



# The Danesgate Community



## SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN

*DFES No. 816/1100*

<b>School Travel Plan Contact</b>	<i>Mark Richardson, Head Teacher</i>
<b>School Contacts</b>	<i>The Danesgate Community, Fulford Cross, York Danesgate Community Fulford Cross, York, North Yorkshire YO10 4PB 01904 642611 <a href="http://www.danesgatecommunity.org.uk">http://www.danesgatecommunity.org.uk</a></i>
<b>Date of School Travel Plan</b>	<i>June 2021</i>

## Our School

In April 2010 the Danesgate Community was formed. The mission of the Danesgate Community is to provide children and young people who live in the City of York with high quality education even when they have struggled to succeed in a mainstream school. The Danesgate Community serves vulnerable young people who may be in crisis or in need of specialist teaching to help them achieve. Our school is for 5-16 year olds who are struggling to learn because of social, emotional or mental health needs as well as autism. Currently we have 231 pupils on roll.

We have 104 pupils with an Educational Health and Care plan, part of which legal provision is the entitlement to transport; either by our own dedicated Fleet (6 mini buses with drivers) or by dedicated taxi (Streamline are the main service that CYC use). A number of our learners are entitled to Personal Travel Assistants (including all of our primary learners) due to their SEND needs. In addition there are a small number of pupils who we provide transport for a variety of reasons around vulnerabilities and additional needs. We have 64 teaching staff and 42 Teaching Assistants.

Danesgate's campus is on Fulford Cross where the facilities include The Danesgate Centre, The Danesgate Primary Unit, The Danesgate Skills Centre, a walled garden, woodland conservation area and a sports field. The Danesgate Community is a partnership provision and the whole focus of our work is to provide young people in York with positive opportunities to succeed and so improve their chances of contributing to the wider community in a constructive and sustainable manner. The school day ranges from 9.00 am to 3:30 pm. Pupils arrive during a window between 9.00am and 9.50am – this assists in spreading traffic flow and avoids difficult pinch points.

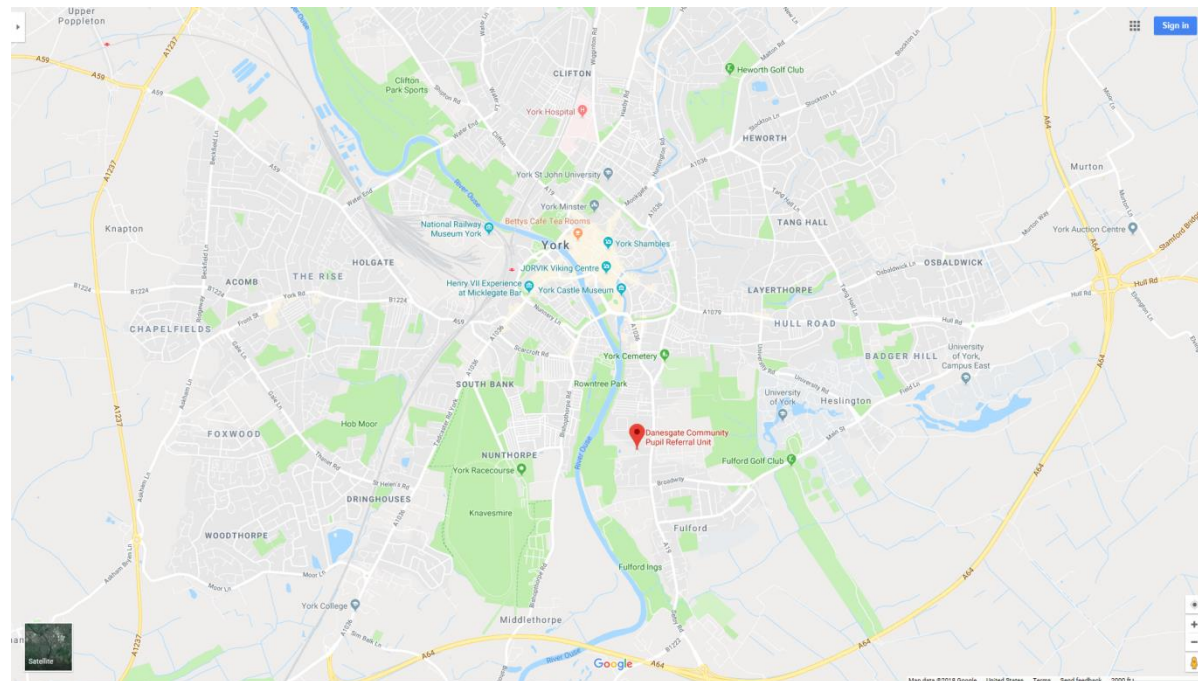
Danesgate is well served by public transport. The nearest bus stop to the Danesgate Community is located on Fulford Road, just a few minutes' walk away from the site, and is regularly served by several different services which are routed along Fulford Road, including the frequent 'Park and Ride' service. It is also possible to access the site from Southbank by crossing the Millennium Bridge and the subsequent footpath/bridleway. You can plan your journey by public transport using the Yorkshire Travel website by simply entering your postcode and ours, which is YO10 4PB.

