WAY 2 GO

Making Every Journey Count This Autumn and Winter

Be safe. Be seen

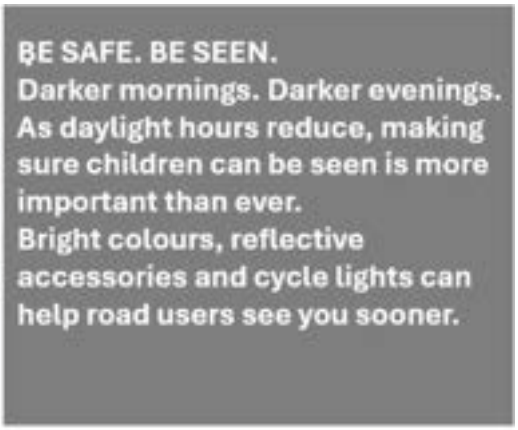
As autumn arrives and winter approaches, schools across Cambridgeshire are continuing to inspire pupils to travel safely, stay healthy and make positive choices on their journeys to and from school. While darker mornings, wet weather and busy roads can make travelling more challenging, they also provide opportunities to build important road safety skills and healthy habits that last a lifetime.

In this edition, we're celebrating some fantastic achievements from schools, highlighting new resources and sharing ideas to help keep pupils engaged in road safety and sustainable travel throughout the colder months. From Modeshift STARS success stories and Junior Travel Ambassador activities to exciting new projects promoting cleaner air and healthier journeys, there is plenty to be proud of.

Thank you for everything you do to support road safety, sustainable travel and pupil wellbeing. Your enthusiasm and commitment continue to make a real difference to children, families and communities across Cambridgeshire.

Together, let's keep making every journey count this autumn and winter.











Junior Travel Ambassadors Continue to Shine

This year marks **11 years of the Junior Travel Ambassador (JTA) programme** promoting road safety and active travel in Cambridgeshire schools. The programme continues to thrive thanks to the enthusiasm and commitment of the Year 5 pupils chosen to represent their schools as JTAs.
We are currently meeting this year's new JTAs, providing them with their resources, including books, badges and JTA jackets, and supporting them with their Autumn term campaigns.

Be Bright, Be Seen

As the clocks go back and the evenings become darker, JTAs will be encouraging their school communities to **"Be Bright, Be Seen"**. They'll be promoting the importance of wearing bright or reflective clothing when walking, cycling or scooting, and reminding everyone to check that bikes and scooters have working lights and reflectors.
Some schools are also working with **Nicola Bradley from the Child Brain Injury Trust**, supporting the charity's annual **Be Bright Be Seen** campaign, which raises awareness of staying visible during the darker months.

Road Safety Week: 15-21 November

During **Road Safety Week**, JTA schools will be promoting **Backseat Boss**, a road safety initiative from the **Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT)**. Through fun and engaging activities, primary-aged children learn how to be safer passengers today and safer drivers in the future.

Want to Find Out More?

For more information about the **Junior Travel Ambassador programme**, school travel planning, road safety education or active travel initiatives, please contact:

Maree Richards
road.safety@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

The Junior Travel Ambassadors

Active Travel Ambassadors: Could Your School Get Involved?

Students at **St Bede's Inter-Church School** are helping to promote healthier, safer and more sustainable journeys through the **Active Travel Ambassadors (ATA)** programme.
ATA gives secondary school students the opportunity to lead projects that encourage walking, wheeling, cycling and public transport use, while developing valuable leadership, communication and teamwork skills.
Schools taking part receive a **free accredited Modeshift STARS Travel Plan**, helping to support their **Climate Action Plan** and demonstrate their commitment to sustainable travel.
Participating schools also receive **£200 towards prizes and incentives** to reward and encourage sustainable journeys.

From prize draws and awareness campaigns to fun runs and travel challenges, Active Travel Ambassadors are helping to create healthier, safer and more sustainable school journeys





Ready to inspire your students to become travel champions?

We're looking for more **Cambridge secondary schools** to join the programme. Participation is fully funded, easy to get started with, and comes with ongoing support from the ATA team.
Give your students a voice, support your school's Climate Action Plan, gain a nationally recognised Modeshift STARS Travel Plan, and receive **£200 towards rewards and incentives**.

To find out more or register your interest, contact Keith Woodward
Active Travel Ambassadors Coordinator (East of England)
Phone: 07856282703
Email: Keith@modeshift.org.uk
Web: www.modeshiftstars.org / www.modeshift.org.uk

Places are limited, so get in touch today and help your students lead the way towards healthier, safer and more sustainable journeys.

