

## Pupil Safety and Dark Nights

Over the Covid-19 period we are encouraging children to walk, cycle or scoot to school. To support this we would like to share some important road safety messages and resources for parents to use with their children.

Winter is rapidly approaching, the clocks have gone back an hour and it is going dark before the end of the school day. National data on road traffic collisions suggests an increase by 20% in the fortnight after the time change. Sadly, some of these collisions will involve child pedestrians and cyclists. Children under-16 are one of the most vulnerable groups of road users.

The latest available government statistics (2015)\* show that 58% of children who die or are seriously injured in a road collision are involved in incidents between 3 and 7pm and many accidents happen in darkness.

Whilst younger children are at risk, the data shows that 11 - 15 year olds are actually at most risk from accidents that kill or result in serious injury. This is often related to their greater independence and freedom to make their own way to and from school.

At all Trust schools, we encourage parents and children to walk, cycle or scoot to school, particularly during Covid-19. To support this we have collated a set of useful resources

The resources below will help remind children, especially teenagers, about road safety and safe cycling.

Teaching Road Safety: A Guide for Parents <https://www.rosipa.com/media/documents/road-safety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>

Safety First – Cycling at Night <https://www.cycletraining.co.uk/cycle-training-and-cycle-safety/safety-first-cycling-at-night/>

Teaching road safety: guide for educators <https://www.brake.org.uk/assets/docs/Teachroadsafetyguide-Sept14.pdf>

Road safety teaching resources for children <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>

Be Bright, Be Seen Poster [https://6282.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/Be\\_Bright\\_Be\\_Seen-A5-Flyer.pdf](https://6282.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/Be_Bright_Be_Seen-A5-Flyer.pdf)

Keeping children safe during lockdown and beyond - Parents' pack <https://www.capt.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=44e36e43-bd5e-4dd0-acae-e040f37fe2ef>

\*Facts on Child Casualties (June 2015) [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/442236/child-casualties-2013-data.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/442236/child-casualties-2013-data.pdf)

**Keep safe and be seen!**

**The Trust Team**