The nearest railway station is York, which is just under two miles away. Bicycle parking is available, with plenty of 'Sheffield stands' under a canopy roof. This is located close to the entrance to the Skills Centre. There is a small on-site car park with a limited number of spaces. There are two designated and marked disabled parking bays for use by staff and visitor.

## May 2021 – Improvement Works

In May 2021 Danesgate was granted a £1.9 Million budget to improve existing facilities. The improvement works are due to take place in June 2022 and be completed by Sep 2022. As part of this build there will be consultation regarding permit parking on the lane between Danesgate and the Steiner School (parking owned by Danesgate Community) and repairs to the lane to the adjoining allotments, with a potential re-designation (Public Right of Way) of the lane. Part of the proposed site update is to add to existing cycle parking and to add parking for up to 7 minibuses. There is no intention to increase the Pupil Admission Number at Danesgate, hence there will be no additional traffic as a result of the upgrade works.

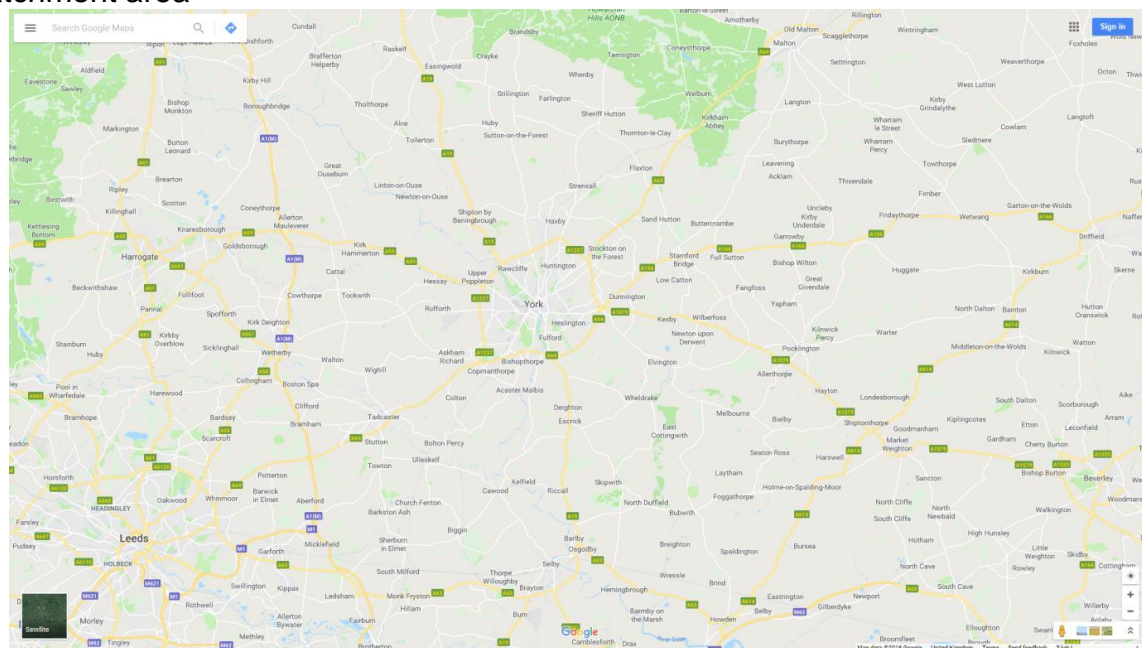
Map showing Danesgate's location



