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**Chair for the Education, Children & Families
Policy Committee
Councillor for Shiregreen and Brightside Ward
Town Hall, Sheffield, S1 2HH**

Letter sent via email address to: Schools in Sheffield

Walking to School – Supporting Healthier Journeys in Sheffield

Dear Parents, Carers and School Communities,

As members of Sheffield’s Education, Children and Families Committee, we are writing to encourage and support children and families to walk, wheel or scoot to school where possible.

Across Sheffield, many schools are already promoting active travel as part of daily school life, and we want to build on that good work by highlighting the difference it can make.

Even a short walk each day helps improve children’s physical health and supports their mental wellbeing, helping them feel calmer, more settled, and ready to learn when they arrive at school. It also supports children to build confidence and independence in their daily routine.

We also know that the school run can be one of the busiest times of day on our roads. Choosing to walk, even for part of the journey, can help reduce traffic, improve air quality, and make the area around schools safer for everyone.

We understand that every family’s situation is different, and that walking the whole journey is not always possible. Small changes can still make a difference. For example:

- parking a little further away and walking the last 5–10 minutes
- walking on certain days of the week
- walking with other families where that works

Many schools in Sheffield already support approaches such as “park and stride”, walking groups, and active travel challenges. If you would like to know what is available locally, please speak to your child’s school or check school communications.

By making small changes together, we can help children develop healthy habits for life and create safer, cleaner neighbourhoods across Sheffield.

Thank you for your support in helping make this possible.

Yours sincerely,

Members of the Education, Children and Families Committee:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dale'.

Councillor Dawn Dale
Chair Education, Children and Families Policy Committee

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Mallinson'.

Councillor Toby Mallinson
Deputy Chair for the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read 'A. Whitaker'.

Councillor Ann Whitaker
Group Spokesperson for the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee

