



**St Albans Girls' School**  
Specialist Business and Enterprise Academy

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# TRAVEL PLAN

## **Travel planning policy**

Management of transport generated by developments is included within national, regional and local policy. The National Planning Policy Framework states that all developments which generate significant amounts of movement should be required to provide a travel plan. The [National Planning Practice Guidance](#), published in November 2016, further reinforces the importance of travel plans in the planning context.

This travel plan supports the practical implementation of Hertfordshire County Council's Local Transport Plan 2017 (LTP4).

## **Part one – information about the school**

### **School expansion**

This Travel plan was required as part of the planning permission to expand our school to an 8 FE Secondary School in 2018.

The granted planning permission resulted in an increase in the number of pupil places by 150 over five years. The school expanded to eight form entry from September 2019 (1247 at the start of 2018 moving up towards 1,450 in September 2024). The number of staff has not increased to date but may possibly increase in the coming years which has been factored into to the school’s travel plan.

The granted planning application saw a new eight classroom block built. However, there are no proposed changes to on-site parking provision or vehicular / pedestrian access arrangements as these are not deemed to be required, as more than adequate provision is in place.

The school was further granted planning permission in 2021 for the building of a full sized synthetic football pitch, more commonly known as a ‘3G’ pitch. Planning did not require any additional inclusions in the travel plan as footfall and visitor access will be outside of the normal school day programme.

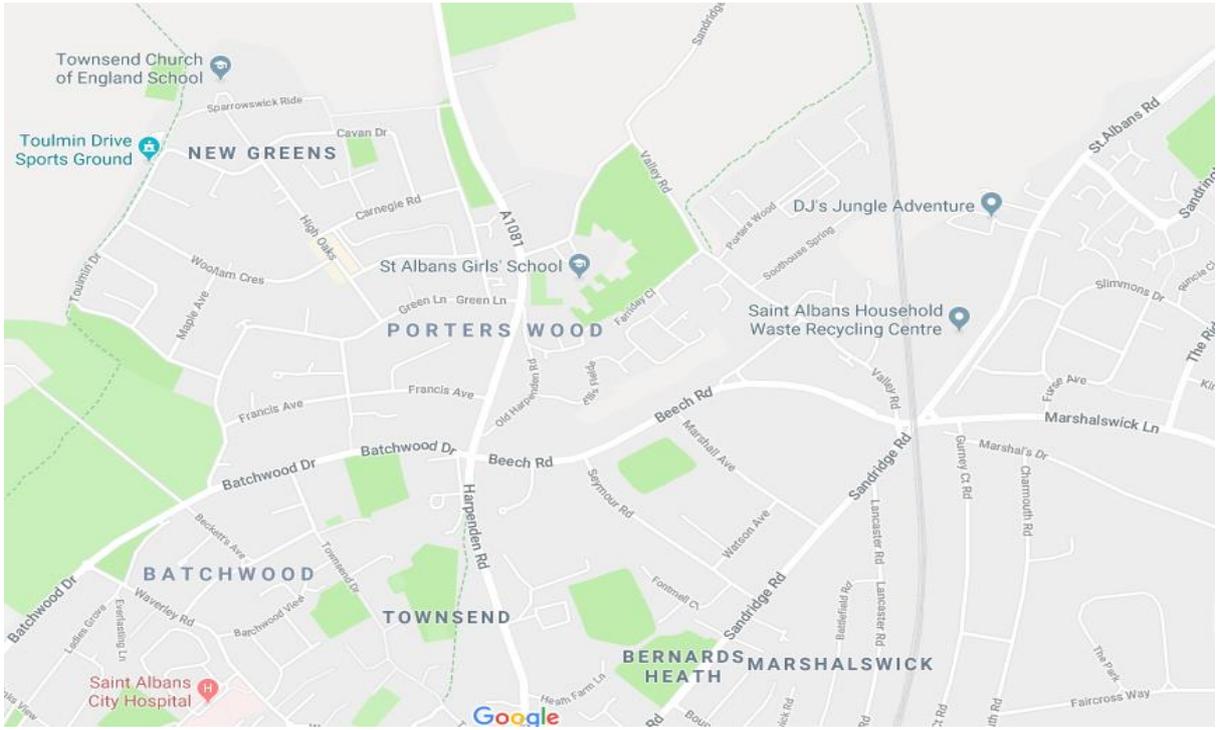
### **School location**

St Albans Girls’ School (STAGS) is located in a suburban area on Sandridgebury Lane, just off the A1081 Harpenden Road, It is within the district of St Albans in the North of Hertfordshire. The school is also located within 1.6 miles of St Albans town centre and 1.9 miles to St Albans City train station.

