

ROYAL ALEXANDRA AND ALBERT SCHOOL DRAFT TRAVEL PLAN

Section A – Background Information

A1	Name of School	Royal Alexandra & Albert School
A2	DFEE No	936/4623
A3	Name and position of person completing form	Mr Paul Spencer Ellis Headmaster
A4	Contact Phone No	0137 649000
A5	Email Address	headmaster@gatton-park.org.uk
A6	Website Address	gatton-park.org.uk
A7	No of Students on Roll	591
A7	School Type	Voluntary Aided, Through School Yr3 to Yr11
A8	Location	Gatton Park – Access Road Rocky Lane, Merstham Surrey

A10 Brief Description of Catchment Area

The Royal Alexandra and Albert School is a state boarding school which also has day pupils and day boarders. The school is situated in Gatton Park in Reigate. This is a large country park. There is an access road to the school from the entrance to the park on Rocky Lane (see map). Pedestrian Access can also be gained from Gatton Park Rd through Gatton Park via a steep hill (see map) and a path which is unlit and has surfacing of variable quality.

Rocky Lane is a winding country road through farmland and the road is only just wide enough for two cars to pass each other. It is a recognised “rat run” and a minor accident ‘blackspot’.

Very few pupils live close enough to the school to walk or cycle.

The school population is comprised of boarding students who live on the school grounds during term time; day boarders who come to school between 7.30 am and 8.30 am and leave at between 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm each day and day pupils who arrive at the school at 8.30 am and leave at the end of the school day which is 3.30 pm.

Due to the unique nature of the school it serves a large area. In most cases the boarding pupils reside some distance away but we are aware that our day pupils live a considerable distance away from the school too.

In the past five years the amount of day pupils and day boarders as a percentage of the population of the junior and senior departments of the school has increased to 44%

A11 Actions undertaken prior to the production of this plan

- The increase in the amount of day/day boarding pupils at the school has meant an increase in the daily use of Rocky Lane. The school became aware that the surface of the road had become unsafe and the road was partly resurfaced in 2003.
- In 2004 the Royal Alexandra and Albert Foundation, which owns Gatton Park, undertook a survey of the access to the school from the entrance to the park to the area where the pupils are dropped off. This resulted in the adoption of traffic calming measures (including speed limit signs, a zebra crossing and sleeping policemen) to ensure the safety of the students. The roads were also marked to provide safe pavements for the pupils. Some improvement was also made to the path from Gatton Park Road to the school buildings.
- In 2004, following a petition by day parents, the Headmaster approached the council to request action to make Rocky Lane safer. The school has been informed that action may be expected on this in 2010.
- All primary pupils receive road safety training

Section B Key Travel Issues

B1	Description of current Travel Patterns – an overview rather than facts and figures	<p><u>Boarders</u></p> <p>Plane- usually to Gatwick or Heathrow Airport followed by taxi journey to school</p> <p>Train – usually to Redhill or Reigate Station followed by taxi journey to Gatton Park</p> <p>Taxi - none</p> <p>Walking - none</p> <p>Car – most popular mode of transport</p> <p>Bus – not available</p> <p><u>Day Pupils</u></p> <p>Train – usually to Redhill or Reigate Station followed by taxi journey to Gatton Park</p> <p>Taxi – generally provided by Surrey CC to the few pupils who qualify for free travel to the school</p> <p>Walking – mainly pupils living on Gatton Park</p> <p>Car – most popular mode of transport</p> <p>Bus – not available</p>
B2	Key Issue 1	The number of parents travelling by Car to school due to wide area served by the school
B3	Key Issue 2	Our responsibility to minimise the traffic bringing the pupils and staff to the school
B4	Key Issue 3	86% of parents bring their own children by car to the school and cause congestion in Rocky Lane and Gatton Bottom
B5	Key Issue 4	Our need to reduce school traffic which causes congestion in Rocky Lane at the traditional school start and finish times of 8.30 am and 3.30 pm

Section C Travel Research

C1	Travel Research methods used	Travel Survey – December 2004																																																								
	Base line Information	<p>Boarders</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="753 422 1328 779"> <thead> <tr> <th>Percentage of Pupils who currently use</th> <th>No</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Own Car</td> <td>256</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Car Share</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Train</td> <td>15</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plane</td> <td>50</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Walk</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Taxi</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>321</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Day Pupils</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="753 884 1328 1241"> <thead> <tr> <th>Percentage of Pupils who currently use</th> <th>No</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Own Car</td> <td>226</td> <td>86</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Car Share</td> <td>25</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Train</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plane</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Walk</td> <td>4</td> <td>1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Taxi</td> <td>4</td> <td>1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>262</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Percentage of Pupils who currently use	No	%				Own Car	256	80	Car Share	0	0	Train	15	5	Plane	50	15	Walk	0	0	Taxi	0	0		321	100	Percentage of Pupils who currently use	No	%				Own Car	226	86	Car Share	25	10	Train	3	1	Plane	0	0	Walk	4	1.5	Taxi	4	1.5		262	100
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Section D – Targets and objectives

D1	Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve road safety• Increase travel awareness• Encourage sustainable travel modes• Reduce car trips• Reduce congestion on Rocky Lane in the periods 8.00 – 8.30 am and 3.30-4.00 pm.
D2	Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase awareness amongst pupils, staff and parents about the environmental safety and health and social consequences of their travel choices• Increase car sharing• Increase amount of pupils cycling/walking• Decrease use of taxis from local stations by boarding pupils by encouraging them to share taxis• Decrease use of taxis from airports by boarding pupils by encouraging them to share taxis.

