

The Knights Templar School

Headteacher:
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Safe Travel Routes

The start of a new school year provides an opportunity for us to revisit safe travel routes and road safety with our students.

At The Knights Templar School, students travel from across North Hertfordshire and arrive in a variety of ways, including by bus, bicycle, scooter, on foot, and by car. During my first assembly last week, I spoke to students about road safety, the importance of using our designated crossing points, and safe travel practices. We will continue to reinforce these messages next week through form-time activities and discussions.

As parents and carers, I would encourage you to take this opportunity to speak with your child about their journey to and from school and the importance of travelling safely. Baldock's roads are often narrow and highly congested, particularly at the beginning and end of the school day. This can create additional risks for both pedestrians and cyclists.

Please support us by reinforcing the following key messages:

- Students travelling from Letchworth should avoid walking or cycling along Baldock Road. Safer routes are available through Letchworth Business Park and should be used wherever possible.
- Parents dropping students off should do so safely and in accordance with the Highway Code. Please do not stop on the highway to let students out of vehicles, particularly in areas of heavy traffic. Similarly, please do not park or wait on double yellow lines, as this can obstruct the road, reduce visibility for other road users, and narrow pavements for pedestrians. The school sports centre car park is not an appropriate area to use for drop-off and pick-up, particularly at peak times when congestion is significant. Wherever possible, students could be dropped off at other locations such as; in Baldock town centre, Hopewell Road or further along Weston Way and complete the final part of their journey on foot.

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- Students cycling to school should always wear a helmet and ensure their bicycles are roadworthy and equipped with appropriate lights when required.

We will continue to raise traffic and road safety concerns with the Highways Authority and the local authority. In addition, we will continue to staff our bus turning circle, school entrances and exits, and the surrounding area at the start and end of the school day to help ensure the safety of all members of our community.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep our students safe.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Hutchings'.

Edward Hutchings

Headteacher