

GREEN TRAVEL PLAN

ESHER SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

2023

Introduction

This travel plan has been prepared by Esher Sixth Form College to reduce dependency on the private car and subsequently reduce vehicular trips whilst increasing travel by sustainable travel modes.

The travel plan is for all at Esher Sixth Form College, staff, students, and visitors.

About Esher Sixth Form College

Esher Sixth Form College is an Ofsted Outstanding non-selective state funded sixth form Academy.

The Academy Trust is a private company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Academy Trust was incorporated on 20 June 2019. The Trust has five members and a maximum of 17 Trustees, who act as Trustees for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011. Their responsibility collectively is to bring independent judgement to bear on issues of strategy, performance, resources, and standards of conduct.

Esher Sixth Form College is located in Thames Ditton. The College is based on a single campus with an internal area of 11,262 m², and an external area of approximately 36,000m². The campus is in a predominantly residential area, close to Thames Ditton railway station.

Esher Sixth Form College has approximately 2,050 full-time 16-19 students and offers a wide range of A Level and BTEC courses. Students consistently achieve high results with pass rates above 99% at A Level and at 100% for BTECs. Our facilities, including but not limited to, Sports and Drama are let to local community groups at weekends and evenings. Some Adult Education counselling courses are offered to the local community at weekends and evenings.

Esher Sixth Form College has 189 members of full-time and part-time staff.

Operational information

The College is open daily throughout term time (39 weeks per year).

Teaching hours are between 8.55am and 4.15pm

Lettings generally run between 5pm and 9pm, 9am and 4pm on weekends and between 10am and 3pm during the College holidays.

There are other more infrequent events held in an evening, for example parent consultation evenings, the College Open Evening and student progression events.

During College holidays the site is typically open between 8am and 4pm. There will normally be up to 20 support staff working during these periods, teaching staff may attend on an ad-hoc basis, and contractors may be in for maintenance and building works.

Site audit

On-site infrastructure

- Car Parking – there are 239 parking spaces available on site for staff, students and visitors to the College, including five disabled spaces, 90 student spaces, and three visitor spaces.
- An audit of the available spaces carried out over a two-week period in June 2023. This showed that there are on average 32 unused spaces in the car parks daily. The pattern of usage shows that consistent availability of spaces throughout the week, morning, and afternoon, with more spaces available on Fridays.
- The College does not currently charge for use of the car park. This is to encourage students to park on site and reduce the congestion in neighbouring residential roads. Parking is a major concern for residents in the streets immediately surrounding the College during term time.
- Students park on site subject to the receipt of a parking permit, which is issued on evidence of insurance and driving licence particulars.

Cycle facilities and pedestrian access

- The College provides 200 covered cycle parking spaces for students and staff (160 in the front car park, 40 by the rear College entrance) and a further 60 open spaces for students and staff. There is a marked area near the rear entrance for motorcycles which can accommodate 10 motorcycles.
- A review of cycle parking on College premises suggests that we do not have sufficient secure cycle rack spaces at present. We have a plan to increase the provision of cycle shelters including improved security.
- Pedestrian access is via the rear entrance at Weston Green, the front entrance and exit on Weston Green Road.

Off-site infrastructure

Bus Transport

There are various bus routes that enable access to the College, sometimes with a short walk at either end.

In the past the College has attempted to provide bus services for those areas less well served by public transport. Our experience was that due to the disparate nature of student timetables, demand was not consistent and therefore it was not financially viable to continue these services.

Appendix 1 shows main destinations by bus around Thames Ditton. See also Appendix 2 for rail and bus reduced fare schemes.

Train Services

Thames Ditton Station is a five-minute walk from the College. Train services are run by South West Trains operating as a normal public service for fare paying passengers. The line runs from Hampton Court to London Waterloo with two trains per hour in each direction.

Students travelling to the College from Surrey can take advantage of the Surrey Fare Card Scheme run by Surrey County Council. The Scheme permits students to travel to and from College at the applicable child fare. See Appendix 2 (A) for further information and Appendix 2 (B) for information on the student Oyster card.

