

St Thomas a Becket Primary School
High Street
Tilshead
SP3 4RZ

DCSF Number: 865 / 3396

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN



Version 1.0 (1st draft)

September 2026

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1. FOREWORD

1.1 Background to School Travel Plans

School travel plans were introduced in the Government's 1999 White Paper "A New Deal for Transport – Better for Everyone" as a means of tackling vehicular congestion as well as encouraging safer active travel. Funding for on-site measures was introduced in 2004 through the "Travelling to School Initiative" but was withdrawn in 2010.

School Travel Plans show how a school community intends to play its part in reducing unnecessary car travel for the school journey and promote more sustainable and healthy travel.

The School Travel Plan can set out measures:

- to reduce the number of car trips made to and from school, minimising congestion associated with "the school run".
- to promote the use of healthier and more environmentally friendly forms of transport following concerns over student health and lack of exercise.
- to improve safety during the journey to school and give children an opportunity to gain important road sense and independence.

1.2 Why we want a School Travel Plan

St Thomas a Becket Church of England Primary School is a small, rural school situated in the heart of the village of Tilshead. The school is located at the top of a narrow lane leading from the village high street, which is predominantly residential. As our school continues to grow and attract pupils from a wider geographical area, an increasing number of families travel to school by car. While parents generally make every effort to park considerately and support the school community, increased traffic at drop-off and pick-up times can lead to congestion and occasional concerns from local residents.

Our School Travel Plan aims to promote safe, sustainable and healthy travel for all members of our school community. We want to encourage children to develop independence where appropriate, improve road safety awareness, support positive relationships with our neighbours, and ensure that journeys to and from school are as safe and stress-free as possible. Through careful planning and partnership with families, staff and the local community, we hope to create a travel culture that benefits both our pupils and the village.

Aims of the School Travel Plan

- To promote safe travel to and from school for all pupils, staff and visitors.
- To encourage active travel, including walking, cycling and scooting, where it is practical and safe to do so.
- To improve pupils' awareness of road safety and help them develop lifelong safe travel habits.
- To reduce congestion on the lane and surrounding roads at school drop-off and collection times.
- To encourage considerate parking and strengthen positive relationships with local residents.

- To support pupils in becoming increasingly independent and responsible travellers as they grow older.
- To improve the health and wellbeing of pupils through increased physical activity.
- To reduce the environmental impact of journeys to school where possible.
- To regularly review travel patterns and identify opportunities for further improvement.
- To work collaboratively with parents, the local community and relevant agencies to address transport-related issues affecting the school.

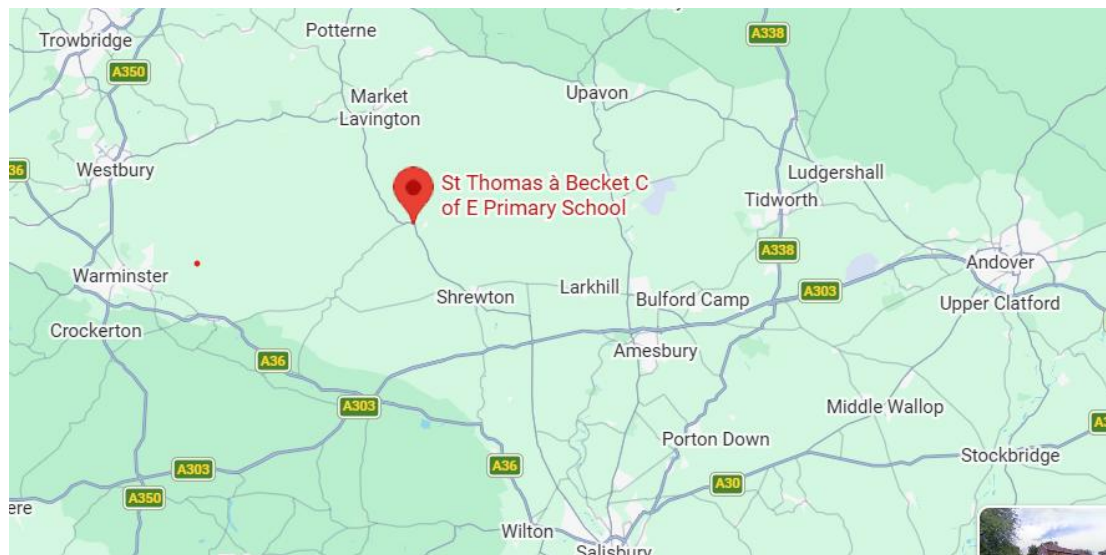
2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 School Background