Harpenden Road is a two way A road and provides access to St Albans and Harpenden

[A site plan of the school can be viewed on page 4.]





## Parking

The table below sets out the vehicle and cycle parking and associated facilities that are currently available on site.

	Description	Numbers
Car parking	No. of staff parking spaces	88
	No. of visitor / staff overflow spaces	60
	No. of disabled spaces	4
Cycle parking	No. of staff cycle bays	40 bays (two bikes on each bay therefore 80 bikes can be parked)
Storage lockers	No. of student storage lockers	1420
Shower facilities	Staff shower facilities	1
	Student shower facilities	10

## Existing transport links

There is currently one pedestrian crossing in close proximity to the school on Harpenden Road.

Students entering the site on foot or via bicycle do so via the footpaths located around the school site.

Students arriving by car or public/private bus enter via the main gate identified in picture 10.

Waiting restrictions on Sandridgebury Lane include School Keep Clear markings outside the School entrance along with double and single yellow lines on both sides of the road of the School entrance. The school would like to extend these to cover a wider area.

Extended restricted lines are also in place along Harpenden Road, finishing just before the bus stop and after the pedestrian crossing.

To the east of the school site, a footpath is included in the direction of Valley Road, with a large grass verge located adjacent to Valley Road.

Directly outside the School entrance is a footpath in place along both sides of Harpenden Road thus enabling safe pedestrian routes on both sides of the carriageway.

Vehicle traffic enters/exits the School site via one entrance on Sandridgebury Lane (see photo 10). Two side gates allows access to pedestrian / cycle traffic. The access to the school grounds is restricted from approximately 3pm to manage the end of school egress of students.

## Sustainable travel initiatives

Recent initiatives following expansion:

The bike storage for students and staff bicycles has been increased from around spaces 40 to 80 spaces. With the addition of the Innovation Centre in 2012 shower facilities became available for staff.

## School population

No. of students	1306 currently on roll
No. of staff	114 FTE + casual exam invigilators (20)
Are there any students with specific travel requirements? Please include details here (i.e. number of students and type of travel requirement)	1 student travels to school by taxi.

## On-site facilities

No. of car parking spaces	<i>See table under School location.</i>
No. of cycle storage spaces	<i>See table under School location.</i>
Details of any facilities which encourage walking or cycling, for example, lockers, shelters, drying areas etc.	<i>See table under School location.</i>

## How students and staff currently travel to school

**Date of survey:** Surveys took place during September 2018 (Due to be reviewed in September 2020 but unable to undertake 2020 due to Covid restrictions)

Means of transport	% of respondents	% of respondents	% of total staff
School Bus	15.1%		
Public Bus	14.6%	2%	1.7%
Cycle	0%	2%	1.7%
Car passenger	17.6%	4%	3.5%
Car share*	5.7%	5.1%	4.4%
Walk	38.9%	5.1%	4.4%
Car driver (on their own)	3.4	75.8	65.8%
Train	0.2%	2%	1.7%
Taxi	0.2%		
Other	4.66%	4%	3.5%
<b>No. of students surveyed - 1247</b>		<b>No. of staff Surveyed 114 (staff on role excluding exam invigilators)</b>	

\* NB – car sharing means travelling in the car with people who live at a different address to you.

## Journey origins and maximum sustainable travel potential

### Students

Distances from school	Percentage of current students	Potential mode of travel
within 5km of school	61.4%	walk or cycle
over 5km	38.6%	cycle, car share or public transport

### Staff

Distances from school	Percentage of current staff	Potential mode of travel
within 5km of school	27.3%	walk or cycle
over 5km	72.7%	cycle, car share or public transport

### Travel issues

No.	Issues
1	Speed of traffic on Harpenden Road potentially a risk for those walking and cycling to school.
2.	Parking on Sandridgebury Lane (grass verges and over residential cross overs) associated with parent pick up in the afternoon.
3.	Public buses are currently overcrowded especially the after school bus picking up students. Therefore difficult to encourage more students to travel by bus.
4.	There is a problem especially during the pickup period with traffic backing up out of the school site and onto Sandridgebury Lane due to buses using the drop off location to the front of the school. Parents are asked to park away from the school and have students walk to their location.
5.	During drop off cars are blocking up the bus parking and buses are therefore letting students disembark while they are waiting to enter the designated drop off area thus causing traffic to back up behind the buses.
6.	Safe access for pedestrians coming from the direction of Harpenden. Pedestrians have to cross over Sandridgebury Lane outside of the school in order to access the pedestrian path running alongside the main access into the school.
7.	The number of students travelling to school by car is causing congestion during morning drop off and pick up periods.
8.	We would like to improve the health of the school community.

