WALKING BUS

Further information / FAQs on the Walking Bus

Walking Bus Timetable:

Lagley Meadow route (Green route) – From stop 1 approximately 900m; estimated time 20 minutes

Bus stop number	Location	Meeting point	Meeting time
1	Lagley Meadow	On the grass at the top end of the playground (just off Shrublands Road)	08.00
2	Canal footpath	Junction of canal footpath and Billet Lane footpath, near Belton Road. Please meet on the canal footpath outside number 2 Billet Lane.	08.05
3	Billet Lane / Bridgewater Road	On the grass triangle at the end of the cycle path (see road markings) at the junction of Billet Lane / Bridgewater Road (the "slip road"). Please do not wait close to the crossing.	08.10

Timetable: The Walking Bus must operate to a strict timetable. Parents must make sure that children are at the right bus stop on time (preferably just before the agreed time). The Walking Bus cannot wait for late children, even if they are expected on the bus. Parents are responsible for their child's safety on the way to and from their chosen bus stop and for making sure that children who miss the bus arrive at school safely and on time. Based on advice from Hertfordshire County Council, the Walking Bus will operate only for the journey to school – not for the return journey.

Absence: Parents must tell the volunteers for their route if their child will not be going to school e.g. due to illness (this is in addition to notifying the school in the usual way).

Cancellation: The Walking Bus will usually operate in all weathers. If there are extreme weather conditions or not enough volunteers to run the bus, a message will be sent as soon as possible to parents/carers using the number you provided on the Parent Permission Form. We have reserve volunteers for the routes so we anticipate this being rare.

Volunteers: The success of the Walking Bus depends totally on volunteers. The scheme needs as many volunteers as possible so the routes are always covered and the responsibility does not just fall on a few committed people. All volunteers must have a full DBS check from Bridgewater Primary School. If you don't already have this and

would like to help regularly on the bus, please contact the school using admin@bridgewater.herts.sch.uk so we can arrange this for you. Each volunteer will receive an identification badge from the school once they have their DBS check.

Scooters and bikes: Pupils may not bring scooters or bikes on the Walking Bus.

Other children and pets: Pets cannot join the Walking Bus. Pre-school children, including those in pushchairs, can travel with the bus if they are accompanied by their parent / guardian. They are not covered by the Hertfordshire County Council insurance.

Incentives: We will assess this after we restart the bus, but at the moment we expect to award a house point each time a pupil uses the bus and also have a walking bus breakfast every term.

Drop off points: drop off arrangements at school are as follows:

- Children in **Key Stage 2 (Year 3 upwards)** will be dropped off at the blue KS2 gate to the lower playground. They will then make their own way to their classroom in the usual way.
- Children in **Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)** will be taken to the top playground where they will be dropped with their teacher to join the line for their class.
- Children in **Reception** will be taken to the Reception gate where they will be greeted by a member of the Reception team