St Thomas a Becket C of E (Aided) Primary School is a small, rural Church of England primary school located in the village of Tilshead, in Wiltshire, within the heart of Salisbury Plain. The school serves the village of Tilshead and the surrounding rural communities, offering a nurturing and inclusive education within a distinctive Christian ethos. The school benefits from strong links with the local parish and wider community and is committed to ensuring that children develop into confident, responsible and successful learners.

Historically, the majority of pupils have travelled from Tilshead itself and nearby villages. However, as the school has grown in popularity and pupil numbers have increased, a greater proportion of families now choose to travel from a wider catchment area, including surrounding villages and nearby towns. This has increased the number of car journeys to and from school, particularly at drop-off and pick-up times. Due to the school's position at the top of a narrow lane leading from the village high street, traffic movement and parking require careful consideration to ensure the safety of pupils, families, staff and local residents.

The school's catchment includes the village of Tilshead and surrounding rural communities within the Salisbury Plain area. In addition to catchment pupils, the school attracts families from a wider area who choose St Thomas a Becket because of its small-school environment, strong community ethos and Church of England character. As a result, pupils travel to school using a range of methods, including walking, cycling and private car transport.



St Thomas a Becket C of E (Aided) Primary School is situated in the village of Tilshead, approximately:

12 miles north-west of Amesbury

15 miles north of Salisbury

14 miles east of Warminster

The school is accessed from the village high street via a short residential lane and is centrally situated within the village community, making it accessible on foot for many local families whilst also serving pupils who travel from surrounding rural settlements.

2.2 Our School

St Thomas a Becket C of E (Aided) Primary School is a small rural primary school serving children aged 2 to 11 years. The school currently has 65 pupils on roll, including children in our nursery provision.

The school has:

- 3 pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), representing 4.6% of the school population.
- 12 pupils receiving SEN Support, representing 18.5% of the school population.

Some pupils with additional needs may require support with travel arrangements or may be less able to travel independently. This is an important consideration when promoting sustainable and active travel and when planning safe arrival and departure procedures.

The school employs 12 members of staff, including teaching, support, administrative and leadership staff.

School Opening Times

School gates open: 8:35am

School day: 8:45am to 3:15pm

Breakfast Club: 7:30am to 8:45am

After-School Club: 3:15pm to 5:30pm

The availability of wraparound care helps spread some arrivals and departures beyond the traditional peak school travel times, reducing congestion for a proportion of families.

The school has one main pedestrian entrance, located at the front of the site and accessed via the lane leading from the village high street. This entrance is used by pupils, parents, visitors and staff.

Although the majority of pupils travel to school by private car or on foot, Tilshead is served by public bus services. The village lies on the Salisbury Reds Route 2/2A/X2 corridor, which provides links between Salisbury, Shrewton, Tilshead, West Lavington and Devizes, offering a sustainable transport option for some families and staff members.

The school recognises the importance of promoting sustainable and active travel and currently provides:

Secure cycle storage for pupils and staff.

Scooter storage within the school grounds.

A designated seated waiting area where parents and carers can wait comfortably before collection times.

Opportunities for pupils to participate in road safety and cycling education throughout their time at school.

The school is committed to further developing its sustainable travel facilities as pupil numbers increase and will continue to explore additional measures that encourage walking, cycling and scooting to school wherever possible.

2.3 School Travel Plan working group

Due to the size of St Thomas a Becket C of E Primary School, establishing a large formal School Travel Plan working group would not be practical or sustainable. Instead, the school has adopted a collaborative approach that ensures all key stakeholders are represented while making best use of the school's limited capacity.