Cycle Network

Surrey County Council promotes cycling as your mode of transport, and although there are cycle lanes near the College, they are intermittent. Some of the local roads are in need of repair, the council is aware of this and is working to improve the roads. For local cycle routes please see Appendix 3.

Travel to work / study survey

A travel survey among both staff and students was carried out in June 2023. The survey was conducted electronically, using an online survey tool. Of 189 staff members, there were 133 responses – a 70% response rate. Of the respondents 72 (54%) were full time and 61 (46%) were part time.

745 students responded to the survey out of a possible 2,000, an overall response rate of 37%.

Staff travel patterns

Overall, the mode of travel to work amongst staff was as follows:

Walk	4%
Cycle	11%
Public transport	11%
Drive	73%
Other	1%

There are differences in the method of travel depending on how close to the College staff live. 19% (25) of respondents live less than two miles from College. Among this group, 16% cycle, 16% walk and 68% drive.

26% of respondents live between two and five miles from the College. Of this group 23% cycle, 63% drive, 11% travel by public transport and 3% walk.

23% of respondents live between five and 10 miles from College. Of this group 7% cycle, 77% drive, 16% travel by public transport.

Of the remaining 32% who live more than 10 miles from College 3% cycle, 78% drive and 19% take public transport.

Of the staff whose main mode of travel is by car, approximately 5% car share. The main influences mentioned for car drivers are that it's due to child care, it's convenient, quicker, cheaper, due to health issues, often there is no easy route via public transport and they have heavy marking to carry home.

The biggest influence on those who walk or cycle was the convenience, the low cost and the health benefits.

The survey asked about journey times to work. Most staff (50%) have a journey time of less than 30 minutes, 17% have a journey time of 30 – 40 minutes and the remaining 32% of staff travel for more than 40 minutes.

Student travel patterns

Overall, the mode of travel amongst students was as follows:

Walk	12%
Cycle	10%
Public transport	64%
Drive	14%

The pattern of student travel is very different to that for staff. The biggest percentage use public transport and more than 40% travel for more than 40 minutes to attend lessons.

14% of students that responded live less than two miles from College. Of these, 11% cycle, 14% either drive or get a lift in from parents, 10% take public transport and 64% walk. Most walked as it was the easiest and most convenient method of getting to lessons.

42% of students who responded live between two and five miles from College. Of these, 16% cycle, 9% either drive or get a lift in from parents, 72% take public transport and 3% walk. Most took public transport and cited that it was the quickest and easiest way of getting to College. For those who walked or cycled saving money, and convenience was a large factor.

32% of students who responded live between five and 10 miles from College. Of these, 6% cycle, 13% either drive or get a lift in from parents and 81% take public transport. For most public transport was the only route available, and it was felt to be too far to walk.

11% of students who responded lived more than 10 miles away. Of these 4% either drive or get a lift from parents and 96% of these students take public transport. For most public transport is their only method of getting into College.

Of the 14% of students that drive approximately 40% car share. Of those students who travelled by train, only 14% had a Surrey student fare card.

Aims, Objectives and Targets

The Travel Plan aims to develop ways in which the College can reduce dependency on driving and develop more sustainable methods of travel. More specifically:

- To facilitate sustainable travel choices
- To increase car sharing – and consequently reduce single occupancy car use
- Encourage alternative means of transport for staff and students living within 2 miles of College
- An increase in cycling
- Reduce reliance on the car as a means of transport

We have identified targets for increasing sustainable travel modes.

