
Issue 17 – July 2026

Schools Active Travel Newsletter

☀️ **End of Year End edition** ☀️

As we reach the end of another busy school year, we'd like to share a few final updates, reminders and messages before everyone heads off for a well-deserved summer break.

We would be grateful if you could share any relevant articles from this newsletter through your own school newsletters and social media channels. Please also circulate this information to your staff so they can stay informed about the latest active travel news and opportunities.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm throughout the year. It's been fantastic to see so many schools championing active and sustainable travel initiatives. Together, we've helped thousands of young people travel more actively, safely and sustainably this year.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer break. Hopefully you will all have time to relax and enjoy some quality time with friends and family and fingers crossed the sunshine continues to make an appearance. 😎 ☀️

As always, if you would like any further information or support, please contact the team at sustainabletravelplanning@shropshire.gov.uk

Best wishes
Ben, Andrea and Vicky

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For more information on anything you have seen in the newsletter or if you would like to speak to us, please email: sustainabletravelplanning@shropshire.gov.uk



Best Wishes to Our Year 6 Pupils!

As the school year draws to a close, we would like to wish all Year 6 pupils the very best as they finish primary school and prepare for their exciting move to secondary school this September.

We hope you enjoy celebrating this important milestone with friends and teachers, whether you're attending a **prom, disco, school trip, leavers' assembly, or school play**. It's a time to reflect on your achievements and look forward to the next chapter.



Getting Ready for Secondary School travelling independently

Starting secondary school often means travelling more independently. Don't forget that to help pupils prepare, we have a **Road Safety Education video designed specifically for Year 6 students**.

The video covers:

- Safe walking and cycling habits
- Making responsible travel choices
- Behaviour and safety on school buses
- The dangers of distractions, including mobile phones, when travelling

If you have an hour to spare before the end of term, we encourage schools to share the video with pupils as part of their transition activities.



Need the Link?

If you have previously received the video link, please feel free to use it again. If you haven't yet received access, simply get in touch with us and we will be happy to send it to you, email sustainabletravelplanning@shropshire.gov.uk

**Good luck to all Year 6 pupils as you take the next step on your journey—
we wish you a safe, enjoyable, and successful start to secondary school!**



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Again we wish to say a

Huge CONGRATULATIONS to Clee Hill Community Academy School – a **First** for Shropshire



It's such a massive achievement we wanted to re-issue this article and share this fantastic news again that Clee View Community Academy school has been awarded the "Very Good" level in the Modeshift STARS Accreditation Scheme.

For Shropshire this is the highest achievement awarded so far under the programme and the school to be very proud.

Modeshift STARS is a nationally recognised accreditation scheme that supports schools in encouraging walking, cycling, scooting, and other sustainable modes of travel.

Achieving the "Very Good" level demonstrates that Clee Hill has taken meaningful action to reduce car use and increase active travel. Over the past year, they have:

- Promoted walking and cycling to school through themed events and challenges
- Provided opportunities for pupils to learn about road safety and sustainable travel
- Encouraged the use of scooters, park-and-stride, and public transport
- Worked closely with families to develop safer and healthier travel habits

This success has only been possible due to the collective effort of everyone involved. The pupils have shown great enthusiasm in taking part in activities and making environmentally friendly choices. Staff have worked hard to organise events and integrate travel awareness into the curriculum. Families have supported these changes by choosing more sustainable ways to travel to school whenever possible.

Amazingly, while they are incredibly proud of achieving "Very Good" status, they are not stopping here and will continue to build on this success, introduce new initiatives to make active travel even more appealing and keep promoting healthy lifestyles.

Ceri Little, Head Teacher said, "This is a significant achievement and reflects the hard work, enthusiasm, and commitment of our pupils, staff, and families in promoting sustainable and healthy ways to travel.

"We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has contributed to this achievement. Your efforts are helping to create a safer, healthier, and greener school community.

Let's keep up the great work and continue making a positive difference—one journey at a time!"



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Active Travel this year at a glance 🌟

As another fantastic year comes to an end, we'd like to celebrate some achievements.



Bikeability Success

Almost **3000** children across Shropshire have developed essential cycling skills our Bikeability programme.

Course	Age Range	Number of Children
 Learn to Ride	5–9 years	116
 Bikeability Level 1/2	7–11 years	2,360
 Bikeability Level 3	11+ years	427



and we estimate an additional **850** children will also take part in the programme via the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme this year.



WOW! Travel Tracker Success

We're delighted that **28 primary schools** are now actively participating in the **WOW** Travel Tracker programme. These schools are helping to create healthier lifestyles, reduce congestion and improve air quality around their school gates.



Active Travel Grants supporting schools

33 schools have benefited from our **Active Travel Grant Programme**. Helping schools invest in initiatives such as:

- ✓ Cycle and scooter storage
- ✓ Active playground equipment
- ✓ Walking and cycling promotion activities
- ✓ Road safety resources
- ✓ Sustainable travel events



Our Road Safety Education continues to grow

Keeping children safe remains a priority. We're proud to report that **93 educational establishments across Shropshire** have now engaged with our **Virtual Road Safety Education Programme**.

