



Friskney All Saints Church of England Primary School

Drop Off and Collection Policy

Review Date: September 2026

Drop Off and Collection Policy

Friskney All Saints Mission Statement and Vision

‘Trust Shows The Way’

Our small rural school welcomes and includes everyone as a child of God. We recognise that every person has value and deserves the best we can give. Our education **explores old and new horizons**, and strives to **deliver a rigorous curriculum of excellence** so that each person is empowered to **realise their gifts** to the full. We offer challenge, support and loving commitment so that each person can engage in the world with resilience, hope and wisdom. We have faith in God and faith in each other.

“Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life.”

Psalm 143.8

Our Vision is underpinned by our school values of Love, Trust, Kindness, Hope and Respect:

Exploring Old and New Horizons - Respect

Striving for Excellence – Hope, Trust

Realising our Gifts – Love, Kindness

Aims

It is parent and/or carers responsibility to ensure the safety of their children on the way to and from school, but as a school we also have a role to play in the welfare and safeguarding of our pupils. Therefore, we have to consider what we believe is good practice in ensuring the safety of our pupils travelling to and from school.

We have an obligation to alert relevant authorities should we believe a child’s welfare is at risk.

There are no laws around age or distance of walking to school. The NSPCC do state that ‘you should never leave a child alone who isn’t ready or is unable to care for themselves.’

This policy sets out the minimum requirements for drop off and collection. Parents may still feel that an individual child is not ready to have that level of independence.

Pupils in Nursery, Reception and KS1

Our agreed school policy is that no pupil in Nursery, Reception Class or Key Stage 1 should walk to or from school on their own or be left on their own on the school premises either before or after school. In addition, we will only hand over pupils to named adults or older siblings provided they are 14 years old or above. Pupils will not be handed over to other adults unless the school has been informed by the parent that they have made this arrangement. We also ask that you keep us informed of any changes in arrangements, preferably by email. If no one turns up to collect a child in these year groups they will be kept in school and parents contacted. We will not allow older brothers or sisters in school to collect younger siblings.

Pupils in KS2 (Years 3 & 4)

There is no set age when children are ready to walk to school or home on their own. It very much depends upon their maturity and confidence. As a school, we believe that children in Year 3 and 4 are **NOT** ready to walk or bike home without an adult.

Our agreed school policy is that no pupil in Year 3/4 should walk to or from school on their own or be left on their own on the school premises either before or after school. In addition, we will only hand over pupils to named adults or older siblings provided they are 14 years old or above. Pupils will not be handed over to other adults unless the school has been informed by the parent that they have made this arrangement. We also ask that you keep us informed of any changes in arrangements, preferably by email. If no one turns up to collect a child in these year groups they will be kept in school and parents contacted. We will not allow older brothers or sisters in school to collect younger siblings.

Pupils in KS2 (Years 5 & 6)

As a school, we believe that **SOME** children may have the maturity and confidence to walk/bike to and from school without adult supervision.

In deciding whether your child is ready to walk to school you should assess any risks associated with the route and your child's confidence. Work with your children to build up their independence while walking to school through route finding, road safety skills and general awareness. There are lots of ways you can prepare your child to make an independent journey. Children who are driven to school do not have the opportunity to develop road awareness and are therefore more vulnerable when they start to walk to school independently. Walking to school is a great opportunity to learn road safety skills. The best way to do this is to walk with your children from a young age, teaching them about crossing the road, learning how to navigate and a host of other skills. This helps them gain the experience and confidence to deal with traffic and way finding on their own, in preparation for walking with friends or alone when they are older.

Teach your child to:

- Pay attention to traffic at all times when crossing the street; never become distracted.
- Cross in a place where you can see clearly in all directions. Avoid parked cars or bends in the road.
- Look both ways before crossing; listen for traffic coming; cross while keeping an eye on traffic.
- Look out for cyclists.
- Remember that drivers may not see them, even if they can see the driver.
- Remember that it is hard to judge the speed of a car so be cautious.
- Never, ever, follow someone who is either a stranger or someone they know but is not a designated "safe" adult. (A safe adult is someone who has been previously agreed upon by you and your child to be safe, such as a grandparent or trusted neighbour). And if that person tries to convince you to go with

him/her or tries to physically get close to him, then scream, "Help! This is not my dad!" or "Help! This is not my mum!" and run away. If they grab them, tell your child to kick, punch, and hit as hard as they can.

When deciding whether your child is ready for this responsibility you might want to consider the following:

1. Do you trust them to walk straight home?
2. Do you trust them to behave sensibly when with a friend?
3. Are they road safety aware?
4. Would they know what to do if a stranger approaches them?
5. Would they have the confidence to refuse to do what a stranger asked?
6. Would they know the best action to take if a stranger tried to make them do something they didn't want to do (scream, shout, kick, fight)?
7. Would they know what to do if they needed help?
8. Would they know who best to approach to get help?

If you are not confident about how your child would react then you should seriously consider whether you should allow them to walk on their own. If you decide that your child is ready for this responsibility, then you must inform the school by email. Your child will be prevented from walking home unless this permission has been given in writing. Your child will also be responsible for their behaviour whilst on the school premises either before or after school. Should their behaviour not be acceptable, you will be asked to accompany or collect them until they have proved they can be trusted again.

Collection from after school provision

Regardless of age, our agreed school policy is that no pupil should walk/bike home from school after attending an after school club or provision. This is because it is dark for a significant portion of the year at this time. We will only hand over pupils to named adults or older siblings provided they are 14 years old or above. Pupils will not be handed over to other adults unless the school has been informed by the parent that they have made this arrangement. We also ask that you keep us informed of any changes in arrangements, preferably by email. If no one turns up to collect a child, they will be kept in school and parents contacted. We will not allow older brothers or sisters in school to collect younger siblings.

IF AT ANY TIME YOU NEED TO CHANGE ARRANGEMENTS YOU HAVE MADE, PLEASE ENSURE YOU LET US KNOW IN WRITING IMMEDIATELY.