Cleaner Air Starts With Us: A New Film and Resources for Schools

The Road Safety Education Team are delighted to launch **Clearer Skies, Healthier Lives**, an exciting new resource helping pupils understand air quality, health and sustainable travel.

Piloted in Cambridgeshire schools, pupils took part in interactive workshops, investigated local air quality using monitoring equipment and helped create a new educational film exploring how travel choices can affect both health and the environment.

The new initiative supports schools already involved in **Modeshift STARS** and **Junior Travel Ambassadors** and can also contribute towards **Healthy Schools** activities, helping schools promote cleaner air, healthier lifestyles and safer journeys to school.

Developed with funding from **Cambridgeshire Public Health** and support from partners including **Cambridge City Council** and **South Cambridgeshire District Council**, the project combines real-world air quality research with engaging classroom learning.

Suitable for **Years 4 to 7**, the package includes a short film, lesson plans and classroom activities that can be delivered as part of **PSHE**, **Science** or environmental education.

Free Resources for Schools
Schools can access the film and accompanying teaching materials free of charge. If you would like lesson plans, classroom activities and a link to the film, please contact:

road.safety@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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Cambridgeshire Schools Shine in Modeshift STARS Awards

It's been another fantastic year for **Modeshift STARS** in Cambridgeshire, with around 100 schools supported to make journeys to school safer, healthier and more sustainable.
For those new to the programme, **Modeshift STARS** is a free national scheme that helps schools encourage walking, wheeling, scooting, cycling and other sustainable travel choices. Through travel planning, pupil engagement and school-led initiatives, schools can make a real difference to the way their communities travel.

From active travel challenges and road safety campaigns to pupil-led travel ambassador programmes, schools across the county have shown great commitment to promoting sustainable travel. The enthusiasm of pupils, staff and families continues to help reduce congestion at the school gate while supporting healthier lifestyles and safer journeys.
We are especially proud to celebrate the achievements of five Cambridgeshire schools that have been invited to attend the **Modeshift STARS Primary School of the Region Awards**:

The Vine Inter-Church Primary School
Littleport Community Primary School
Godmanchester Community Academy
Bar Hill Community Primary School
Wisbech Grammar School

Could your school be next year's School of the Region? Contact the Road Safety Education Team to find out how your school can get involved with Modeshift STARS.

These schools have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to promoting sustainable travel and should be congratulated on their success.

The awards event will also feature Dave from Histrionics, specialists in bringing history to life through engaging educational performances, exploring this year's "Journeys Through the Ages" theme. exploring how journeys to school have changed over time.

Congratulations to all our nominated schools and thank you to every Cambridgeshire school taking part in Modeshift STARS and helping to create safer, healthier and more sustainable school journeys. There are separate awards events for Secondary and SEND schools.



School Spotlight: Bar Hill Primary School



Young Air Quality Detectives Lead the Way

We're delighted to share that **Bar Hill Community Primary School** has achieved **Modeshift STARS National Outstanding Level Accreditation** and has been nominated for **Primary School of the Region**, recognising the school's outstanding commitment to healthier, safer and more sustainable travel.

Earlier this year, members of the school's **Eco Warriors** and **Junior Travel Ambassadors (JTAs)** took part in our **Clearer Skies, Healthier Lives** project. Using specialist air quality sensors, pupils investigated different locations around the school, analysed real-world data and explored how travel choices can affect air quality and community health.

Nikita Frampton, School Travel Champion, said:

"This project has been a fantastic opportunity for our children to take an active role in understanding and improving the environment around them. By collecting real data and discussing sustainable travel, they have developed their confidence as young leaders and environmental champions. It has been wonderful to see them turning their learning into positive action and helping to shape a more sustainable future for our school and wider community."

To finish the project, every pupil made a personal **Clean Air Promise**, pledging one action they could take to help improve air quality.

The workshop also helped shape our new **Clearer Skies, Healthier Lives** film and teaching package for Years 4-7, now available free of charge to schools across Cambridgeshire.

Interested in taking part?

Schools can access the **Clearer Skies, Healthier Lives** film, lesson plans and classroom activities free of charge. **Contact:** road.safety@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Congratulations to everyone at Bar Hill Community Primary School on their National Outstanding accreditation and regional award nomination.

Bar Hill Primary School Shines at Modeshift STARS Awards



Bar Hill Primary School has been recognised for its outstanding commitment to promoting safer, healthier and more sustainable travel, earning recognition at the 2026 Modeshift STARS Regional Awards.

Promoting Sustainable Travel

The award celebrates schools that are making a real difference by encouraging environmentally friendly journeys to and from school and embedding sustainable travel into everyday school life.

