



Queensbridge Primary School

Walking To and From School

There are no laws concerning the age or distance of children walking to and from school. A families' guide to the law states:

"There is no law prohibiting children from being out on their own at any age. It is a matter of judgement for parents to decide when children can play out on their own, walk to the shops or school."

Parents are legally obliged to ensure their children get to school and attend regularly. As a school, we are responsible for the welfare of our pupils and therefore have to consider what we believe is good practice in ensuring the safety of our pupils. We also have an obligation to alert the relevant authorities should we believe a child's welfare is at risk.

Pupils in Nursery, Reception Key Stage One, Year 3 and Year 4

Our agreed school policy is that no pupil in these year groups should walk to or from school on their own, or be left on their own on the school premises either before or after school.

Pupils are to be accompanied and collected by parents or a named adult, provided they are 16 years old or above. Pupils will not be handed over to other adults unless the school has been informed by the parent that they have made this arrangement. Parents are requested to keep the school informed of any changes in arrangements.

Pupils need to be dropped off and collected from the classroom door. At the end of the school day (3:15pm), parents should wait on the playground, away from the classroom door, and wait for their child to be dismissed.

If no one turns up to collect a child, they will be kept in school and parents and named contacts will be telephoned. We will not allow older brothers or sisters in school to collect younger siblings.

Pupils in Year 5 and Year 6

Pupils in Year 5 and 6 may walk to and from school unaccompanied by an adult. Parents of children who wish their children to walk unescorted by an adult must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Children must be in Year 5 or 6.
- Children should arrive at school between 8:45 am and 8:55 am and no earlier than 8:40am (unless they have a morning tutoring session)
- It is the parent's responsibility to check the route that their children may walk in order that they may make an assessment of the appropriateness of the journey. Crossing of fast roads, walking through secluded areas is to be discouraged. A single route must be agreed.
- Parents must be certain that children have an awareness and understanding of the green cross code and stranger danger. It is parent's responsibility to ensure they are sufficiently happy that their child is capable of undertaking the proposed journey safely.
- During winter months and/or inclement weather, children must be dressed appropriately.

- Children should preferably walk in a group and not alone.
- There must be someone at home to meet the child on their arrival.
- 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 walk at this stage.
- If any child is going to be late in the morning (after 8:55am), school must be notified. We have a duty of care to safeguard all of our pupils. We will contact parents once the registers have closed (from 9:15am) if your child has not arrived in school.
- If any child does not arrive home within the agreed time frame, parents must immediately notify the school in order that appropriate action can be taken, which may include contacting the emergency services.
- If a child in Year 5 or Year 6 is attending an after school club, parents will have to provide additional permission for them to walk after the club.

Parents should inform the school if they wish their child to walk home by completing the attached form. Pupils will be prevented from walking to and from school unless this permission is received in writing.

Pupils must be responsible for their behaviour at all times; this includes before and after school. Should pupils' behaviour not be acceptable parents will be asked to be accompany their child until the child has proved they can be trusted again.

Cycling and Scooting to School

At Queensbridge, we encourage our pupils to lead healthy lifestyles, this may include walking, cycling or scooting to school.

We ask that all children and adults dismount bikes and scooters at the school gate and push them when on school property. This is to safeguard all of our school community. We do not have any facilities to store bikes and scooters during the school day.

Queensbridge Primary School and Nursery



Headteacher :
Mrs L Chapman

Deputy Headteacher:
Mrs G Owens

SENDco:
Miss S Gollop

St. Germain Street
Farnworth
Bolton
BL4 7BL

Tel: 01204 332577
email: office@queensbridge.bolton.sch.uk

Permission to walk to and/or from school alone

Child's name _____ **Year group** _____

Please tick as appropriate:

The route to school is within safe walking distance **yes/ no**

I consider the route to school to be a safe route **yes/ no**

My child is aware of the potential dangers regarding roads/ traffic and how to avoid dangers and stay safe **yes/ no**

My child understands and follows the green cross code **yes/ no**

My child understands stranger danger **yes/ no**

My child knows what to do if they need help **yes/ no**

My child will have a mobile phone **yes/ no**

They will have my number, the school number and an emergency contact on their phone **yes/ no**

When walking home – my child will go straight home **yes/ no**

When walking home, a responsible person will be at home to supervise them **yes/ no**

Please tick relevant boxes

- I have read and understood this policy on safeguarding my child walking to school.
- I have read and understood this policy on safeguarding my child walking home from school alone.
- I fully understand that it is my responsibility to ensure my child gets to and from school safely including getting to school on time. If circumstances change then I will communicate this with school.

Signed _____ Date _____