







Take YOUR CYCLING seriously, don't miss out on Bikeability!

Dear Parents & Carers

Please read this information carefully and complete the consent form link. The school will inform you about dates when the course for your child is due.

What is Bikeability?

Bikeability is the national cycle training programme, supported and funded by Active Travel England on behalf of the UK Government.

All Bikeability training is delivered by professional, nationally qualified and DBS-checked instructors who have all completed a 1st Aid Course and the training takes place at risk-assessed locations. The Bikeability Trust have lots of information that we recommend you look at and go through with your child before their course visit www.bikeability.org.uk for more information. All registered Bikeability providers must follow national guidance when delivering Bikeability training. Devon County Council has all necessary Bikeability policies, risk assessments and procedures in place (copies available on request).

Regular cycling, whether for transport, sport or just for fun can improve physical and mental health and give young people skills for life. Cycling offers low-cost and independent travel for young people and their families and helps to reduce traffic congestion which means greater road safety, air-quality and community benefits.



Bikeability Level 3 equips you with skills for more challenging roads and traffic situations – busier streets, queueing traffic, complex junctions and roundabouts. It also includes planning routes for safe cycling.

Children can be ready for Level 3 from 11 years old, once they have completed previous levels. Bikeability Level 3 is taught in smaller groups or one-to-one so every course is tailored to a riders' needs. It might focus on a skill you might want to practice more, or a tricky road where you travel often.

Whether you're planning to cycle to school, ride alone to a club or explore with your family, Level 3 is the answer. It will set you up for a life of freedom on wheels!

At Level 3 you can:

- Use the best riding position for any situation
- Ride alongside other cyclists
- Ride on more complex roads. This might include busier roads, more complicated junctions or faster roads with speed limits above 30mph.
- Respond confidently when a situation changes. For example, when a vehicle pulls out in front of you.









HOW TO BOOK:

The school will inform you about dates when the course for your child is due. If you would like your child to take part in Bikeability, please follow this link to book a place:

https://consent.bikeability.org.uk/wise-pen-dated

If you do not have internet access, please ask for a paper form from your school.

- Please tell us about <u>any</u> additional needs for your child (physical, medical, learning or other) that we need to be aware of before training starts.
- If you think your child may benefit from extra support before or during training, please ask their school to speak to the instructor (or contact us direct) **well in advance** so we can make appropriate arrangements.
- We may be able to provide a loan cycle for training if you do not have one available. Please tell us on the form so we can try and arrange this in good time.
- We will ask you for information about your child's gender, ethnicity and if they are eligible for Pupil Premium.
 This information is used by Active Travel England who fund Bikeability and by Devon County Council to monitor delivery of the programme and ensure that everyone has fair access to training. The data is collected and analysed across the whole training programme and does not identify individuals. There is an option on the form if you would prefer not to say.
- All other personal information about your child that you provide is only used to provide appropriate training for your child and is deleted once training is complete. You may choose to opt in to future communications from the Bikeability Trust who govern the national programme.

For your child to take part in this course you will need to provide and check the following:

Riding skill – Children can be ready for Level 3 from 11 years old, once they have completed previous levels. Riders need to competently show the outcomes of Level 1 & 2 courses.

Clothing – they should wear comfortable clothing that allows them to ride easily, including shoes that fit securely, such as trainers. Be prepared for the weather to change! On cold or wet days, make sure that they have a warm and waterproof coat, gloves, and an extra layer or two. On warm, sunny days they should use sun cream and bring a bottle of water.

We request that you discuss the Bikeability course with your child and encourage them to practice what they have learnt each session - maybe by accompanying them on a cycle ride and discussing the Highway Code. Your child must attend every session - if they miss any sessions, they may not be able to complete the course.

Helmet & Cycle Checklist









Use the diagram below to check your child's helmet fits and that their cycle is in a safe, roadworthy condition.



Step 1: Size Should fit snugly and not rock side to side.



Step 2: Position No more than two finger widths above eyebrows



Step 3: Straps Should form a "V" under, and slightly in front, of ears.



Center the buckles under chin and lock



No more than one or two fingers should fit under strap.

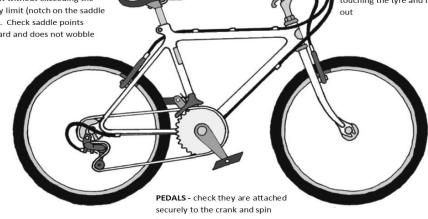
BIKE SIZE - rider should be able to reach the handlebars and touch the ground easily with toes of both feet

HANDLEBARS - check handlebars cant be twisted out of the line of the wheels and are straight. Bar ends must not be exposed

CABLES - check are not frayed, broken or loose

SADDLE - adjust to the rider's height without exceeding the safety limit (notch on the saddle post). Check saddle points forward and does not wobble

BRAKES - both front and back should work. Check brake block is in correct position, not touching the tyre and not worn



CHAIN & GEARS - check the chain is well oiled and not too tight/ loose. Check all the gears can be changed easily

TYRES - check firmly pumped up, no damage, punctures or excessive wear

WHEELS - check they spin freely and straight, no damage to spokes. Nuts and levers are securely tightened

If your child uses an adapted cycle or tricycle because of disability or medical needs, that's fine - just let us know on the consent form.

Important cycle, helmet and clothing guidance is available at Bikeability.org.uk | Cycle training FAQs

Whilst every care will be taken to ensure your child's safety, your instructor provides public liability insurance only and not personal accident insurance for anyone taking part in this course, nor do they accept responsibility for the actions or personal behaviour of participants. Devon County Council, the Plymouth School Sports Partnership, your training provider and instructor are not responsible for any injury to persons, or loss or damage to property, which is not the result of the negligence of an instructor. Parents/carers of pupils participating in cycle training are advised to make their own arrangements to insure their children against personal accident, loss or damage to their cycles or other personal effects.