

Orchard Primary School  
Nottinghamshire

March 2010

Dear Sir,

As pupils of Orchard Primary School we are writing to inform you about our concerns over children cycling and walking to school. Although the majority of pupils understand the benefit to their health, they are concerned over safety and environmental issues.

Surely it would be wise to put in walking and cycling paths to and from school, providing safety with no dangers. Nobody could expect a child to walk or cycle when they have to risk going on busy roads. Isn't it obvious that cycling paths would be an advantage?

Carrying belongings to school can be dangerous, affecting the children's balance. A special pannier could be made to fit on the handle bars of a bike, which would hold anything that the child needs to carry. This could be designed in the school colours with a logo to provide extra safety as drivers would know that they were school children.

It could be very easy to simply form a walking bus. A walking bus is where a lot of children get together at a certain time and place and then walk to school together with volunteers. Also, children would be able to walk to school with their friends without parents having to worry.

Haven't we seen enough of children trying to cross roads then getting hurt? One way to solve this would be installing more crossings. These would help because children cross to the middle and wait until it is clear. Furthermore, it would be healthy for the environment.

Finally, through cutting down the amount of pollution in the air, the trees and the beautiful landscape would be protected. The fact is everyone knows exhaust fumes are a serious danger to both cyclists and walkers. By reducing the amount of vehicles, this would help ensure their life is protected.

In conclusion, we would like to thank you for reading our ideas and hope the government will consider them in order to increase the fitness of all children, yet also ensure a better environment for all.

Yours faithfully,

*Joshua Newby*