



Walking Home Policy

Updated and agreed by staff, governors and WSF governors January 2025

To be reviewed: January 2026

At Walsh Church of England Junior School we firmly believe that all pupils must be safe on arrival and pickup from school. Parents/carers need to support these views in the home to ensure that children are receiving corresponding messages about the value of safety.

1. Aims

To ensure that

- All children being left or dropped off at the school site are safe and supervised appropriately, children should not be dropped off before 8.30am unless they are attending breakfast club which will have been pre-booked.
- All children in Years 3-5 are accompanied by a parent/carer or an older sibling (not in Walsh Junior School) when being dropped off or picked up from school.
- Any child in Year 6 has written permission in agreement with the class teacher if they are allowed to walk home unaccompanied.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

The School will:

- Provide a safe and supervised environment from 8.30am until school starts in the playground.
- Ensure all Year 3-5 children are only released at 3.20pm to a parent/carer or a sibling as defined above.
- Ensure Year 6 children are released at 3.20pm if there has been written permission from a parent/carer.

Governors will:

- Monitor walking home policy in the school.

The Head Teacher will:

- Check staff are clear on when to release children to parents/carers or siblings and when to allow them to walk home on their own.

The Pastoral Support Lead or Admin Staff will:

- Communicate with parents when Year 6 wish to walk home and no permission slip has been provided.

Office staff will:

- Provide Year 6 staff with up to date lists of children allowed to walk home.

All parents/carers are requested to:

- Ensure all children in Year 3-5 are picked up by a responsible adult or older sibling.
- Sign a school permission slip if they are happy for their Year 6 child to walk home on their own.
- Ensure that their child behaves appropriately whilst walking home and understand that this privilege may be removed if their behavior falls below the expected standard.