

The Castle School - Travel plan - update September 2024.

From Sept 2024, the new Maths/Science Block will open at Park Road site, and the base for the Sixth Form Students will switch from Gloucester Road site to Park Road site. The updated plan detailed below details the revised positive impacts on the travel plan and while the school does not envisage that the change outlined above will, on its own, alter student modes of travel from home to school, noting school buses were already serving all students from both sites. The key differences offering improved outcomes to student safety, reduced journey numbers and reduced pollution contribution to the area include

1. The biggest change will be the removal of a large number of staff journeys between the 2 sites. The formal school timetable currently requires a minimum of 600 individual staff journeys per week between the 2 sites in order to go from one timetabled session to another. The distance is 0.25 miles, and our initial estimates are that a minimum of 60% of these journeys are currently made by car. Complete removal of the need for these journeys suggests a minimum reduction in vehicle road use and emissions equivalent to at least 90 miles per week.
2. Under previous arrangements, many staff felt the need to bring an individual vehicle to work because of the need to travel between sites very quickly carrying equipment/books etc (lessons often transitioned on both sites at the same time), and with each individual transitioning at different times of the day. Removing this need may encourage staff to consider car-sharing to work, or to use alternative greener modes of travel.
3. The construction of the new Maths/Science Block has included the installation of 5 electric vehicle charging points. The aim of these is to encourage use of electric vehicles by staff in the future, reducing emissions. There is also an expectation that use of the electric charging points will be made by users of our sporting facilities on evenings and weekends, further encouraging use of greener transport modes.
4. Under previous arrangements, sixth form students had to travel between sites for some lessons, all sports facilities and any form of catering. They now have no need to do this, so there will be less students needing to walk and cross roads during each day.

March 2024