

Sustrans School Travel Case Study
www.saferoutestoschools.org.uk
schools@sustrans.org.uk
0117 915 0100

Various Primaries and Secondaries

Title of project: Primary to Secondary Transition

Local Authority: Various in West Yorkshire

Partners: 5 West Yorkshire Authorities with local bus companies. The partnership is lead by the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (Metro)

Key Features: Curriculum Involvement, Pupil Involvement

Summary:

Year 6 pupils facing the transition to secondary school in West Yorkshire are given **support to help them** make safe and sustainable transport choices.

The **transition to secondary school is a significant time** in the lives of young people. It is a milestone which often brings a greater degree of independence. **It can also be a difficult time** causing lots of pupils to worry.

Providing pupils with the right support at this time can help **shape their decisions** preventing them from making the same poor travel choices as previous generations. It can also help to **develop confidence** and help them enjoy their greater independence safely.

Initiative:

West Yorkshire pupils attend workshops or take part in classroom activities to explore the pros and cons of different travel options and develop skills for safe and independent travel.

Workshops;

The workshops are organised through partnerships bringing together the school travel teams at the 5 West Yorkshire Authorities with local bus companies, led by the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive.

At the workshops the pupils rotate around three different **interactive activities** delivered via a range of teaching methods (E.g. through computer work, role play, worksheets and discussion).

The three different activities are:

Sustainable travel - pupils learn about the impact of transport choices on their health and the environment. It is also a chance to refresh and further develop their cycling and pedestrian skills.

Safe bus travel – pupils learn how to travel safely on buses by acting out a journey on board a real bus. The transition to secondary school often brings the first experience of travelling on public transport. **Many children don't know the basics** such as holding your arm out to indicate for the bus to stop. The workshops provide children with the practical skills to make their first experience a positive one.

Journey planning – pupils learn how to plan journeys on public transport using timetables and also an online journey planner.

The workshops take place during the summer term. In the summer 2006 workshops, **1375 pupils attended** from 38 schools.

Classroom activities;

For pupils who are unable to attend the workshops there is a **resource pack called 'Step Up'**. This enables teachers to prepare pupils for their new journeys through classroom-based activities. There are computer-based activities, worksheets, map work, and stimulus for creative work including drama and writing.



Outcomes:

The **transition to secondary school** marks the start of a new chapter in the lives of young people and **is an ideal opportunity** to encourage them to adopt new, more sustainable travel habits.

Over 80% of children said the workshops made them less nervous about travelling on a bus. 95% of school staff said they thought the children had benefited from attending the workshops.

Costs and Funding:

Funded by West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority

Problems and solutions:

n/a

Case study contact details:

West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority (WYPTA)
www.wymetro.com