The development of this School Travel Plan has been led by the Headteacher, with input gathered from across the school community. Staff, governors, parents and pupils have all been consulted through informal discussions. This approach reflects the close-knit nature of our school, where regular communication between stakeholders enables views to be gathered efficiently and ensures that travel-related issues can be discussed and reviewed on an ongoing basis.

The school recognises that maintaining engagement from the wider community is essential to the success of the School Travel Plan. Travel and parking matters are regularly discussed through parent communication, governor meetings, pupil voice activities and day-to-day conversations with staff and residents. This flexible approach enables the School Travel Plan to remain responsive to changing circumstances as the school continues to grow.

Stakeholders consulted in the development of the School Travel Plan include:

- Headteacher - Overall coordination and leadership of the School Travel Plan.
- School Staff - Identification of travel issues, supervision arrangements and promotion of active travel initiatives.
- Governing Body Representatives - Strategic oversight and support for the plan's aims and objectives.
- Parents and Carers - Feedback on travel patterns, parking, road safety and potential improvements.
- Pupils (through pupil voice opportunities and school council discussions) - Sharing views on how they travel to school and suggestions for making journeys safer and more sustainable.
- Local Community Members and Residents - Informal feedback regarding parking, traffic and the impact of school travel on the village.

This approach ensures that the School Travel Plan is informed by the views of all key groups within the school community whilst remaining achievable and sustainable for a small rural primary school.

2.4 What we are doing already

St Thomas a Becket C of E Primary School is committed to promoting safe, healthy and sustainable travel. As a small rural school, we recognise the importance of helping pupils develop the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to travel safely, whilst encouraging active travel wherever possible.

The school already undertakes a range of activities that support the aims of this School Travel Plan:

- Road safety education is delivered through the PSHE curriculum, helping pupils understand how to stay safe as pedestrians, cyclists and passengers.
- Bikeability training is offered to Y6 pupils, enabling them to develop practical cycling skills, increase confidence and learn how to cycle safely on roads.
- Road safety themes are reinforced through assemblies, class discussions and themed events throughout the year.
- Pupils are encouraged to walk, cycle or scoot to school where this is practical and safe for families.
- The school provides cycle and scooter storage to support active travel.
- Sustainable travel and environmental responsibility are explored through the curriculum, helping pupils understand the wider health and environmental benefits of reducing car journeys.
- Staff regularly remind pupils and families about safe behaviour around the school entrance and the importance of considerate parking.
- The school maintains strong communication with parents regarding travel, safety and parking arrangements.
- Pupils are given opportunities to share their views on travel and road safety through pupil voice activities and discussions.
- The school offers Breakfast Club and After-School Club, helping to spread arrival and departure times and reduce pressure at peak periods.

As the school continues to grow, we will build on these existing strengths and seek further opportunities to promote sustainable travel, improve road safety awareness and reduce congestion around the school site.

2.7 Future developments

St Thomas a Becket C of E Primary School is currently experiencing a period of significant growth, which is expected to have an impact on travel patterns and demand around the school site.

Pupil numbers have increased substantially, rising from 40 pupils on roll in September 2025 to 65 pupils on roll in September 2026.

The school opened a nursery provision at Easter 2026, extending the age range of pupils attending the school and increasing the number of daily journeys made to and from the site.

As the school's reputation and popularity continue to grow, increasing numbers of pupils are being admitted from outside the immediate village catchment area.

The proportion of families travelling to school by car has increased as a result of this wider intake, placing additional pressure on local roads and parking at peak times. Future growth in pupil numbers may lead to further changes in travel demand and will require ongoing monitoring to ensure that access to the school remains safe and efficient.

The school will continue to review its sustainable travel provision, including opportunities to enhance facilities for walking, cycling and scooting as the school community expands.

Whilst growth presents some challenges, it also provides an opportunity for the school to strengthen its promotion of sustainable travel habits and establish positive travel behaviours with new families joining the school community.

4. CURRENT PROBLEMS

Through consultation with key stakeholders, we have identified several current transport issues/problems.

Use this section to describe any travel and transport issues/problems.

