



Walking Home Policy

Parents of children who wish them to walk home unescorted by an adult, at the end of the school day (15:15 hrs), must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Parents must have registered with the school that they are prepared for their children to walk directly home from school at the end of the day.
- Children must be in year 6.
- All children who attend after school clubs in the winter months (November to March) **must be** collected by an adult.
- It is the parent's responsibility to check the route that their children may walk home 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.
- Children should know their home phone number (plus one other emergency contact).
- There must be someone at home to meet the child on their arrival.
- Any child must be capable of arriving home within 15 minutes from the end of the school day (15:15 hrs). Journeys over 20 minutes are not considered appropriate for children to walk at this stage.
- If any child does not arrive home within the agreed timeframe, parents must immediately notify the school in order that appropriate action can be taken.
- If any child does not arrive home within the agreed timeframe and direct contact with the child has not been established by either school or parents, school will instigate the missing person procedure in conjunction with the relevant authorities.

- If the missing person procedure is initiated there must be a point of contact remaining at both the home and school location until further advised by the relevant authorities.
- If your child does arrive home after the missing person procedure has been instigated, immediate notification to the relevant authorities' / emergency services must be made. This is to enable the missing person procedure to be stood down. Once the missing person procedure is initiated responsibility will pass to the relevant authority to further any enquiries. Both parents and school will be guided by them in order that a successful outcome is achieved.

I give permission for my child to walk home on their own after school and I have read and understood all of the guidelines.

I understand that my child is my responsibility outside of school hours (walking to and from school).