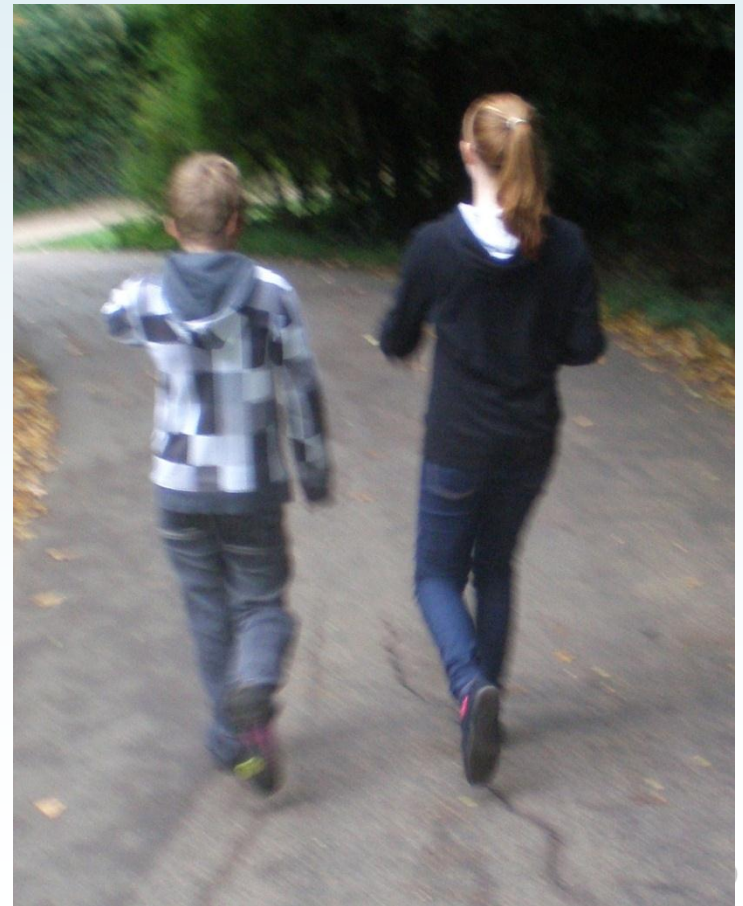


Policies to increase children's active travel in Great Britain

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Policy actions that have been used to increase children's active travel in Great Britain

- Physical measures
- Funding measures
- Organizing school trips
- Campaigns
- Educational programmes



Physical measures to increase children's active travel

- Traffic calming, to make areas around schools safer.
- Safer routes, to make routes used for walking and cycling by children safer. Complemented by pedestrian and cycle training.
- School infrastructure, e.g. secure cycle parking and lockers.
- School crossing patrols.



Funding measures to increase children's active travel

- Feb 2001 – funding made available for 111 posts for local authority travel plan co-ordinators.
- Additional capital grants made available to schools to fund projects identified in School Travel Plans (£5,000 (\$CAN 7,900) for primary schools, £10,000 (\$CAN 15,900) for secondary schools).
- £1000 (\$CAN 1,600) a year for three years to schools to set up a walking school bus, for those walking school buses expected to save 5 return car trips a day.



Organizing school trips to increase children's active travel

- Walking school buses set up, starting in St Albans early in 1998.
- Cycle trains.
- American-style yellow buses: experiments found to be quite successful.



Campaigns to increase children's active travel

- 'Are you doing your bit?' in 1998 about sustainable development, including changing travel habits.
- 'Healthy Schools Programme' set up by the Department of Health and the Department for Education including encouraging physical activity.
- 'Safe and Sound Challenge' was part of the Healthy Schools Programme, offering prizes of up to £6000 (\$CAN 9500) for schools.
- 'Bike it' launched by Sustrans.
- Local schemes, e.g. 'Go for Gold' in Buckinghamshire



Educational programmes to increase children's active travel

- 'Kerbcraft' which is pedestrian training for 5-7 year olds
- 'Making choices' aimed 10-12 year olds to encourage safe walking and cycling



Travel to school policies under the new government

- The Government has a policy of ‘localism’, meaning that local decisions are made locally
- A White Paper on local sustainable travel was issued in January 2011
- A Local Sustainable Transport fund has been set up and will fund travel to school initiatives from 2012 onwards
- The Bikeability cycling proficiency training programme has been extended to 2015
- A cycle journey planner has been produced and can be used as an educational tool



Travel to school policies under the new government

- A review of travel to school will be carried out by the Department for Education
- The White Paper says that shifting a school child from car to walk or cycle is worth £600 (\$CAN 950), mainly through health benefits



Further information

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