Current travel and transport issues/problems	How & when was this identified? (e.g. pupil survey – Nov 07, comment from parent – Jun 07, observation from teacher - Dec 07 etc)	Possible/suggested solutions
Occasional instances of inconsiderate parking by parents and visitors, including vehicles blocking residential driveways or restricting access for local residents.	Informal feedback from local residents; observations by school staff; discussions with parents during the 2025-26 and 2026-27 academic years.	- Regular reminders to parents about considerate parking through newsletters and communications. - Promote use of alternative parking locations where appropriate. - Encourage walking, cycling and scooting for families living locally. - Stagger arrivals and departures through continued use of Breakfast Club and After-School Club. - Maintain positive communication with local residents and respond promptly to concerns.
Increased traffic congestion on the school lane and surrounding roads at drop-off and collection times due to the growth in pupil numbers and wider catchment.	Observations by staff and parents following the increase in pupil numbers from 40 (September 2025) to 65 (September 2026).	- Continue to promote sustainable travel options. - Encourage car sharing where appropriate. - Monitor traffic patterns annually through the School Travel Plan. - Explore opportunities for additional active travel initiatives.
High reliance on private vehicles due to the school's rural location and dispersed catchment area.	Parent discussions and school knowledge of pupil travel patterns during 2026.	- Promote awareness of local walking, cycling and public transport options. - Encourage families living within the village to consider active travel. - Continue to provide and improve cycle and scooter storage facilities.
Limited road space around the school entrance, creating pressure during peak times.	Staff observations and day-to-day management of arrivals and departures.	- Reinforce safe drop-off and collection arrangements.

		- Encourage families not to arrive significantly before collection times. - Continue to utilise the parent waiting area just outside the school grounds. - Review arrangements periodically as the school grows.
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Given the size of the school and the generally positive relationship with the local community, transport-related concerns are infrequent. However, the school recognises the need to address these issues proactively as pupil numbers continue to rise and will work closely with families and residents to promote safe, considerate and sustainable travel.

5. OBJECTIVES, TARGETS & ACTION PLAN

The following objectives, targets and actions have been set using the findings from the surveys and consultation that has been undertaken to date. Targets should take into account the nature of the catchment, distances travelled and preferred mode of travel to ensure that they are realistic.

Objective 1: Promote Active and Sustainable Travel

Target: Increase the number of pupils regularly walking, cycling or scooting to school by promoting active travel opportunities and improving facilities by July 2027.

Person responsible for monitoring the objective to make sure actions are carried out: Headteacher

No.	Action	How will it be achieved?	Person responsible	Parties involved	Timescale / completion date	Funding	Evaluation / Review
1	Upgrade cycle and scooter storage facilities	Review current provision and install improved storage to accommodate increased demand	Headteacher	Governors, Site Team	Spring 2027	School budget/capital funding	Annual review of usage levels
2	Promote active travel events	Participate in Walk to School Week and similar national initiatives	Class Teachers	Pupils, Parents	Annually	Existing resources	Pupil participation monitoring
3	Encourage local families to walk, cycle or scoot	Regular reminders through newsletters and parent communications	Headteacher	Parents	Ongoing	No additional cost	Parent feedback and observations

Objective 2: Improve Road Safety Awareness**Target:** Ensure all pupils receive age-appropriate road safety education each academic year and all eligible pupils are offered Bikeability training.**Person responsible for monitoring the objective to make sure actions are carried out:** Headteacher/PSHE Lead

No.	Action	How will it be achieved?	Person responsible	Parties involved	Timescale / completion date	Funding	Evaluation / Review
6	Deliver road safety education through the curriculum	Include road safety within PSHE lessons across all year groups	Teachers	Pupils	Ongoing	Existing curriculum resources	Curriculum reviews
7	Continue Bikeability training	Deliver Bikeability annually for Y6 pupils through Wiltshire Council	Headteacher	Wiltshire Council Pupils	Annually	Bikeability funding	Participation records
8	Deliver assemblies on travel and road safety	Reinforce key messages through assemblies and themed events	Headteacher	Whole school community	Termly	No additional cost	Pupil voice and observation
9	Promote safe behaviour around arrivals and departures	Regular reminders shared with staff and parents	All staff	Whole school community	Annually	No additional cost	Ongoing monitoring

