



Walking Zone Maps

How to get the best out of yours



What is a Walking Zone Map?

This is a map centred on your school showing Walking Zones for 5, 10 and 15 minute walking distances from your school gate(s).

Why do I need one?

This map can be used as a visual nudge to parents/carers showing them how close they may live to school and how little time it may take to walk. Families who live within these walking zones can be encouraged to walk or cycle to and from school, while those with longer journeys who choose to drive can be encouraged to park safely outside the inner zone and to walk the last five minutes of their journey. Walking is a great way to improve the general health of the whole family and will reduce traffic and congestion around the school gate, improving the local environment for the whole community.

Park & Stride schemes

Many parents say they drive to school because they need their car to travel on somewhere else. These maps can be used to show families that it can often be quicker and easier, and indeed less stressful, to leave the car at home while they do the school run. They can also get some exercise at the same time.

For those that have to drive, the map can be a useful guide as to where to park and then stride to school, encouraging parents to leave their car further away from the school entrance thereby making it safer and more pleasant for families to access the school.

Making your map right for your school – customising your map

We can provide you with a 'draft' copy of a map for your school (see example above) – in pdf format as well as large printed draft copies. You will then need to involve the whole school community - pupils, parents/carers and staff - in checking and personalising the map, using their local knowledge. This project could be a great opportunity to cover several curriculum areas, including, literacy, numeracy, PSHE, art and ICT. Offering the chance for pupils to explore their local environment, and to collect and record information.

You should use the large draft copies of the map at events such as parents evenings and summer fairs, as well as putting it up in the staff room, or you can have it in the playground before/after school to gather information. You can also ask pupils to update the map by passing the maps around the classrooms. The large draft copies can be written on, but please make the writing clear, and try not to make the map too cluttered so it is easy to read.

Here are some suggestions of things to check/add on the large draft copy:

- check the walking distances are correct
- quieter or favourite routes





Walking Zone Maps

How to get the best out of yours



- safe crossing points – zebra/toucan crossing, pedestrian refuges/islands, subways, footbridges, School Crossing Patrols ('lollipop person')
- short cuts/ cut throughs, twittens etc
- steps, very steep hills or other barriers to people with pushchairs or mobility issues
- play parks and open spaces
- bus stops
- safe places to visit, such as, libraries, community centre, or local shops
- places to park away from the school entrance that could be used for a Park & Stride scheme

Once the maps have been corrected/added to, as detailed above, you will need to send them to the School Travel Team. We can then transfer update the initial draft version of the map, and provide you with a final electronic version.

Publicising your Walking Zone Map

The final electronic version of the map can be promoted and used in a number of ways, for example:

- put the map on your website – putting a link in newsletters on a regular basis to remind parents
- print hard copies (preferably A3) to include in induction packs for new starters – in particular for new reception and nursery families
- display around the school - in the reception area, at parent events or laminated outside in the playground.

Please note: if you can provide details of how you will use and promote this map, how it will be kept up to date and timescales for when this will happen the School Travel Team will be able to provide your school with 2 A1/A0 colour copies of your final map.

Induction packs

These maps are a useful resource to include in parent induction packs to encourage good travel behaviour by new parents from day one, which is easier than trying to address poor driver behaviour outside the school gate later on.

Setting up a Five Minute Walking Zone

Get pupils to design a 5 minute Walking Zone sign. Organise a trip to 'ground truth' the 5 minute Walking Zone on the map and redraw it, if necessary. Also identify lamp posts around the school at the 5 minute point where the signs could be displayed. More detailed information about how to set up an effective Walking Zone, how to get updated copies of your map and walking zone signs printed can be obtained from the School Travel Team.

Contact School Travel on (01273) 292357 or email road.safety@brighton-hove.gov.uk.