

# School Travel

Newsletter

Winter 2018/19



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# Recent News

## Reading Modeshift STARS Primary School of the Year Winners!

The Heights Primary School recently won 'Readings Modeshift STARS Primary School 2019'. Congratulations to all the pupils, parents and staff at The Heights Primary School!



The Heights have been working on lots of initiatives that are helping to encourage active travel in and outside of school. Since receiving their Bronze award The Heights have opted to walk to school events at the Hexagon and off-site extra-curricular activities, and public buses are used where walking is not realistic to events at Reading University. They are continuing to expand their bike bus to and from school and encouraging both parents and pupils to think more sustainably.

This year, The Heights will be attending the Green Park Mini Mile which takes place in May, taking part in community litter picks, introducing more scooter parking and have much more planned for 2019.



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## Working towards Modeshift STARS Silver Award

Both The Heights and Moorlands primary schools are busy working towards their Modeshift STARS Silver Award. On completion of their Bronze award, both schools were given a new scooter pod to their playground, encouraging pupils to scoot to school.



## Modeshift Convention 2018

The Modeshift Convention 2018 took place in Sheffield in November where various organisations came together to share best practice of sustainable travel to school on the theme of 'Removing the Barriers to Sustainable Travel'

The importance of introducing active travel as early as possible, how Modeshift STARS can be applied to special schools and nurseries and the involvement of pupils in undertaking Pupil Street Audits are just three examples of the topics discussed at the event.

## Road Safety Week

Road Safety Week took place between 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November. The Council have supported the Louis Taylor, and Safe Drive Stay Alive roadshows which have been rolled out to schools across the borough for a number of years.

### ❖ Louis Taylor Primary School Road Safety Shows

These free shows are endorsed by the Department of Transport and incorporate the aims of the Government's Road Safety Education's Think Programme. For Key Stage 1, the programme consists of 3 themes, these being, 1) Know the Road (How to behave near Traffic), 2) Stop, Look, Listen and 3) Car Clever (In Car Safety). For Key Stage 2, the programme consists of 4 themes these being 1) The Road Ahead (Pedestrian Safety), 2) Careful Crossing (Crossing the Road), 3) Ready to Ride (Cycle Safety) and 4) Car Wise (In Car Safety). Shows are very well received and we often have to turn schools away due to the limited spaces available.

### ❖ Safe Drive Stay Alive

Safe Drive Stay Alive is produced through an alliance of partner organisations who are all working to reduce death and injury on the roads. The events have drawn in schools and colleges from the area and neighbouring authorities such as Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire Bracknell Forest Borough, West Berkshire and Slough Councils with well over 100,000 people now having attended shows since it started.

Partners involved in the programme include the police force, fire and rescue services, 19 local authorities and a host of volunteers and presenters talking very frankly about their personal experiences, tragedies and the dramatic effects of a road traffic crash. They participate in the hope that others will never have to experience the tragedy that has beset them and their families.



## Bikeability - What's New?

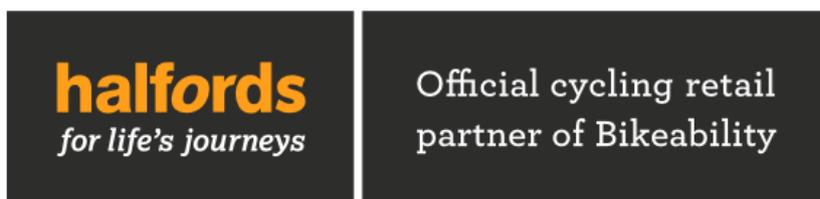
### ❖ The Participants Hub

Bikeability Trust has released a new resource for parents and their children who have undertaken Bikeability training. The Participants Hub is a webpage offering advice and information as well as discount offers aimed at supporting families to continue cycling together. The Bikeability Trust has developed this initial page and will be continuing to add new information, guidance and offers on a regular basis. You are welcome to share this information with parents/guardians.

### ❖ Discount at Halfords

Halfords are the official cycling retail partner of Bikeability and are offering FREE Halfords Bike Check as well a voucher for 10% off any bike, accessory or cycle repair.