		Staff			Students		
		Current	% change	Target	Current	% change	Target
Less than 2 miles	Walk	16%	25%	20%	64%	0%	64%
	Cycle	16%	25%	20%	11%	127%	26%
	Drive	68%	-12%	60%	14%	-100%	0%
	Public Transport	0%	0%	0%	10%	0%	10%
Between 2 and 5 miles	Walk	3%	0%	3%	3%	0%	3%
	Cycle	23%	25%	29%	16%	22%	19%
	Drive	63%	-18%	51%	9%	-44%	5%
	Public Transport	11%	50%	17%	72%	0%	73%
Between 5 and 10 miles	Walk	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Cycle	7%	100%	13%	6%	0%	6%
	Drive	77%	-30%	53%	13%	-50%	7%
	Public Transport	16%	100%	34%	81%	8%	87%
More than 10 miles	Walk	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Cycle	3%	100%	5%	0%	0%	0%
	Drive	78%	-15%	67%	4%	0%	4%
	Public Transport	19%	50%	28%	96%	0%	96%

Travel Plan Measures

To deliver the Travel Plan a series of Travel Plan measures will be implemented. Certain measures have already been implemented by the College. These measures include:

- We already have a “Cycle to work” scheme – we will re-advertise this
- We have had a programme of improving our cycle shelters over the last two years, such that 20% more cycle racks are now covered than five years ago, with a plan to increase the provision
- The Travel Plan will be made available on the College website
- We will look to seek funding to improve our showering facilities to further encourage cycling to College
- The Surrey Student Fare card will be promoted
- The TFL Oyster card will be promoted
- The new 26 to 30 railcard will be promoted giving younger members of staff 1/3 off rail travel
- Students and staff who do drive will be encouraged to car share and park on site as the audit clearly shows that space is available
- Information and advice on safe cycling, and local routes will be made available to students as part of the enrolment process
- We have a committed and active Environmental Sustainability group with representatives from students and staff. They have run and will continue to run a “leave your car at home” day as part of the College wide “Green Week” each year.

In addition to the above, the College will manage the issue of Car parking permits with priority being given to students who live further than 2 miles from the College, and to those who show a commitment to car sharing. Priority is also given to those with accessibility requirements.

Communication of the policy will be largely via the staff and student portal and the College Website.

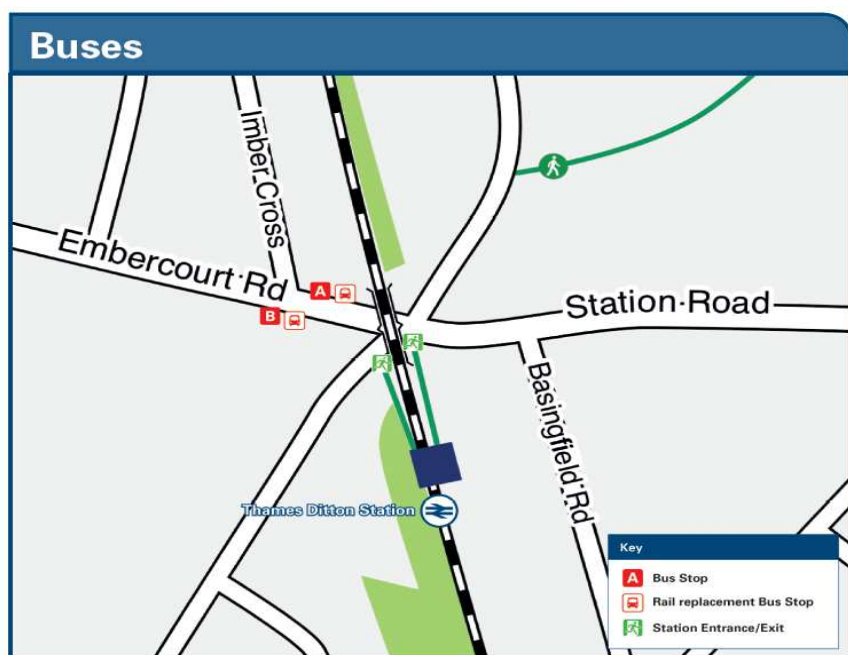
Monitoring and Review

The progress of the Travel Plan will be measured by:

- Annual travel survey of staff and students to measure any changes in the patterns of travel and to assess whether aims, objectives and targets set have been achieved.
- An audit of car parking spaces undertaken at different times of the year
- Review of the number of parking permits issued to students

It should be noted that there may be external influences beyond the control of the College which may influence travel choices, such as alterations to public transport provision, weather conditions, fuel prices and local transport policies. It may be necessary in those instances to change the targets of the Travel Plan.