## Our catchment area

Danesgate has a large catchment as it covers the entire City of York and the surrounding area. The situation is further complicated by looked after children who may move care placement but may still attend the unit in an attempt to keep part of their life settled. Consequently our catchment area extends out of area to include North Yorkshire, Leeds and the East Riding of Yorkshire.

Map showing Danesgate catchment area



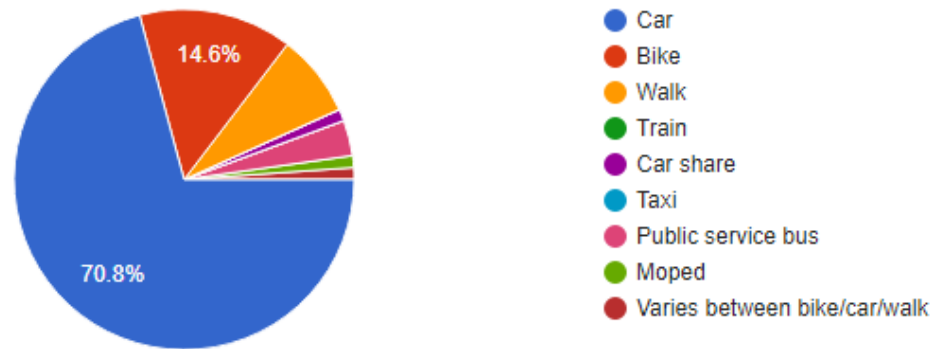
Before commencing at Danesgate all pupils attend an admission meeting, and part of the meeting will be to arrange travel details from home to Danesgate each day. Pupils have access to a Bus Pass or in certain circumstances such as if it is felt that independent travel will present a risk to their safety a Taxi will be provided by NYCC's Contract supplier or a place will be allocated on our own transport (5 mini-buses). If appropriate, local pupils have the option to walk or cycle to school. Occasionally parents/carers may drive their children to school.

## Staff Travel Survey

89 respondents gave the following information:

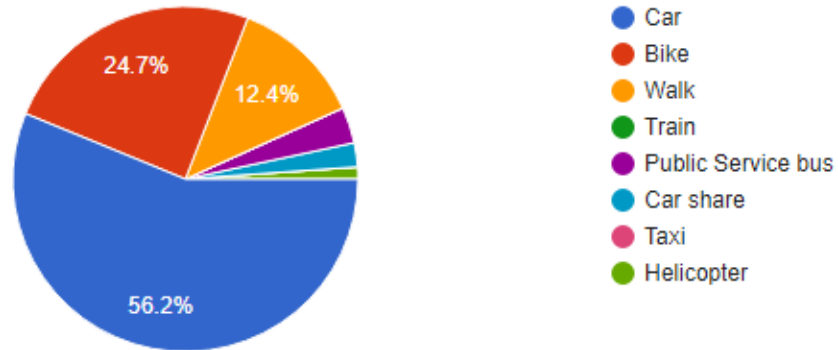
What is your normal mode of travel into school?