Objective 3: Reduce Congestion and Encourage Considerate Parking**Target:** Reduce parking-related concerns received from local residents and improve awareness of considerate parking by July 2027.**Person responsible for monitoring the objective to make sure actions are carried out:** Headteacher

No.	Action	How will it be achieved?	Person responsible	Parties involved	Timescale / completion date	Funding	Evaluation / Review
11	Promote considerate parking	Include regular reminders in newsletters, emails and parent communications	Headteacher	Parents	Ongoing	No additional cost	Monitor resident feedback
12	Review drop off and collection arrangements annually	Assess traffic flow and identify any emerging issues as the school grows	Headteacher	Staff, Governors	Annually	No additional cost	Annual review
13	Promote Breakfast Club and After School Club	Encourage use of wraparound care to help spread drop off and pick up times	Headteacher/Admin Officer	Parents	Ongoing	Existing provision	Monitoring attendance
14	Engage positively with local residents	Respond promptly to concerns and seek constructive solutions where necessary	Headteacher	Residents, Governors	Ongoing	No additional cost	Record and review concerns as arising

7. PROPOSALS FOR MONITORING AND REVIEW

St Thomas a Becket C of E Primary School recognises that the School Travel Plan is a working document and should be reviewed regularly to ensure that it remains relevant as the school continues to grow and travel patterns change.

A school travel survey will be undertaken annually, beginning in Summer Term 2027, to gather information about how pupils and staff travel to and from school. The survey will also provide an opportunity for parents to share feedback on travel, parking and road safety issues. Survey findings will be used to measure progress against the targets set out within this School Travel Plan and to identify any emerging concerns or opportunities for improvement.

The School Travel Plan will be formally reviewed each academic year following the completion of the travel survey. The review will assess progress against the action plans, consider any changes to pupil numbers, staffing or site arrangements, and identify any additional actions required.

Responsibility for monitoring and review:

- Headteacher to oversee the implementation, monitoring and annual review of the School Travel Plan.
- School Governors to receive updates and provide strategic oversight of travel plan objectives.
- School Staff to contribute observations regarding travel patterns, road safety and site access.
- Parents and Pupils to provide feedback through surveys and consultation activities.

The annual review will consider:

- Pupil and staff travel survey results.
- Feedback from parents, pupils, staff and local residents.
- Any travel-related incidents or concerns.
- Progress against the School Travel Plan objectives and targets.
- The effectiveness of measures introduced to promote active travel and considerate parking.
- The impact of continued school growth on journeys to and from the school.

Any findings and recommended actions will be incorporated into an updated School Travel Plan to support continuous improvement and ensure safe, sustainable travel for the whole school community.

8. OWNERSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY

St Thomas a Becket C of E Primary School is committed to ensuring that the School Travel Plan remains a sustainable and active part of school life. Although, due to the size of the school, the travel plan is not included as a specific objective within the School Development Plan, the school recognises the importance of promoting safe, sustainable and considerate travel and will continue to review travel-related issues as part of its wider operational planning.

To demonstrate ownership of the School Travel Plan, responsibility for monitoring and reviewing the plan will sit with the Headteacher, with support from governors, staff, parents and pupils through ongoing consultation. Progress against the plan's objectives and actions will be reviewed annually and updated as required to reflect changes in pupil numbers, travel patterns and local circumstances.

The School Travel Plan will be made accessible to the wider school community by:

- Publishing the School Travel Plan on the school website.
- Keeping a copy available from the school office for parents, governors, residents and other interested parties on request.
- Sharing key travel, parking and road safety messages through newsletters and parent communications.
- Reinforcing road safety and sustainable travel themes through the curriculum, assemblies and pupil discussions.
- Considering travel and parking implications when planning for future growth and development of the school.

By embedding travel awareness within everyday school life and maintaining regular communication with families and the local community, the school aims to ensure that the School Travel Plan remains a relevant and effective document that supports safe, sustainable travel for all members of the school community.

Headteacher: Chloe Stobbart

Print name: CHLOE STOBART

Date: 22/09/2026