Appendix 1 – main bus routes



Appendix 2 (A) – Surrey Reduced Fare prices

See <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-transport/16-transport-to-school-or-college/student-fare-card-scheme> for full details - excerpt below

Apply for a student fare card

Page contents

- Introduction
- Summary of eligibility
- Decide which card(s) you need
- Apply online for your student fare card (after 1 August)
- Receive your card
- Replace or change your student fare card (after 1 August)

Introduction

The student fare card scheme for the 2022/23 academic year (starting September 2022) is open from 1 August 2022.

The student fare card scheme gives students aged 16-18 who live in Surrey reduced rate bus and/or rail travel to schools and colleges.

There are two separate cards available from us – a bus student fare card and a train student fare card.

The National Rail 16-17 Saver railcard allows students 50% off single, return and season tickets. **Please note:** this scheme is not administered by Surrey County Council.

Summary of eligibility

To be eligible for a student fare card, you must be:

- aged 16-18 (under 19 years old on 1 September in the year of application) and
- living in one of the administrative boroughs/districts of Surrey and
- attending a full-time education course on the date of the card's issue. Paid apprenticeships are not eligible for a student fare card.

and:

- your journey must start and/or finish in Surrey.

Decide which card(s) you need

Select the appropriate card below to see detailed information, including costs, eligible journeys and conditions of use.

Bus student fare card



Train student fare card



Apply online

Appendix 2 (B) – 16+ Zip Oyster photocard

See <https://tfl.gov.uk/fares/free-and-discounted-travel/16-plus-zip-oyster-photocard> for full details

16+ Zip Oyster photocard

Children aged 16-17 can get free and discounted travel on all our transport services with a Zip Oyster photocard.

▼ Benefits

▼ How to use

▼ Who is it for?

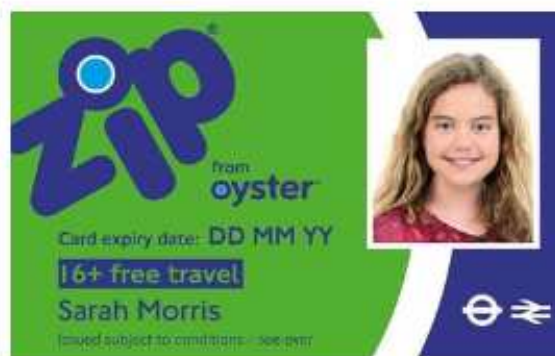
▼ Expiry

▼ How to apply

▼ Related content

Benefits

- 50% off adult pay as you go fares on bus, Tube, DLR, London Overground, Elizabeth line (excluding between West Drayton and Reading) and most National Rail services in London
- If you live in London, you get free travel on buses and trams
- Child rate 7 Day, Monthly or longer period [Travelcard](#) and [Bus & Tram Pass](#)



Who is it for?

Children aged 16 and 17 can get a 16+ Zip Oyster photocard.

If your child is 16 now but was 15 on 31 August, they can still apply for and use an [11-15 Zip Oyster photocard](#).

Adults who live in a [London borough](#) who were 18 on 31 August and in full-time education, can apply for a 16+ Zip Oyster photocard to get free travel on buses and trams.

How to apply

A parent or guardian must apply for a 16+ Zip Oyster photocard if their child is under 18.

If you're 18, you must apply for your 16+ Zip Oyster photocard and create your own [photocard web account](#).

When you apply, you agree that you or the Zip Oyster photocard holder will comply with our [Young Person's Behaviour Code](#). If you or the photocard holder doesn't, we can withdraw the photocard.

