



Dear Schools/Parents,

With a major national incident currently in place for COVID-19 and schools shut we obviously have a significant disruption in the activities and services that both West Mercia Police and Shropshire Council normally deliver for road safety education within schools.

With Bikeability, pedestrian training and other external education activities cancelled there is still the need for road safety education to be a part of your child's overall learning during these few months, especially if you have a child currently in Year 6 and about to move up to a new school in September.

With restrictions in place and the clear message from national government to stay at home except for essential journeys, there is time to ensure your child has the knowledge they need when they are using the roads. It may be that you are still using the roads locally as your daily form of exercise, whether it's walking, cycling or jogging with your child.

We have provided a **Road Safety Activity Sheet** which you may wish to complete with your child. Please go through the following advice with them, to ensure they stay as safe as possible while out and about on our roads:

- Where there is a pavement or footpath, please use it.
- Always use a zebra or pelican crossing if one is available. Wait for cars to stop before stepping on to the crossing.
- Wear bright fluorescent clothing on darker days and at night.
- When there is no pavement, walk on the right hand side to face traffic coming towards you.
- Always wear a helmet when out cycling.
- Before cycling, make sure you have checked your brakes and gears and that your tyres are okay.

We've listed a few road safety ideas you can do with your children below, as well as a number of online resources that you can access.

### **Road Safety Activity Sheet**

We have developed a Road Safety Activity Sheet, providing simple advice to follow when out for walks / bike rides as part of your recommended daily exercise, and some short activities to test their knowledge. You could incorporate some of the questions / activities while out and about, and fill in the activity sheet when you get home.



### **Design a Road Safety Poster - #TakeExtraCare**

Encourage your child / children to design a road safety poster. What does #TakeExtraCare mean to them when they think about road safety? You could even put your poster up in your window to help spread the message to others too. Take a photo of your poster and email it in to us at [RoadSafety1@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:RoadSafety1@westmercia.pnn.police.uk) or tag us on Twitter (@ThinkSaferRoads). We'll showcase some on our social media page each week.

### **THINK! Education resources**

There are free resources on the THINK! website for 3-6 yrs, 7-12 yrs and 13-16 yrs.

[www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/](http://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/)

### **Twinkl**

Twinkl currently have some free road safety resources at the moment for primary age children.

[www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/early-years-personal-social-and-emotional-development/early-years-safety/early-years-road-safety](http://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/early-years-personal-social-and-emotional-development/early-years-safety/early-years-road-safety)

### **Brake**

The road safety charity Brake has some free resources to download.

[www.brake.org.uk/educators](http://www.brake.org.uk/educators)

### **Virtual Road World**

Available from the Apple Store

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/virtual-road-world/id1417184667>

### **BMW Education - Safe on the streets**

[www.bmweducation.co.uk/safe-on-the-streets/](http://www.bmweducation.co.uk/safe-on-the-streets/)