Led by Pupils

Led by enthusiastic pupils, Junior Travel Ambassadors, Eco Warriors and staff, the school has successfully embedded sustainable travel throughout the school community. Their achievements were further recognised through the award of Outstanding Modeshift STARS Accreditation.

A Whole School Achievement

The school's activities have helped encourage more pupils and families to choose healthier and more environmentally friendly ways of travelling to and from school, supporting both personal wellbeing and cleaner air in the local community.

Nikita Frampton, Teacher and School Travel Plan Champion, said:

"Being named a Cambridgeshire winner at the Modeshift STARS Regional Awards is a tremendous achievement and reflects the dedication of pupils, staff, parents and the wider school community to making active and sustainable travel a part of everyday life."

Congratulations to all the pupils, staff, parents and volunteers at Bar Hill Primary School whose commitment to active and sustainable travel has resulted in this well-deserved recognition. Their work is helping to create safer, healthier and cleaner journeys for the whole school community.

Sharing Our Roads Safely with Horses This Autumn and Winter

Darker mornings, poor weather and rural roads can make it harder to spot horses and riders, so a little extra care goes a long way.



Passing Horses Safely

- Slow down to around **10 mph**
- Pass wide, leaving at least **2 metres** where possible
- Be prepared to stop if needed

Horses are powerful animals but can be startled by sudden noise, speed or vehicles passing too closely. Giving riders plenty of space helps keep everyone safe.

Advice for Drivers and Cyclists

Whether you're driving on a country lane or cycling on a shared path, slow down, be patient and give horses plenty of space. If appropriate, let the rider know you're there and be prepared to stop if requested.

Autumn and Winter Tips

Look out for riders during darker mornings and evenings.
Take extra care on bends, narrow lanes and rural roads.
Be aware that rain, fog, low sun, mud and fallen leaves can reduce visibility and affect road conditions.

Remember Think Horse: Slow Down, Pass Wide and Be Patient

A little extra care helps keep riders, horses and all road users safe this autumn and winter.



Young Riders on Our Roads

Many horse riders are children and young people travelling to bridleways, riding centres and off-road routes.

A little patience, extra care and plenty of space can help young riders feel safe and confident when sharing the road.

Find the Safer Way to School This Winter

As darker mornings, earlier sunsets and winter weather arrive, helping pupils travel safely to and from school becomes even more important. Our **free personalised Safer Routes Maps** give families the confidence to choose safer walking, wheeling, cycling and scooting routes throughout the school year.

Created by the Road Safety Education Team, each map is tailored to your school and highlights:

- Recommended walking, wheeling and cycling routes
- Safe crossing points
- Park and Stride locations
- Local landmarks for easy navigation

Perfect for new starters and existing families alike, the maps can help pupils and parents plan their journeys during the busier autumn and winter months when visibility may be reduced.

Why Schools Use Them

Safer Routes Maps can help:

- Encourage safer and more sustainable journeys to school
- Support road safety education
- Reduce congestion around the school gate
- Promote walking, wheeling, cycling and scooting where appropriate

Schools can share maps on their website, in newsletters, at parent events or as part of their Modeshift STARS travel plan.

Need a New or Updated Map?

If your school would like a personalised Safer Routes Map, or an existing map updated, the Road Safety Education Team would be delighted to help.
road.safety@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Helping families find safer routes and make every school journey a little easier, whatever the season.

"When I started secondary school, the map helped me find a new route to school that feels safer and easier to follow." – Pupil



Driving Safely Through Autumn & Winter



⚠️ **Wet roads, flooding and poor visibility can dramatically increase the risk of collisions. A few simple checks before you travel can help keep everyone safe.**

PLAN AHEAD

- ⏰ Allow extra time for your journey
- 🚗 Check your vehicle is roadworthy
- ↔️ Leave a greater gap between vehicles
- 🚫 Never ignore road closure signs

FLOODING

- 🌊 Just **30cm of moving water** can float a vehicle
- ⚠️ Hidden hazards may lie beneath the surface
- 🚙 Most vehicles are not designed to drive through flood water

Flood Safety: Remember SSOS

S - Stay Calm

S - Seatbelt Release

O - Open Windows

S - Situational Awareness

VEHICLE SAFETY CHECKS

Remember FLOWER

F Fuel

L Lights

O Oil

W Water (coolant & screen wash)

E Electrics

R Rubber (tyres & wipers)

AQUAPLANING & STOPPING DISTANCES

- 💧 Ease off the accelerator if tyres lose grip
- 🚫 Avoid harsh braking or steering
- 🔴 Stopping distances can double in wet conditions
- ❄️ On ice, stopping distances can be more than **10 times longer**

PROTECTING VULNERABLE ROAD USERS

- 🚶 Pedestrians
- 🚲 Cyclists
- 🏍️ Motorcyclists
- 🐎 Horse riders

Remember:

- ✅ Slow down
- ✅ Be patient
- ✅ Leave at least **2 metres of space** whenever possible
- ✅ Avoid splashing people as you pass





Meet the newest member of Cambridgeshire County Council's Road Safety Team.