The online resources provide flexible, engaging learning opportunities that support schools in delivering important road safety messages throughout the year.

Thank you for helping make active travel
part of everyday school life in Shropshire



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Crowmoor Primary School Bikeability review

We always love hearing about the impact that our active travel initiatives have on pupils, and recently we received some wonderful feedback from **Crowmoor Primary School** following their Bikeability training.

The Year 6 class teacher kindly shared an article written for the school newspaper by one of their pupils, **Grace**, who captured perfectly what Bikeability is all about:



"Bikeability is a fun activity that pupils in Year 6 do. During Bikeability, you experience different challenges on bikes. It helps when you're outside and want to go for a ride on your bike. Bikeability explains different rules and how to keep safe on the road.

They make sure your bike is ready for riding on the road, and they keep you safe at all times, by using the "pass me" or "follow me" position. This helps keep you safe from getting injured or other more serious accidents. You will experience fun things and some challenging things too. They make sure you accomplish everything in Bikeability."

By Grace, Year 6, Crowmoor Primary School

Grace's comments highlight the confidence, skills and road safety awareness that Bikeability helps to develop, whilst also recognising the fun and sense of achievement that pupils experience during their training.

A huge **thank you to Grace and Crowmoor Primary School** for allowing us to share this fantastic piece of pupil feedback.

We'd Love to Hear from Your Pupils!

Do your pupils have a story to tell about any of our initiatives ie bikeability, active travel, walking, wheeling or cycling to school? Perhaps they've written an article, created artwork, or shared their thoughts in a school newsletter?

If so, we'd be delighted to feature their work in a future edition of our **Active Travel Newsletter**.

 Please send submissions to: sustainabletravelplanning@shropshire.gov.uk

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Start planning now for Cycle to School week 5th–9th October 2026

It's never too early to get your school ready for Cycle to School Week 2026, taking place from 5-9 October 2026. This national campaign shines a spotlight on the benefits of cycling to school and encourages families to swop 4 wheels for 2.

Cycling offers a practical and accessible alternative that supports both household budgets and healthier routines for children.

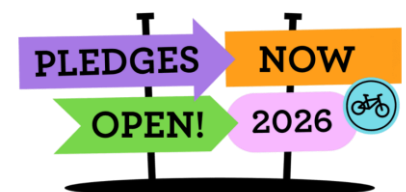
Cycle to School week:

- Encourages more children to cycle regularly
- Builds confidence, independence and road awareness
- Reinforces skills learned through bikeability
- Supports healthy lifestyles and wellbeing
- Strengthens school engagement in active travel

Schools can take part by making pledges including encouraging families to cycle for at least one day during the event! Schools who pledge will receive access to a suite of resources and support to help get pedal ready and will be entered into a prize draw.

Why not start planning now by:

- Organising a cycle-themed assembly
- Promoting Cycle to School Week in newsletters and on social media
- Encouraging pupils to check that their bikes are roadworthy
- Celebrating children who travel actively to school
- Linking activities to your school's active travel plans



[Click here to find out more and to make a pledge](#)

[Cycle to School Week 2026 - Bikeability](#)

Why not link some fun activities to this week and use them towards your Modeshift STARS accreditation like 'Bling your bike day' or hold a 'Bikers Breakfast'.

For more information about Modeshift STARS accreditation support, contact us on sustainabletravelplanning@shropshire.gov.uk



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Active Travel dates for your calendar

Why not take a look at the calendar and see if there's anything that your school could get involved with and don't forget it counts for Modeshift.

The links will take you to the webpages with resource packs available for some initiatives.

Calendar of events 2026/27	
Activity Name & Description	Resources
Walk on Weds <i>Introduce at any time – change the day if you wish – make it weekly or monthly – whatever works for your school.</i> 	WOW - the walk to school challenge
Brake Kids Walk - Spring 2026  <i>Every year, thousands of schoolchildren aged 4–11 take part in Brake's Kids Walk – a short, supervised walk to share important road safety messages</i>	Brake's Kids Walk Brake
Big Walk & Wheel event <i>From 21st March – 1st April 2026</i> 	Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel - Sustrans.org.uk
Modeshift STARS Deadlines 31 st March 31 st July 31 st December 	Contact the Sustainable Travel Team: sustainabletravelplanning@shropshire.gov.uk for more information.
 Walk to School Week - 18 – 22 May 2026 <i>School organises a 'Walk to School Week'</i>	Walk to School Week
Clean Air Day 2026 - 18 June 2026 	Clean Air Day Action for Clean Air
Catch the Bus Month <i>Every September</i> 	Catch the Bus Month • Bus Users
 World car free day – September 2026 <i>All around the world, towns and cities allow people to experience streets free of motor traffic!</i>	World Car Free Day

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