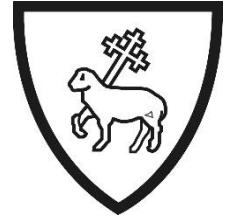


Date of review	August 2024
Next review	August 2026
Approval by	Principal
Review frequency	Two yearly
Date approved	28 August 2024



Brockington College Travel Plan 2024-26

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Brockington College, a Church of England Academy, has at its heart a distinctive Christian ethos. Based on our Christian foundation and values we seek to promote a culture of developing every person and therefore every school policy is written from this perspective, with a commitment to learning and maturing in the context of communal and individual development.
- 1.2 We lay particular stress on the Christian values of compassion, forgiveness, justice, koinonia, learning, perseverance, respect and wisdom for individuals and across the school community.

2. Background

- 2.1 Since the opening of the new school in November 2007, we have been proactive in promoting 'greener' travel for students and members of staff via less use of the car individually and greater reliance on walking, cycling, public transport and car shares. We were restricted in the amount of car parking we could provide when the new school buildings were built.
- 2.2 During this period of time we have undertaken the following work to promote environmentally-friendly and safe transport.
- We initially provided a large amount of cycle parking places (126) that provide both security and cover, so that cycles remain dry and secure. This was increased to (154) spaces with the aid of a grant from Blaby District Council in 2017.
 - We initially arranged for four school buses to drop off and pick up students within the school site, so that they are a safe alternative to parents collecting children in cars. Due to reduced out of catchment numbers from catchment re-alignment and change of age-range status, this has now dropped to two double decker buses, with the benefits of reduced pollution and congestion.
 - The school bus service is encouraged publicly and the chance for parents to buy into the service is part of our year 6 transition evening. The service is also publicized on our school website.
 - We actively encourage walking to school, cycling to school, school buses and car sharing opportunities through the school website.
 - We have successfully campaigned to the local authority to ensure that the main road at the front of the school is designated as a 30 mph zone so as to make the area safer for pedestrians and cyclists.
 - We have introduced a fitness module into our Physical Education lessons that involves students looking at the importance of health and fitness and ways to improve this as individuals.
 - Our Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship related Education (PSHCE) lessons involve work on encouraging safe travel to and from school.
 - We are active partners with the 'cycle to work' scheme and several members of staff have taken advantage of purchasing cycles at a reduced cost for travelling to and from school.
 - We regularly send out health and safety information in our newsletter, regarding personal safety when travelling to and from school.

- 2.3 Our greatest contribution to the reduction of road pollution caused by transport to and from school, is due to our conversion to an 11-16 age range school. Prior to September 2015, all students leaving Brockington College at the age of 14 had to travel to upper schools which in virtually all cases were a lot further away from their home. Now pollution has been reduced as many students can walk to school.
- 2.4 This School Travel Plan seeks to further improve conditions for the reduction of greenhouse gases that arise when travelling to and from the school site, whilst at the same time promoting regular exercise so as to give long term benefits to health and wellbeing. In addition the school has a designated 'set aside' green area called the Ingles Field which helps offset carbon emissions.

3. The college

- 3.1 Until September 2015, Brockington College was a large, 900 place, 11-14 age range Church of England Academy. In September 2017, the school moved to 1,200 students aged 11-16 years. This increase in size comes as a result of a successful application to the DfE to change from a high school (11-14) to an all-through secondary school (11-16). The school now has a working base of 150 members of staff. The school is situated on Blaby Road, Enderby, with road and pedestrian access off Blaby Road and pedestrian, cycle and service access off Mill Lane at the rear of the school site.
- 3.2 Brockington College serves a catchment area of large and small villages on the south western edge of Leicester. The catchment area includes the villages of Enderby, Narborough, Littlethorpe, Huncote, Croft and Thurlaston. However, due to the popularity of the school, students also attend from many areas which are outside of the catchment area.
- 3.3 The school is one of only four Church of England Academy secondary schools in Leicestershire and therefore it is very attractive to a number of parents/carers, particularly those with a wish for their child to be educated at a Christian school.
- 3.4 The college moved to its new building in November 2007. As well as the classrooms, there is a lecture theatre, hall, central atrium/dining area, kitchens, a sports hall, activity gym and a multi-use games area (MUGA) for netball, basketball, football and tennis. An all-weather pitch for football and hockey was added in the summer of 2010. A further suite of 17 classrooms, offices and a toilet block was added in the summer of 2015.
- 3.5 Brockington College hosts a wide array of sporting and social experiences throughout the week and at weekends. Although the school day is from 8.30am - 3.00pm, with after school clubs until 5.00 pm most days, public use commences at 5.30pm every evening until 10.00pm, as well as throughout the weekend.
- 3.6 The school is well served by footpaths and cycle routes, whilst public transport links are also good.

4. Student travel to school

- 4.1 In November 2021, a student travel survey was completed. The survey was online and 464 responses were received from a possible 1001 families (46%).
- 4.2 Of the 464 surveys returned:
- 258 (56%) walked to and from school
 - 50 (11%) travelled by bus
 - 46 (10%) cycled to and from school
 - 6 (1%) travelled by public transport
 - 86 (18%) travelled by car/taxi on their own
 - 18 (4%) travelled by sharing a car/taxi.