Section E – Proposed measures, timetable for implementation and responsibilities

	Specific Measure	To be done by when	Person Responsible
1	Make travel plan available to staff (in policy folder), parents (through end of term letter and on SCC website)and pupils (through PHSCE) and on our website. Key issue 1, 2, 3, 4	April 2005	Travel Team
2	Publicise maps of the location of the pupils to encourage private car sharing. Key issues 1, 2, 3, 4 Draw attention to the location of the maps via PHSCE lessons	April 2005	Travel Team
3	Survey the pupils annually about their travel modes.	September 2005	School Office
4	Investigate the improvements to the park needed to promote walking and cycling Key issues 2 and 4	April 2005	Travel Team
5	Investigate whether the time that pupils leave the school can change to minimise congestion Key issue 4	September 2005	Travel Team
6	Investigate the use of school minibuses to bring boarding pupils to the school from local stations at the beginning of term Key issues 1	April 2005	Travel Team
7	Increase the number of day boarders and decrease the number of day pupils thus decreasing the amount of congestion on Rocky Lane from 8.00-8.30 and 3.30-4.00. Key Issue 4	September 2005	Travel Team
8	Publicise maps of the site showing path from Gatton Park Road (suggesting that cycling/walking access can be gained from there)	April 2005	Travel Team

Section F - Consultations

F1	Details of Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jan 2005 Travel Survey• Parents – Headmaster’s letter to parents March 2005 posted to all parents and posted on the school website• Local Council• Consultation with Mr R Hoyland, Surrey CC
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Section G – Monitoring and Review

G1	Review process and timetable	Persons involved
April 2005	Review parental response to consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headmaster and School Travel Team
June 2005	Review of parental response to car sharing initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headmaster and School Travel Team
June 2005	Review of parental response to cycling/walking initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headmaster and School Travel Team
May 2005	Review of suitability of use of minibuses for transporting boarders from train stations to the school (possibly for July 2005)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headmaster and School Travel Team
May 2005	Review and cost plans for improvements to path to Gatton Park Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headmaster and School Travel Team
June 2005	Review of costed plans for lighting and fencing of path and installation of bicycle storage facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headmaster and School Travel Team
October 2005	Review of results of transport survey of boarders and non boarders to identify <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developments in Car Sharing • Reduction in use of Rocky Lane 8.00-8.30 and 3.30-4.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headmaster and School Travel Team

Section H – Use of Direct DfT – DfES Funding

H1	What funds will be used for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving path from Gatton Park Road to provide more safe and secure access. This will promote cycling and walking and ease congestion in Rocky Lane Specific Measure 1, 4 and 8 Key Issues B1, B2 and B4 Cycle rack to provide secure storage of bicycles on the site Specific Measure 1, 4 and 8 Key Issues B1, B2 and B4 Production of Map showing the safest way to school by bicycle Specific Measure 1, 4 and 8 Key Issues B1, B2 and B4
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General Comments

The travel team also investigated the following aspects concerning travel to the school:

Specific Measure	Information gained	Result									
A survey of the travel habits of the school teaching staff	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="574 1083 906 1150">Car</td> <td data-bbox="906 1083 976 1150">6</td> <td data-bbox="976 1083 1073 1150">13%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="574 1150 906 1220">Car Share (with another pupil or teacher)</td> <td data-bbox="906 1150 976 1220">3</td> <td data-bbox="976 1150 1073 1220">7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="574 1220 906 1289">Walk (reside on site)</td> <td data-bbox="906 1220 976 1289">38</td> <td data-bbox="976 1220 1073 1289">80%</td> </tr> </table>	Car	6	13%	Car Share (with another pupil or teacher)	3	7%	Walk (reside on site)	38	80%	As a result of this survey it was decided that such a large proportion of the teachers live on the site no action (excepting that shown in E1) should be taken at the present time.
Car	6	13%									
Car Share (with another pupil or teacher)	3	7%									
Walk (reside on site)	38	80%									
A discussion of incentives that might be given to encourage a change in travel pattern in line with the issues identified	Consideration was given to the type and level of incentive which could be given.	It was considered that providing incentives to the day pupils and day boarders in the school to change their travel pattern would disadvantage the boarding pupils which are the majority in the school. No action will be taken at the present time									

<p>A discussion of whether it would be useful to let the parents/staff/pupils know the safety measures taken to provide walking/cycle access to the school.</p>	<p>Consideration was given to producing a map of access via Gatton Park Road and the path to the school</p>	<p>It was decided that no action would be taken at the present time because improvement to the path is one of the actions that will be funded and a map can subsequently be produced.</p> <p>Z</p>
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