## Part two – what we are aiming to achieve

### Travel plan objectives

No.	Objectives	Related issue
1.	Forward plan to be agreed with HCC for road safety schemes on the school journey. Ideally we would like this to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• further crossings provided,</li> <li>• local councillors to attend site and see the issues of the school and residents alike</li> <li>• additional signage to be extended outside of the school grounds</li> <li>• 20 mile and hour restriction to be put in place</li> <li>• Traffic speed restrictions measure to be put in place</li> </ul>	1
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road safety education and training programme established focussing specifically on pedestrian and cycle training, particularly for students in the lower years.</li> <li>• Local councillors to attend site and see the issues of the school and residents alike</li> <li>• Additional signage to be extended outside of the school grounds</li> <li>• 20 mile and hour restriction to be put in place</li> <li>• Traffic speed restrictions measure to be put in place</li> </ul>	1,6
3.	Minimise use of private cars and encourage use sustainable modes of transport by students and staff.	4,5,7
5	Education programme established which focuses on the benefits of sustainable travel with regards to health and the impact on the environment.	1, 6, 7, 8
7	Discussions to take place with HCC about bus provision and bus parking and an agreement reached.	3, 5

### Targets

No.	Targets	Related objective	Owner
1	Engage with local council in speed restrictive and parking issues on Sandridgebury lane	1 &2	
2	Road safety education and training programme in place by September 2018. New plan implemented from September 2019.	2	
3	Increase the number of students who live within 5km walking and cycling to school by September 2022.	2	
4	Significant reduction in the number of students being driven to school by September 2023.	3	
5	Significant increase in the number of students travelling to school by bus by September 2023.	3	
6	Increase the number of staff walking or cycling to work who live within 5km.	3	
7	Forward plan for road safety schemes in place by September 2022.	1	

## Measures to be implemented

Measures	Completion date	To be undertaken by:	Related target
Appoint an existing member of staff to act as the Travel Plan Coordinator.	September 2021	P O'Neill	1-7
Put together a Travel Plan Working Group.	January 2021	M Chapman	1-7
Arrange meeting with School Sustainable Travel Team and HCC Highways to discuss road safety issues in and around the school.	June 2021	M Chapman	1,7
School to take part in Community Speed Watch.	July 2022	P O'Neill	1
Contact School Sustainable Travel Team to discuss attendance of Theatre in Education (road safety themed) for Yrs 7 and 11.	January 2022	P O'Neill	1
Plan road safety education + training initiatives for the rest of academic year 2018/19.	February 2021	SLT Team	1,7
Contact Bikeability to discuss customised cycle training for both students and staff.	January 2021	E Taylor	2,3
Establish a cycle club (for both students and staff?)	February 2021	TBC	2,3,6
Promote car sharing at staff meeting	September 2021	M Chapman	5
Create a sustainable travel section on the school website.	March 2022	N Millard	2,3,4,5,6
Create a regular sustainable travel section In STAGSLINK	March 2022	N Millard	2,3,4,6

## Remedial measures

- More staff time to be allocated to implementation of the School Travel Plan.
- Provision of facilities which are likely to increase take up of sustainable travel, e.g. additional staff showers, drying area, parents' waiting area.
- The amount/variety of promotional events increased such as regular "car free" days, whole school walk-to-school events etc.
- Provision of a personalised travel planning scheme.
- Partnership working with other, local schools STARS team from the LA

## Monitoring

A monitoring report will be submitted to ATLAS Board on an annual basis and will contain the results of hands-up surveys for students and staff.

## School details

<b>School address</b>	Sandridgebury Lane St Albans AL3 6DB
<b>Student age range</b>	11-18
<b>No. on roll</b>	Currently 1,247
<b>School opening times</b>	08:00 – 15:20
<b>After- school clubs</b>	15:20 – 16:30