



# CHESTNUT LANE SCHOOL

## ROAD SAFETY POLICY

The governors and staff at Chestnut Lane School are aware of the dangers from traffic outside the school grounds.

We aim to highlight these dangers within our locality. We hope to make the children independent thinkers and able to respond correctly to these dangers. We inform parents regularly of their responsibilities and highlight potential dangers.

Our objectives have been divided into 3 areas:

1. Road Safety Education in School,
2. Parents and Road Safety,
3. Traffic Around the School.

### ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION AT SCHOOL

The school undertakes to provide a broad and balanced curriculum which includes all aspects of safety awareness. Road safety will be explored throughout the school in an age-appropriate way as it arises in topics, National Curriculum subjects and the Prime Areas of Personal, Social and Emotional Development and Physical Development within the EYFS Framework. It will also be addressed in assemblies and discrete sessions through our participation in the Footsteps Programme.

Footsteps is a road safety and awareness programme for primary school children, developed by Buckinghamshire Council. It is a training programme which is designed to help children to learn to think for themselves and gradually get better at dealing with roads and traffic. School staff and trained parent volunteers can act as 'tutors' on the programme.

### Objectives of the Footsteps programme

The objectives of the Footsteps programme are to help to:

- Reduce child pedestrian injuries.
- Train young pedestrians to be more aware of the road and the traffic on the road.
- Train young pedestrians to be safer near roads.
- Award a certificate at each level to children who successfully show that they understand the dangers of the road and how they can stay safe.
- Build a partnership between schools, parents and children.

As part of the Footsteps Programme, children are taken into their local area with a tutor to observe the traffic and discuss road safety, through a series of practical exercises. It is important for children to be exposed to traffic in a safe manner, so that they understand how they should behave. To do this they need to be taken to the roadside and taught basic pedestrian and road safety skills by getting them to experience what it is like. The Footsteps Programme practical exercises take place within the school's local learning area boundary. Other key material from the Footsteps Programme is shared with children in whole school assemblies.

### PARENTS AND ROAD SAFETY

Whilst we accept a responsibility for educating children about road safety in school, parents also have a responsibility to ensure the safety of children as pedestrians and road users.

Parents are responsible for the safety of their children on journeys to and from school, including when entering and exiting via the school drive. This can be encouraged by:

- walking to school whenever possible;
- planning safe routes to school;
- setting good examples to their children by being reasonable pedestrians and drivers;
- ensuring the children can be seen by drivers especially in winter by wearing bright clothes or reflective strips;
- riding bikes and scooters safely, with awareness of pedestrians and drivers.

NB: All children at Chestnut Lane School must be accompanied by an adult at all times due to their young age.

The Footsteps Programme (mentioned above) recognises that it is important for Parents/Guardians to be involved. We share the [Footsteps Parent Guide](#) with all parents of children participating in the programme.

## **TRAFFIC AROUND THE SCHOOL**

Whilst the school cannot take responsibility for traffic around the school it promotes safe practices to ensure the children's safety and minimise disruption to neighbours. All parents are invited to sign our Parking Promise on entry into our school. It encourages parents to:

- Walk to school whenever possible;
- Avoid using the school drive unless it is absolutely necessary;
- Avoid dropping off children at the gate;
- Avoid parking in close proximity to the school;
- Park with consideration, avoiding pavements and grass verges;
- Ensure emergency vehicles have access to the school and local residents.

The school works cooperatively with the local council, police and Elangeni School to ensure that we are all working together to keep our children safe. There are clear processes in place for contacting Buckinghamshire Council and Thames Valley Police regarding traffic and parking concerns, the details of which are available on our school website here:

<https://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk/contact/contact-us>.

Reviewed: September 2025

Next Review: September 2028