For more information please visit: <https://bikeability.org.uk/participants-hub/>



### ❖ Additional Funding

The Council has secured funding to deliver the national cycle training scheme, Bikeability, in schools since 2009. The number of children participating in the scheme continues to grow year-on-year and is therefore well received by schools in the borough. The scheme aims to give children the skills and confidence to cycle safely, and independently, on different types of roads and junctions.

Reading's initial Bikeability allocation for 2018/19 was 100 Level 1, 1,001 Level 1/2 and 272 Level 3 places. However the Council has recently received confirmation that additional funding has been granted enabling 110 trainees to receive L1, 1,450 L1/2 and 328 L3. Additional funding has also been granted for Bikeability Plus courses that will enable 350 children to receive Learn to Ride training.

If you are interested in taking part in Bikeability please contact Avanti Cycling using the details below:

[info@avanticycling.co.uk](mailto:info@avanticycling.co.uk) | [www.avanticycling.co.uk](http://www.avanticycling.co.uk) | [www.bikeability.org.uk](http://www.bikeability.org.uk)

# All About Modeshift STARS

Modeshift STARS is a national school awards scheme to recognise schools that have demonstrated excellence in supporting cycling, walking and other forms of sustainable transport.

The free scheme is easy to join, and all your achievements can be simply recorded online to automatically give you a quick new travel plan. There are so many benefits to taking part that it would be impossible to list them all, so we've picked out a few:

- ❖ **Health** - the scheme encourages active travel, helping pupils lead healthier lifestyles. It also helps to reduce pollution around schools.
- ❖ **Learning** - walking, cycling and scooting to school helps pupils arrive at school ready to learn - and it has been shown they do better in class as a result.
- ❖ **Safety** - reducing traffic at schools, and helping to identify and resolve safety issues means safety around schools can be improved.
- ❖ **Community** - the whole school community is encouraged to work together: pupils, parents and teachers, as well as working with the wider local community to make a difference.
- ❖ **Fun!** - pupils, parents and staff at the schools already taking part in Modeshift STARS love the activities and events that they get to participate in!

## Achieving National Accreditation

Once you are registered there are three levels of accreditation that your school can achieve



For schools that demonstrate a commitment to promoting sustainable transport by conducting an annual survey, identifying travel issues and solutions and delivering a range of travel initiatives.

For schools that achieve a reduction in car use on the journey to school, deliver a whole-school approach and deliver above and beyond what is normally expected of a school.

For schools that have excelled with promoting sustainable travel and achieved a noticeable reduction in car use on the journey to school by fully embracing sustainable travel as the norm throughout the entire school community

STARS is set up so that you can work your way through each level of accreditation progressively. Once you have met one level, you will be well on your way to achieving the next. You can track your progress towards achieving STARS at any time by selecting the 'Accreditation' tab from the left hand side menu on your web page.

# How to Take Part

## To get involved:

**Step 1** - Visit [www.modeshiftstars.org](http://www.modeshiftstars.org)

**Step 2** - Select 'Contact/Register' at the top of the page

**Step 3** - Complete and submit the online registration form

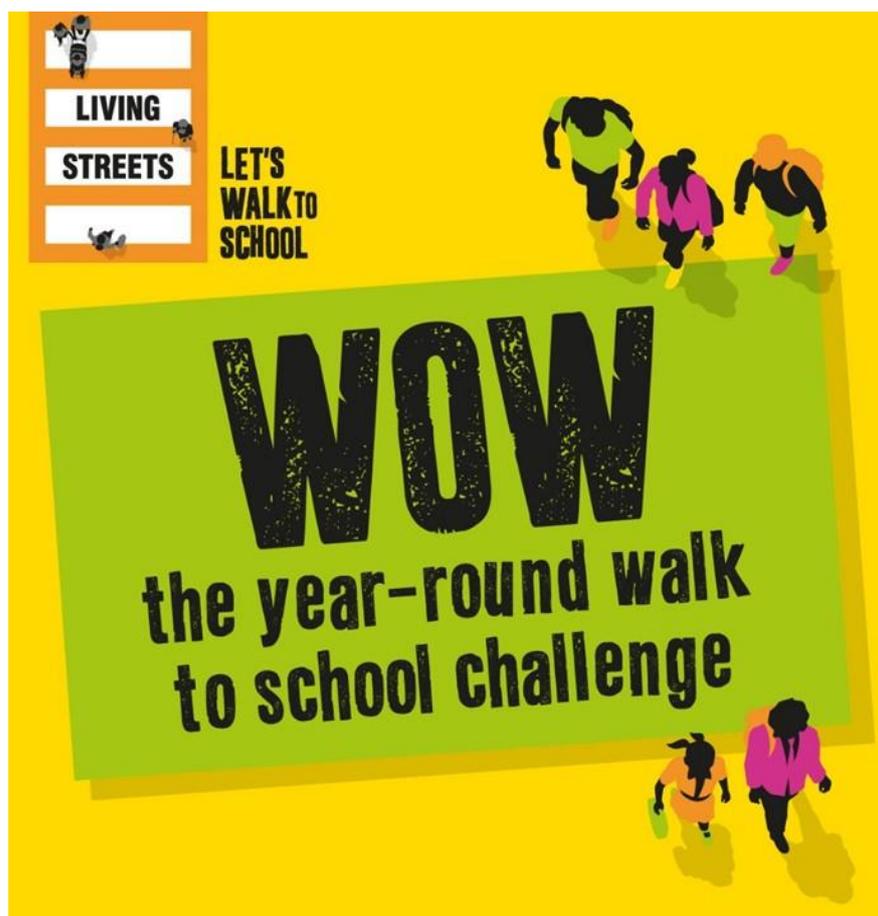
The Modeshift STARS website has lots more information and resources available, including lesson plans and ideas for sustainable travel initiatives.

