



Smarter Parker Campaign

In partnership with the Tyne and Wear authorities we are taking part in a regional campaign to promote smarter parking near our schools. Considerate parking helps to keep our children safe and reduce congestion around the school gates.

The 'Be a Smarter Parker Campaign' encourages parents to park responsibly



near schools and reinforces the message that parking on school keep clear markings, double parking or parking near junctions isn't acceptable.

We know that parking and dropping off near school entrances causes issues and concerns for schools and also those living near them and it is something that we are trying to tackle by encouraging more parents to leave the car at home when possible and walk, cycle or scoot to school instead.

Be a smarter parker

Park responsibly and help keep our children safe.
Support our smarter parking campaign.

Schools
GoSmarter
gosmarter.co.uk

Northumberland Parking Enforcement Vehicle

As part of Northumberland County Councils continued commitment to tackle inconsiderate parking near our schools, the council are introducing an enforcement vehicle (camera car).

Unfortunately, last December the vehicle was significantly damaged during the floods and therefore the proposed launch date of January has been postponed.

Once we have a revised start date, the vehicle will go on an awareness raising programme of events at schools across the county, so that pupils can learn more about how it will be used to promote road safety near their schools.





Modeshift STARS

at Love Northumberland Awards

Mickley First and Mowbray Primary receiving their awards at Alnwick Gardens.

Mickley First School and Mowbray Primary both achieved bronze level Modeshift Stars Awards in September as recognition of the excellent work they have been doing to encourage sustainable travel and road safety at their schools.

Both schools received their plaques and certificates at the Love Northumberland award ceremony which was held at Alnwick Garden, the awards were hosted by Look North's Carol Malia and presented by the Duchess of Northumberland.

Northumberland County Council signed up to the National Modeshift STARS Award scheme last year and the scheme is open to all Northumberland schools.

'Modeshift Stars is a fantastic scheme which encourages schools to teach children about road safety and healthier ways to travel to school. It has also got the staff thinking about sharing lifts and using public transport. We were delighted to receive the bronze award for the work we have done with the local police and 'Walk on Wednesday'. Lynsey Briddock, Mickley First School

Achieving Bronze level from Modeshift has really focused the minds of staff, parents and children to find ways of reducing traffic around the school building. The system is an easy way to catalogue your achievements and set targets to improve'. Harriet Ogglesby Mowbray Primary School



Modeshift STARS

Do you want to find out more?

There are lots of ideas and resources on the STARS website www.modeshiftstars.org and for help getting started please contact us on **01670 624117**

To achieve bronze level schools need to have taken part in at least 10 different initiatives over the last 3 years, many of you will already have achieved this.

In April we will be asking schools to complete their annual hands up survey online through the Modeshift STARS system. Full instructions will be sent out nearer the time.

Recycled Bikes

Our friends from WATBike, the community transport charity would love to come to any school event you are organising to sell their recycled bikes.

WatBike refurbishes donated bikes, which stops them going to landfill and then sells them on at a reasonable cost to raise funds for their charity, they also accept donations of bikes that you no longer need, so we could arrange a collection of unwanted bikes from your school.

If you are planning a school event, why not get in touch for more information.



Children in Need

In November Bothal Primary School held an organised walk to school for Children in Need. Pupils dressed up as their favourite superhero and walked to school with their parents and carers from Ashington Leisure Centre car park.



The car park is less than a 10 minute walk to school so this proved no problem for our army of superheroes.

Walk on Wednesdays

WoW started again in October with 36 schools and over 8,000 pupils signed up to the challenge with 10 new schools taking part this year.

WoW continues to be a great way for schools to encourage parents and pupils to get the active travel habit while also reducing traffic around their schools. Good luck to everyone who is taking part this year.

Pupils at Josephine Butler Primary school launching WoW.



Healthy Living Week

at Bede Academy

As part of their Healthy Living week in November year 7 students at Bede Academy in Blyth took part in a pedometer challenge to see who could record the highest number of 'steps'.

Students were loaned a pedometer for a week to raise awareness of how regular walking can contribute to a healthy lifestyle, pupils who took part were chosen at random to win a £10 shopping voucher.

The school also held a Dr Bike session during the week where students and staff could bring in their bicycles for a free safety check.

Dates for your diary 2016

- Wednesday 6 January **Walk on Wednesday** new term starts
- February British Heart Foundation **National Heart Month** <https://www.bhf.org.uk/heart-health/preventing-heart-disease/heart-month1>
- 29 Feb -4 March **Climate Change Week**
- April – **The Big Pedal** www.bigpedal.org.uk/
- April – Schools Annual Hands up Surveys to be completed
- 9 - 13 May **Walk to Work Week**
- 16 - 20 May **Walk to School Week** www.livingstreets.co.uk
- 11 - 19th June **Bike Week**
- 5 June **World Environment Day**

Bike Week June 2015

Bike Week 2015 was a great success with 16 schools signed up and 2473 pupils taking part in numerous activities throughout the week.

Schools who took part in the Northumberland cycling challenge have shown a huge increase in the numbers cycling to school over the week. Out of a possible 6014 possible journeys to school almost 40% were made by bike with some schools achieving over 90% during the week.

For the second year running Tweedmouth Prior Park First School won the cycling challenge with 71% of pupils cycling to school for the whole week. Headteacher Pauline Molloy told us *"once again a great week, the best class had a weekly figure of 87% with 90% of the class cycling on 2 days of the week- 26 out of 29 children cycled to school on those 2 days, amazing!"*

Be Bright Be Seen

at Corbridge First School

In November Corbridge First School held a week of activities to promote road safety and sustainable travel to their pupils. Children took part in a competition to design signs with road safety messages.

Head Teacher Jennifer Ainsley told us: *'The children are very knowledgeable about ways to stay safe and on these dark nights, and mornings, the brighter we can be the better. The children really enjoyed sharing their message and their board designs were of such a high standard that we have displayed them in school for all to see.'*



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