



# Navenby Church of England Primary School

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## PUPILS WALKING TO AND FROM SCHOOL UNACCOMPANIED

### School Guidelines for Parents / Carers and pupils 2025 - 2026

Dear Parent / Carer,

This letter is to outline our expectations when parents want their child(ren) to walk to and from school unaccompanied. There is currently no legal minimum age for a child to walk to and from school by themselves, and it is for you to decide whether your child is mature enough to walk alone safely.

When deciding whether your child is allowed to walk to and from school alone, you may wish to consider the following:

- The route your child will take – busy and secluded roads should be avoided where possible
- Whether your child will go home directly – make clear to them if they have permission to go to local shops etc.
- Whether they will be walking alone or with friends – walking in groups is more secure
- The distance they will be walking – long distances should be avoided if possible
- The weather conditions – will you allow your child to walk in snow/ice or in the winter months when it is dark?
- Whether they are aware of 'stranger danger' and what to do if an individual approaches them?
- Once your child leaves the school site you are assuming parental responsibility for them getting home.

We recommend that you take the time to talk to your child about the risks they may face walking unattended and make sure they are comfortable doing so. You can make sure that they are comfortable and happy to walk alone by taking them on trial runs and deciding together the route to take and an alternative should the first be unavailable.

Your child's safety is always a top priority of the school, as such we have the following road safety rules in place. Please reiterate these rules to your child before allowing them to walk alone.

#### ABCs

**A – awareness:** pupils need to understand that roads can be dangerous and people can get hurt.

**B – behaviour:** pupils should know how to behave when around roads and how to follow road rules so that they're safe. If pupils act in a way which can cause them harm or damages the reputation of the school, they will be disciplined in line with the school's **Behaviour Policy**.



**C – choice:** pupils need to understand how to make safe choices when they're walking near roads, e.g. where is safe to cross.

### The 'Green Cross Code'

Our school promotes the *Green Cross Code* – we advise pupils to always do the following when crossing a road:

- Find the safest place to cross
- Stop before they get to the edge of the kerb
- Look all around for traffic and listen
- If traffic is coming, always let it past
- When it is safe, cross the road – do not run

In the case of an emergency, eg the child not getting home when the parent expects, it is important that we have a process in place to resolve this issue as quickly as possible.

The school will provide each child with a card which has their name and our school number on it. If your child is in an accident and we receive a call, we will inform you immediately. We will also ensure that the emergency services are contacted if they haven't already been. No other information such as your address will be on there due to GDPR guidelines. What we are asking you to provide us with is a detailed route (street names from home to school and diagram if possible) which you will be expecting your child to follow. The reason for this is that we can trace your child's footsteps if we need to go looking for them.

I appreciate that this may be a big step for you and your child, and so the measures above are important to have in place in case of an emergency. Hopefully, it will never come to needing to use them.

If you agree to the expectations above, please complete the permission slip attached to the end of this letter and return it to the school office. If you withdraw your permission to let your child walk to and from school alone, please let the school know as soon as possible either by contacting [enquiries@navenby.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@navenby.lincs.sch.uk) or phoning us.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr C Elliott**

**Head Teacher**



