



Sacks Morasha JPS - Independent Travel Policy 2021

This policy is devised for the general health and safety of children.

This Policy is for parents of children who wish them to walk, cycle or travel by bus to and/or from school unescorted by an adult. It does not cover walking home unescorted after school clubs, school events, and the like, as we would expect the child to be collected on these occasions.

The following guidelines must be adhered to;

- It is recommended that this policy should only apply to children in Year 6. The school would advise that the children should only be travelling independently in the final couple of weeks of the school year. However individual cases will be discussed with parents and depends on the maturity of the child in question, as well as the distance that the child will have to travel.
- It is the parents' responsibility to ensure their child arrives safely and promptly to school each morning. The school will call a parent if their child is ever late for school, and would expect that a child who is late more than once should not be given the privilege of independent travel until they can be trusted to arrive on time.
- As the responsible body receiving children from home at the start of the day, the school will ensure that morning registrations are taken in each class. If a child is found to be absent and no prior notice of such absence has been received from the child's parent, the school recognises a clear responsibility to contact the parent to ascertain the reason for absence or highlight that a child has not attended morning registration.
- If upon contact it is confirmed that a child has left home with the intention of walking/cycling to school but has not arrived and therefore an issue of a missing child is noted, the school will contact the police immediately. The school's designated senior person for safeguarding/child protection will then be immediately informed and safeguarding procedures for child protection/children missing procedures will be followed.
- Children must not travel independently to any school event outside of school hours nor are they permitted to travel home independently after a school club.

- It is the parent's responsibility to check the route that their children may travel to/from school/home on, in order that they may make an assessment of the appropriateness of the journey. Crossing of fast roads and walking through secluded areas is to be discouraged. Parents must also agree with their child on a single route. Children must also make their way straight home and not be in the local shops or parks.
- Parents must be certain that children have an awareness and understanding of relevant guidelines, such as The Green Cross Code and 'Stranger Danger'. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure they are sufficiently happy that their child is capable of undertaking the proposed journey safely.
- Safeguarding is paramount and parents need to ensure their child is fully aware of how to distinguish between 'Stranger Danger' and adults who can help them, and how to report any concerns to an appropriate adult.
- During winter months and/or inclement weather, children must be dressed appropriately.
- Children should preferably travel in a group and not alone.
- Children should know their home phone number (plus one other emergency contact) and either know how to use a public phone, know what else to do in an emergency, or have their own mobile phone.
- There must be someone at home to meet the child on their arrival home.
- Any child must be capable of arriving home within 30 minutes of the end of the school day. Journeys over 30 minutes are not considered appropriate for children to travel at this stage.
- Parents must register with the school that they are prepared for their children to travel to/from school by completing the confirmation section below.
- A register of children who have permission to walk/cycle home alone after the school day will be kept by the school.

Return to the school office

CONFIRMATION AND CONSENT THAT MY CHILD MAY TRAVEL TO AND FROM SCHOOL/HOME ALONE

I confirm that _____, who is in Year 6 at Sacks Morasha JPS, may travel to/from school/home alone.

I confirm that I have read and understood the **Sacks Morasha JPS - Independent Travel Policy 2021.**

In the event of an emergency please contact:

_____ (PARENT)

Contact Number(s) _____

Or _____ (Name/Relationship to child) on

_____ (phone number).

Name: _____ Date: _____

I will notify the school immediately of any changes to the emergency contact details.

I understand the school may revoke this consent if child safety is compromised.

Signed..... Date.....

PLEASE RETURN THIS PERMISSION SLIP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THANK YOU.