The Road Safety Team is pleased to welcome **Nick Southern**, who joined Cambridgeshire County Council in September 2026.

Nick brings valuable experience from his previous role as a Casualty Reduction Officer with Cambridgeshire Police and has worked closely with partners across the Vision Zero Road Safety Partnership in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

During his first week, Nick was introduced to the wide range of programmes delivered by the Road Safety Team, including Bikeability cycle training, Junior Travel Ambassadors, the School Crossing Patrol service and School Travel Plans.

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VISION ZERO PARTNERSHIP
Delivering Safer Roads for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough

Nick added:

"Our local Vision Zero Partnership has a huge role to play in delivering the Government's new National Road Safety Strategy. I am delighted to be contributing to Cambridgeshire County Council's efforts to reduce casualties and make roads safer for everyone.
Look out for Road Safety tips and campaigns over the coming months. Safe travels!"

World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims

Throughout this newsletter we celebrate the many positive ways schools are helping children and young people travel safely and sustainably. Sadly, road collisions continue to have a devastating impact on families and communities. The following event offers an opportunity to remember those affected and support the important work of the Road Victims Trust.

The work we do together through road safety education, sustainable travel and safer journeys helps ensure fewer families experience the devastating consequences of road collisions.



The **Road Victims Trust** has invited people across Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire to attend its annual **Service of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims**, marking the **World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims**.
The service provides an opportunity to remember those who have lost their lives on our roads and to reflect on the lasting impact road collisions have on families, friends and communities.

The **Road Victims Trust** provides emotional and practical support to people affected by road death and serious injury.

For further information, to make a donation or learn more about the charity's work, visit **www.rvtrust.org.uk**.

Bikeability Cycle Training Returns to Cambridgeshire Schools

Fully funded cycle training helping Cambridgeshire pupils develop the skills and confidence to ride safely for life.

✅ **Fully funded for Cambridgeshire schools**
🚲 **Level 2 on-road training for Year 5 and Year 6 pupils**
⭐ **Learn to Ride and Level 1 courses available**
🛣️ **Building skills for safer journeys and lifelong road safety**

Delivered by Outspoken Training on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council
To arrange training contact road.safety@cambridgeshire.gov.uk . or visit outspokentraining.co.uk



Bikeability gives children the skills and confidence to cycle safely on today's roads.

Free **Level 2 on-road training** is available for Year 5 and Year 6 pupils, helping them develop lifelong road safety skills while encouraging healthier and more sustainable travel.

For children who are not yet ready for on-road cycling, **Learn to Ride** and **Level 1** courses provide a supportive pathway, ensuring every pupil has the opportunity to build confidence and progress at their own pace.

Research shows that high-quality cycle training helps improve cycling skills, boost confidence and support safer journeys for young people.

New! Get Cycling for EYFS & Year 1

Help younger children develop cycle skills from the very start.

🟩 **What's Included?**

✅ Free half-day staff training for up to two members of staff

✅ Six balance bikes and helmets provided to participating schools
✅ Designed for EYFS and Year 1 pupils

✅ Delivered through PE lessons or extracurricular activities

To take part, visit the Bikeability Get Cycling website.

Keeping Cambridgeshire Cycling

Free bike safety checks, bicycle recycling and practical workshops help more people ride safely and confidently.

Is your bike in need of some attention? Book a free Dr Bike session with a qualified mechanic for a professional safety check and minor repairs. Brake and gear adjustments, tyre inflation and lubrication are all included to help keep your bike safe and roadworthy.



Follow the link to book

Cambridgeshire County Council - Dr Bike



Bike Rescue Scheme

Do you have an unwanted bicycle gathering dust in a shed or garage? Rather than letting it go unused, donate it to our Bike Rescue scheme and help someone else enjoy the benefits of cycling.

Donated bikes are assessed, repaired where appropriate and given a new lease of life, helping remove cost barriers that can prevent people from accessing cycling.