89 responses



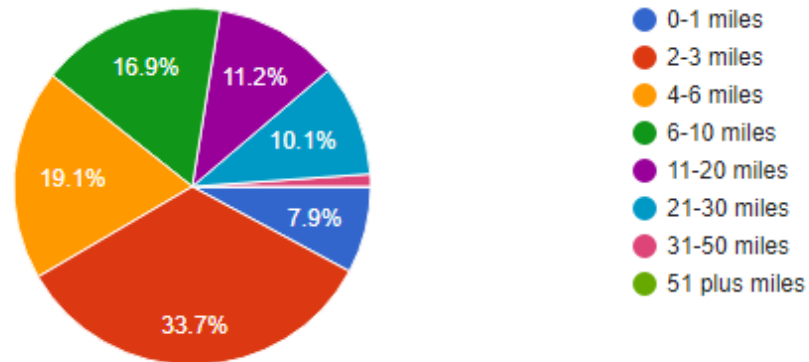
### What is your preferred mode of transport to school

89 responses



### How far away from Danesgate do you live?

89 responses



## Reasons for not travelling by preferred method:

Bringing equipment/books/files in

Mainly depends on weather and if I have to drive to another school site to teach a lesson

I prefer cycling but live too far away.

Need vehicle to transport materials to school.

I need to collect my children from school straight after work

I live 30 miles away in a rural village with no direct transport links

it would be better for the environment

Too far to walk but walking would be best

I live a distance away from work making it hard to travel by green transport.

I have to take my partner to work who does not drive

Work after school means i have to drive to work on some days.

I am presently transporting a student to school

Not enough time in the day.

I always used to cycle but having regular access to a car has meant I set off later and get in the car.

If I have to take my children to childcare before work, I tend to drive.

Car

Personal commitments sometimes require the use of my car.

In discussion with staff and from the Survey undertaken it was found that there were no real barriers to staff cycling to school, rather than using their car, where distance allowed. Cars were used as a convenience. 60.7% of staff at Danesgate live within a 6 mile radius of the site, it appears that these staff mainly choose to drive for convenience.

## Pupil Travel Survey

Pupils' usual mode of transport to/from school		
Total number of learners on Roll	<b>231</b>	<b>%</b>
Walk	9	3.90
Cycle	10	4.33
Car	16	6.93
Public Service Bus	64	27.71
Fleet	61	26.4
Streamline Taxi	58	25.1
Train	-	-
Other	-	-
Not Recorded/Don't attend school as pre COVID home tuition	13	5.63

The main point of observation from the pupil survey is that streamline taxis present the biggest amount of vehicles on site as these are frequently single-occupancy. Work is required in order to reduce single-occupancy and to move these pupils on to fleet and then independent travel options.



## **Our Targets and Action Plan**

### Findings

- The majority of staff require personal transport to fulfill their job roles and or commute
- The majority of staff are aware of options such as cycling and car share and do where possible
- Public transport is not an option for the majority of staff given the requirement for flexibility and time pressures during the day
- Some staff are reliant on a car for transport for commitments before and after work such as childcare.
- Some staff are not able to match public transport to their requirements regarding time and frequency
- Some staff live too far away and are not on public transport routes
- Variation in awareness of council's travel measures.
- Move as many pupils from Streamline taxis to fleet, or bus pass, to further reduce amount of single-occupancy vehicles accessing school site.

