

Update following the Newland House School and Local Community Meeting- December 2021

During what felt like a productive first meeting in October involving representatives from all parts of the school's community as well as local residents, the Head committed to providing an interim update on what has been achieved in relation to the agenda points, prior to the next meeting in March. The full minutes of this meeting were shared shortly afterwards and can be viewed [here](#).

Parking issues

A letter was sent out to parents from Year 8 pupils about the need to park respectfully: [Community Notices - Newland House School](#)

The School has engaged with a specialist consulting firm about future school bus routes and have received detailed information on locations of current families and prospective families. This will influence amendments to the school's bus network, which will hopefully encourage more families to avoid driving to the school.

The Bursar has investigated the possibility of the school employing a Lollipop person to provide a visible deterrent to poor parking as well as allowing all members of the local community to cross the Waldegrave Park safely in the morning and after-school. The Finance Committee of the Governing body will ascertain whether this is a feasible investment.

Year 7 and 8 pupils have been undertaking a sustainable transport initiative. This involved them leading a three-week project in the final weeks of this term, which encouraged pupils to come to school by bike, scooter or on foot. The hope is that this will reduce the number of cars needing to park before and after school. An analysis of the data will follow these initiatives to ascertain their success. One of the projects involved creating a walking bus in the morning which originated away from the school. Should this be successful, it could become a regular offering.

Richmond anti-idling campaign

The school is rotating the position of the campaign banner and it is currently positioned outside the school in Teddington Park Road to encourage car users to switch off their engines when parked.

Noise generated by the school

The school paid for an acoustic expert to measure sound levels generated around its perimeter and to model the impact on residents. The independent report generated was shared with Richmond Council should they wish to use it.

The Bursar and Head revisited the idea of building higher walls around the entire site in response to a local resident who suggested this would reduce noise beyond the school's perimeter. They agreed that the most obvious first stage is to see what Richmond Council conclude following the planning application in respect of the perimeter of the Pre-Prep play area and then decide on any future actions from there.

Planning matters

The school has withdrawn planning application 21/0939/VRC which relates to the boundary treatment of the play area in the Pre-Prep school. A new application in respect of this boundary will be submitted shortly.

Foxes

Following the filling in of foxholes on one of the school properties, the school has also filled in additional holes in the section of land between the school and 36 Waldegrave Park.

School Travel Plan and Gold accreditation

The school has updated their school travel plan with targets that have been agreed with the school travel advisor at Richmond and Wandsworth Council. This has also been submitted to Richmond planning. It is also available to view [here](#). In response to a resident's question about the level of reduction of cars visiting the site, here is a table detailing how staff and pupils travel to Newland House (please note that following a disrupted year in 2020/21, no survey was conducted):

Year	% active travel*	% public transport	% cars and motorbikes
2021/22	56	8	35
2020/21	No data available		
2019/20	41	10	49
2018/19	43	6	50
2017/18	No data available		
2016/17	39	8	53
2015/16	33	11	56

*walking, scooting and cycling

The school was awarded the Gold accreditation in September 2019 based on a range of initiatives that the school had undertaken. These include bikeability training, hands up surveys, school assemblies, communications with parents, bike to work scheme for staff and curriculum and extracurricular activities.