Donate your unwanted bike today- https://forms.gle/PrEd3wTCPxRVVWDh7

Free School Workshops & Bike Safety Checks

Give pupils the knowledge and confidence to keep their bikes safe, roadworthy and ready to ride. These fully funded workshops are delivered by a professional cycle mechanic and include practical sessions covering pre-ride checks, puncture repairs, brake and gear assessment and basic bike maintenance. Schools can also arrange free bike safety checks for pupils and staff.



Interested in hosting a workshop or bike safety check?

activetravel@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

walk wheel cycle

E-Bikes and E-Scooters: Know the Rules





As e-bikes and e-scooters become increasingly popular, it is important that young people and their families understand the rules governing their safe and legal use.

E-Bikes
Electric bikes, also known as **Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycles (EAPCs)**, can be used on roads and cycle routes provided they meet legal requirements. Riders must be aged **14 or over**, the bike must have working pedals, and the motor must stop providing assistance when the bike reaches **15.5mph (25km/h)**.
Any e-bike that exceeds these limits may be classed as a motorcycle or moped and require registration, insurance and the appropriate licence.

E-Scooters
Although privately owned e-scooters can be purchased legally, they **cannot be used on public roads, pavements or cycle paths**.

They may only be ridden on private land with the landowner's permission. Using a privately owned e-scooter in public could result in police enforcement action.

Please ensure that any e-bike or e-scooter used for journeys to and from school is both safe and legal.

Want to know more? visit the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Vision Zero website or contact the Road Safety Education Team

Road.safety@cambridgeshire.gov.uk **Vison Zero:** Road Safety Partnership

Bright Ideas for a Greener Future

Resources, events and opportunities to help schools on their sustainability journey.

This term we're featuring **PECT**, an environmental charity that supports schools in creating a greener future through practical sustainability projects, educational resources and climate action initiatives. Working with schools across the region, PECT helps pupils explore topics such as climate change, biodiversity and sustainable living, while providing staff with tools and guidance to support their own sustainability journey.

From Climate Action Plans and environmental education to training, events and hands-on opportunities for pupils, PECT offers a wide range of support to help schools make a positive difference for both their communities and the environment. Take a look at the latest resources, events and opportunities available below.

Whether you are just starting your sustainability journey or looking to build on existing successes, we encourage you to explore the opportunities available and discover how PECT can support your school's environmental ambitions.





Interested in finding out more?
Request a free demonstration or taster membership by contacting
hello@climateeducation.co.uk

With thanks to PECT for sharing these opportunities with Cambridgeshire schools.

Stop Means Stop Campaign Returns This November

School Crossing Patrol teams across the East of England will be joining forces this November to support the **Stop Means Stop Campaign**, running from **2-20 November 2026**.

The campaign aims to remind drivers that it is a legal requirement to stop when a School Crossing Patrol displays the stop sign. School Crossing Patrols help children, families and other pedestrians cross the road safely every day and play an important role in keeping communities safe around schools.

Keep an eye on local social media channels during November and help us spread this important road safety message.

The School Crossing Patrol crosses everyone!



School Crossing Patrol Update

We are pleased to report that a new School Crossing Patrol is now in place on **Maple Grove, March**, helping pupils and families travelling to and from **Westwood School** cross safely.

We are currently recruiting School Crossing Patrols at the following locations:

- Hartford Infant & Junior Schools
- High Barns, Ely
- Spring Meadow School
- Cottenham Junior School
- Manea
- Priory Park Junior School, Longsands Road, St Neots



Supporting the Next Generation of Cyclists

Outspoken Training recruits new Bikeability instructors

Outspoken Training is seeking new Cycle Instructors to support the delivery of Bikeability training in schools across Cambridgeshire.

The programme helps children develop safe cycling skills, build confidence and gain independence on the road. Instructors work with pupils throughout the county, delivering practical training that supports safer and more active journeys.

Full training and ongoing support are provided for successful applicants.

Find out more:
jobs@outspokentraining.co.uk

Outspoken! Training

smartjourneys

Love to Ride | Schools Launches New Programme

Smart Journeys supports new Love to Ride initiative

Sharon Forbes, Smart Journeys, said:
"We're excited to support the launch of Love to Ride | Schools, a new platform designed to help councils and schools encourage more children to walk, wheel, scoot and cycle to school.“

The programme provides schools and local authorities with ready-made challenges, engagement tools and year-round travel data, helping to support active and safer journeys to school.

A new feature, **Schoolways** (coming soon), will use community feedback and mapping to identify strengths and challenges along school routes.
Love to Ride is currently inviting a limited number of councils to become Trailblazers, offering launch support and preferential pricing.

Find out more:
schools.lovetoride.net/trail-blazers