



From mountain to sea



## Midmill School

### Travel to school guide

Midmill Primary School has a school roll of 167, this is broken down into 28 in the nursery and 139 in primary school.

When arriving at the school, we have several access points you can use. Please do avoid coming into the playground and drop your children off at the front playground for them to walk round. We do not have a great deal of room on the pavements either so please try and limit your stay as much as possible to allow other children to get through. Thank you



#### What is a Travel to school guide?

Our travel plan was created by Midmill School with the Parent Council group to help provide information to families about travelling to school. This document encourages people to travel to our school in a sustainable, active and safe way.

Walking, Cycling/ Scooting are classed as sustainable and active modes of transport because they are **environmentally friendly** ways to travel, they improve **air quality** around the school and allow you to get exercise while you travel. These modes of transport should be considered first.

However, we understand that we live in a rural area and the car plays an important role in how we travel. 'Park and Stride' is encouraged – this is where you park away from the school grounds.

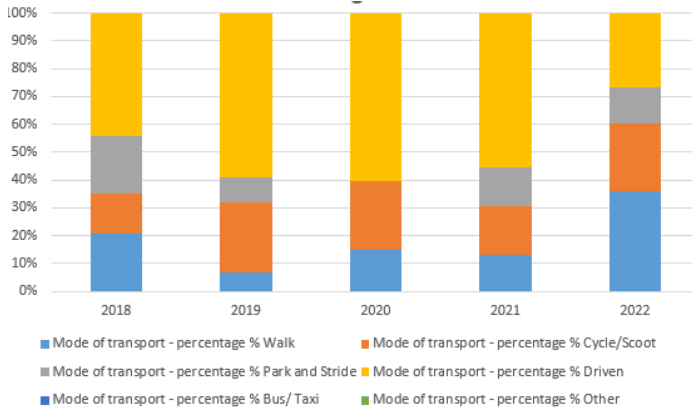
Walking, cycling or 'Park and Stride' will help **reduce congestion** making the school a **safer environment**.

It is the responsibility of parents/ carers to read and understand the information in this plan. Anything that is not clear can be discussed with the school.

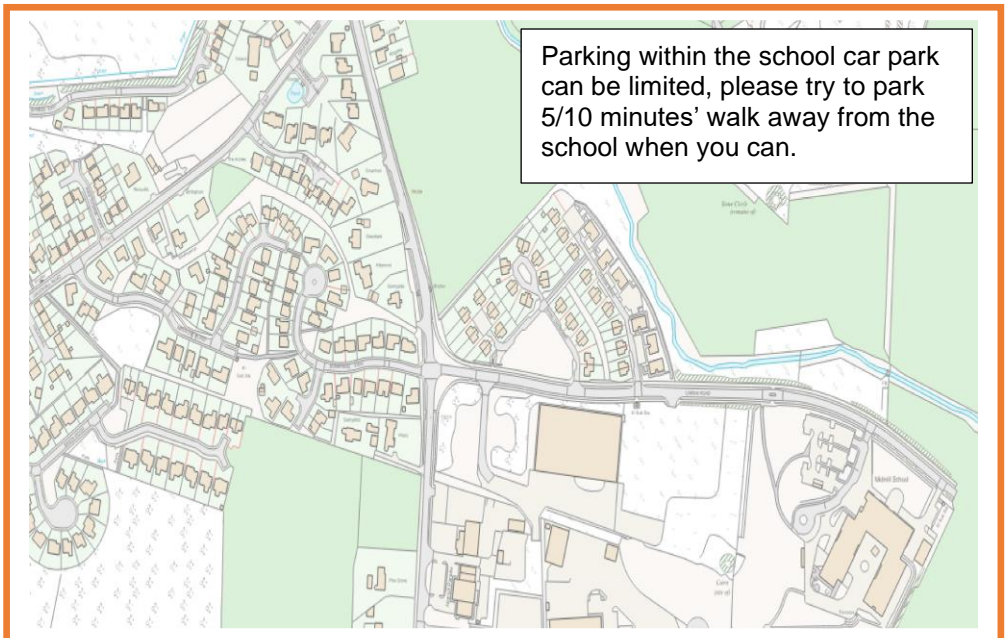


## Midmill School Travel Survey

Our annual travel survey shows consistent active travel levels with more families cycling/ scooting over the last year. Driving is the main mode of transport but with more families choosing to park and stride, which helps reduce congestion.



Action	How to achieve this	By whom
Encourage active travel/park & stride to reduce congestion	Continue to complete WOW project daily. Eligible children to complete Bikeability undertaken annually.	Everyone  P6 pupils



## An 8-point guide to walking and cycling/ scooting:

<b>1.The benefits</b>	These are great ways to travel to school by reducing congestion and allowing exercising.
<b>2. Independent travel</b>	If you feel your child is not ready to travel on their own and if you can find the time to walk or cycle with them, it will provide a great opportunity to learn essential road safety skills. The age your child can walk or cycle on their own is very much a parental decision and responsibility and will differ with each child.
<b>3.Plan your route</b>	Kintore is large with many paths and possible routes to school. There are many crossing points but also busy roads. Some paths are great during the day but may not be lit at night. It's a good idea to plan a route from home to school and talk about the safest way to travel.
<b>4.Safe places to cross</b>	Think about the best place to cross the road. There are some formal crossings in Kintore but there may also be roads you will need to cross that don't have crossings. Crossing the roads should be done somewhere with good visibility and away from parked cars. Teach your child how to identify a safe place to cross. Remind them of the Green Cross Code. Please note younger children may not be able to judge speed and distance of an approaching car in the same way an adult can, so making the right decisions can be tricky for them but practicing this skill with them from a young age can help
<b>5.Road position</b>	If cycling on the roads, remind your children the correct side of the road to cycle on and what do to if a car is approaching.
<b>6.Sharing the space</b>	If you are cycling or scooting in an area where there are pedestrians, make sure your children know how to share the space, slow down, use bells to warn pedestrians they are approaching.
<b>7.Keeping Safe</b>	Helmets, bike lights and reflective clothing are important.
<b>8. Bike Storage</b>	Storage for bikes/ scooters is available at school, but the school will not be held responsible for any loss or damage.



**Cars can lead to the biggest danger to children travelling to school, therefore come with the most responsibility. If the car plays an essential part of your journey, you can help by remembering the 4 Ps:**

<p><b>1. Planning</b></p>	<p>Give yourself enough time to make the journey and park responsibly around the school.</p>
<p><b>2. Park responsibly</b></p>	<p>There is a large car park on the school grounds, where possible, please use this area to park. If full, please park responsibly taking into consideration access to the school grounds. Think – can an emergency vehicle access this street if I leave my car there?</p>
<p><b>3. Park and Stride</b></p>	<p>To park responsibly you may have to park further away from the school than you first thought, make sure you have enough time to then walk the remaining part. Even better plan to ‘park and stride’ which means parking 5/10 minutes away from the school. This means your car will not add to the congestion and take up limited parking.</p>
<p><b>4. Poor air quality</b></p>	<p>While waiting in your car, please switch off your car engine. This helps keeps the air clean. Poor air quality around the school, even in rural areas can be found. Poor air quality can affect young people’s lungs and lead to many health issues. Please do not contribute to poor air by leaving your engine running.</p>

Thank you for reading this plan and please travel safely.



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