- 4.3 In the latest Cycling and Walking Strategy on Leicestershire County Council's website, nationally only 39% of secondary school students walk to school and a further 2% cycle to school.
- 4.4 Students who walk, catch the bus, car share and cycle total 82%, a figure which has dropped slightly from the 90% for the last survey in 2017.
- 4.5 Overall, therefore, the college can be considered to operate in a sustainable way, although there is always room for improvement which we constantly strive for. Over the next year there will be the introduction of a health and safety website page which will promote environmental ways to travel to and from school.

5. Staff travel to school

- 5.1 In November 2021, a staff survey was completed. The survey was online and 69 responses were received from a possible 150 (46%).
- 5.2 Of the 69 responses:
- 61 (88%) travel by car on their own
 - 3 (4%) walked
 - 1 (1%) cycled
 - 4 (6%) car shared.
- 5.3 The main reasons for car use was the distance that members of staff live from the college. The survey asked staff how long their journey took to get to school –
- 11 (17%) staff took 30 minutes or more
 - 17 (26%) staff took 20-30 minutes
 - 26 (40%) took 10-20 minutes
 - 15 (23%) took 10 minutes or less.
- 5.4 When car users were asked if they would consider using an alternative means of transport, three said they would consider walking, eight cycling, 15 car sharing and five travelling by bus.
- 5.5 As seen above, the majority of staff who replied to the survey, live more than 10 minutes journey away. The college will look for opportunities to encourage car sharing or using public transport through the new health and safety website page.

6. Issues and concerns

- 6.1 In the latest student travel survey, the following comments identified issues in relation to travel to and from school.
- 6.2 **Walking**
- It is quite a long walk especially in darker evenings.
 - There should be a bus facility for students living in Narborough.
 - Mill Lane is a nightmare even walking!
 - Concerned about the speed of traffic on B4114 from the Foxhunter roundabout.
- 6.3 **School bus**
- School bus comes very early in the morning.
 - School should open the doors earlier or bus pick up later.
 - A late bus is needed for those in year 11 to attend school revision sessions.
- 6.4 **Public transport**
- Buses are often cancelled meaning that my child arrives late for school.
 - The bus can sometimes be late/delayed or just does not shown up.

6.5 **Cycling**

- Can we have a pelican crossing outside the school on the main road?
- Could we encourage the students to wear helmets?
- Forest Road, Stewart Avenue and West Street are terrible for cycling.
- Wish there were cycle lanes and paths through Enderby as roads are dangerous.
- Congestion getting out of school due to the number of students.

6.6 **Car use (No questions)**

- There is no school transport or public transport from Countesthorpe to Enderby.
- Does not feel safe walking on the way to and from school on their own.
- The cost of school transport is greater than the car share costs.

7. **Action taken as a result of these concerns**

7.1 **Walking**

The college will carry out a further survey to parents/carers to see if there are areas in the catchment that could fill a school bus. This information would then be shared with the bus company to see if there was a possibility of a further school bus. The college is working with local bodies to look at how Mill Lane can be improved for all users.

7.2 **Public transport**

The college will share the information regarding the public buses not being reliable.

7.3 **School bus**

The college will re-iterate the message that students who arrive early throughout the colder months to come into the school atrium to keep warm and dry. The college will look at the cost around a late bus and whether there would be sufficient users.

7.4 **Cycling**

The college sent out a health and safety newsletter with information about wearing helmets and being safe around the streets. There was a recent walking and cycling survey by the county council which was asking about cycle lanes. Parents/carers were encouraged to complete this.

7.5 **Car use**

See the suggestion above regarding a survey to see the need for another school bus to further areas. The cost of the school bus is comparable with public transport and if it was any cheaper would not be viable to run for the company.

7.6 **General**

Each new child that is enrolled at the school is provided with an admission pack that includes details of how to book a place on school buses. The college will be putting together a health and safety website page which will be frequently updated with advice and guidance.

8. **Further proposed improvements/targets**

- 8.1 Because of the major changes at Brockington College, in terms of changing age range from 11-14 to 11-16 and the consequent increase in student numbers and staffing, there has obviously been ramifications for travel to and from school.
- 8.2 As mentioned previously, these changes are a good thing for the environment and for safer travel as students who would have previously had to travel long distances to their new upper school, will now remain at their local school instead.
- 8.3 Our target at this point will be to ensure that those students who live locally to the school either walk, cycle or, where necessary, car share. Students who live in the outlying villages of Croft, Huncote and Thurlaston will still have a school bus provided.

9. Monitoring

- 9.1 Travel to and from Brockington College is the responsibility of Mrs Judith Malcolm, who is the Operations Manager at the school. She regularly liaises with the bus companies to ensure safe travel, as well as monitoring the use and condition of cycles and taking appropriate action with students or parents/carers where necessary. To ensure safety, we will temporarily or permanently ban students from using school buses or cycles if this is necessary.
- 9.2 When required, Mrs Malcolm enlists the support of students, staff, representatives of the bus companies, school governors, local policing and representatives of the Leicestershire County Council Road Safety and Travel Awareness Team to monitor this plan and to make amendments to the plan and more importantly, to our rules and organisation of travel to and from school.