parents to park considerately. Completion of nursery refurb (Feb 25) will free up parking spaces

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Dear Parents and Carers,

National Walk to School Week
20-24 May 2025

We are delighted to tell you that we are taking part in Living Streets' Walk to School week from 19th-23th May.
Children can come to school on bicycles, scooters, or any other mode of transport as long as you try to leave your car at home. For longer journeys to nursery we realise this may not be possible. If you really cannot come without the car, then perhaps you could park a little further away and walk the last bit or car share with another family. Perhaps a bus journey could be cut short one or two stops early!
This will be a fun week and we will be giving the children local walk observation sheets to fill in on their walk to school.

We will also use this opportunity to talk about the importance of healthy eating and exercise and we will give all that participate a bean to grow at home at the end of the week.

Let's hope the sun shines!

Yours sincerely,

Denise, Emma and Arris
Senior Management Team
Pumpkin Patch Worthing



Pumpkin Patch Travel Plan - Family Survey

Q1: How do you usually travel to nursery?

Walk	Cycle	Public Bus	School Bus	Car	Car share (with children from a different household)	Train	Taxi	Other

Q2: What do you like and dislike about the way that you travel to nursery?

Q3: How would you improve the journey to nursery?

Q4: What do you think would encourage more parents and children to walk, cycle or use the bus or train?

Q5: Would you be interested in using a walking bus / park and stride scheme / car-sharing?

Yes ☐ **No** ☐ **Possibly** ☐

Q6: Would you be willing to help run such a scheme? (See also Q8.)

Yes ☐ **No** ☐ **Possibly** ☐

Q7: Would you consider becoming involved in developing our Nursery Travel Plan, for example as a member of a working group?

Yes ☐ **No** ☐ **Possibly** ☐

Q8: If so, please provide your contact details.

THANK YOU. Please add any other comments overleaf.

Car Pooling

a great way to share dropping off and picking up the children

If you are interested in car pooling put your name down below, filling in the days and times you children are dropped off and collected from Pumpkin Patch.
Denise and Careolyn will put you in contact with like minded parents who have also registered and have children that attend the same sessions & days as yours do.

Your Name	Days	Times