Alternatively, please contact [transport@reading.gov.uk](mailto:transport@reading.gov.uk) for help signing up or updating your travel plan.

# Living Streets - WOW

## Who are Living Streets?

Living Streets are the UK charity for everyday walking. They are a campaigning charity governed by volunteer trustees, with a network of members, local Groups and supporters. Living Streets have developed various projects that make a direct impact, encouraging thousands more to walk their everyday journeys, such as WOW.



## What is WOW?

WOW is the year-round walk to school challenge. Pupils record how they get to school each day on the interactive WOW Travel Tracker and those who walk (skate, scoot, cycle or Park & Stride!) at least once per week for a month are rewarded with a themed badge. It's that easy!

It's simple to run and children love taking part. Each year, the 11 WOW badges follow a new WOW theme, all of which are designed by pupils in our annual badge design competition. Each badge is made in the UK from recycled yoghurt-pot material. WOW will help develop healthy lifelong habits and reduce congestion at the school gates, all before the school day begins!

If your school is interested in taking part in the WOW challenge, your PE & Sports Premium Funding can be used to fund the initiative. For quotes, please contact Living Streets on: 020 7377 4911.

## WOW Badge Design Competition 2019

Reading Borough Council is keen for schools to take part in this year's badge design competition.

Each year, Living Streets hosts a themed badge design competition giving pupils the chance to create one of the 11 WOW badges. Last year there were over 120,000 entries and this year we want even more wonderful, creative designs to choose from! This year's theme is 'Inventions that changed the world'. For further details on how to enter visit:

<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/what-you-can-do/badge-design-competition-2019>

**CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY 15 MARCH 2019**

# What's Coming Up?

What?	When?
WOW Badge Design Competition Deadline	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
The Art of Stars Competition Deadline	March 2019
Sustrans Big Pedal	25 <sup>th</sup> March to 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2019
Modeshift STARS Spring Accreditation Deadline	Sunday 31 March 2019
Walk to Work Day	Friday 5 April 2019
World Health Day	Sunday 7 April 2019
Earth Day	Monday 22 April 2019
National Walking Month	May 2019
Green Park Mini Mile	Sunday 19 May 2019
National Child Health Day	Sunday 12 May 2019
Walk to School Week	Monday 20 May to Friday 24 May 2019
Happy Shoesday	Tuesday 21 May 2019
Child Safety Week	Monday 3 June to Sunday 9 June 2019
World Environment Day	Tuesday 5 June 2019
Bike Week 2019	Saturday 8 June to Sunday 16 June 2019
Brake's Kids Walk	Wednesday 12 June 2019
Clean Air Day	Thursday 20 June 2019
Green Transport Week	June 2019
Catch the Bus Week	July 2019
Modeshift STARS Summer Accreditation Deadline	Wednesday 31 July 2019

For more information on any of these initiatives, please contact [transport@reading.gov.uk](mailto:transport@reading.gov.uk)