Action	For whom?	By When?	Target	Monitoring Activity	Responsibility	Review
Promote car sharing on the school website.	Staff	Sep 2021	5% of staff car-sharing at least once per week	Number of car-sharers	Travel Plan User Group	July 2021
Proposed New Build to include adapted car park, ensuring drop-off/pick up, pedestrian walkway and limiting car idling/parking times via one-way route (roundabout)	Parents/Taxis	Sep 2022	10% reduction in cars waiting at 2.30pm	Survey number of cars parked on Fulfordgate at 2.30pm	Travel Plan User Group	Dec 2022
Designated parking areas in school for staff to go on new planning, including parking on lane by Steiner School designated for use by Danesgate staff/permit parking	Staff	Sep 2021	No parking issues in local community as no knock on of queuing taxis into school site	Daily monitoring via SLT duty	SBM	Sep 2022
Reduce car use by 5%. 5% of the 60.7% staff that live within 6 miles of school to use alternative modes of transport to cars. (public, bikes, walking), by promoting Cycle to Work Scheme and incentivising alternative travel.	Staff	Sep 2022	5 staff change modes of transport from car – reduce car use by 5%	Annual Survey	SBM	Sep 2022
Continue to publicise alternative methods of transport on the school website (details of bus cycle and walking routes)	Parents & Visitors	ongoing	Raise awareness of transport options	Annual survey	Travel Plan User Group	Sep 2021
Increase number of pupils travelling by bus by targeted Independent Travel Training (also YILTS) at KS4	KS4 pupils	ongoing	Reduce the number of KS4 pupils using cars	Annual Mode of transport questionnaire	Travel Plan user Group	Sept 2021
Increase the number of pupils and staff who are confident to cycle to school by 5%, by promoting Cycle schemes (see below)	Pupils and staff	Sept 2021	5% more Pupils and staff use bikes to travel	Annual Mode of Transport survey	Travel Plan User Group	Annually
Promote Urban Cycle training for adults - available via <a href="http://www.itravelyork.info/cycling/cycle-training">http://www.itravelyork.info/cycling/cycle-training</a>	Staff	ongoing	Increase the number of staff who are confident with cycling to work	Staff survey	SBM	Annually
Increase the number of pupils travelling by bike by 5%. Publicise the Get Cycling and Bikeability Scheme to pupils in order to improve confidence and independence.	Pupils	Annually in September	Any appropriate pupils	Uptake of scheme	Key Workers	Annually

<b>Include information on transport options in EHCP, Admission and Transition meetings, in order to minimise single-occupancy travel and promote independence.</b>	Pupils moving to Danesgate	Annually in June	New pupils admitted	Student data sheets	Admin Office	Annually
<b>Annual review of pupils' mode of travel survey</b>	Pupils	Annually in October	All pupils	Analysis of data sheets	Admin Office	Annually
<b>Annual student voice feedback on travel routes that impact on the school bus provision.</b>	Pupils	Annually	Pupils are confident and happy to use the school bus.	Student voice activity and feedback	Deputy Head	Annual review
<b>New EHCP system implemented by CYC to include specific review of transport requirements &amp; expectations, thus reducing egress of traffic onto site and adjoining areas</b>	SENCo, parents, pupils	Sep 2021	Expectations: 1. Bus pass 2. Fleet 3. Taxi	EHCP Review	SENCO	Annual review
<b>Hold mini-consultation of planned site improvements and travel plan for local residents at Danesgate, inviting local residents and interest groups onto school site to appraise the plans and planning.</b>	Local Stakeholders	July 2021	Raise awareness of proposed site alterations, rationale and inherent transport issues	CYC Survey	CYC Planning & Policy officer	Sep 2021

### **How We Developed Our Travel Plan**

The school travel plan was discussed as an agenda item at the termly staff team meetings, before and after data collection. Surveys were completed on a voluntary basis at the start of the year. Suitable options for travel are discussed with families and pupils as part of the admissions process and reviewed termly when school, parents and pupils meet.

### ***How we will monitor the progress of our Travel Plan***

*We will continue to work with the council's student transport partner regarding Taxi usage to enable them to minimise car journeys for pupils. We will conduct staff surveys in June 2022. Curriculum Planning will be reviewed in July 2021. The Travel Plan will be reviewed in 2022. The Travel User Group – consisting of staff, parents/carers and pupils will meet biennially to review progress of this plan.*

## School Travel Plan Agreement

This travel plan, prepared by the staff, governors, parents and pupils of The Danesgate Community is recognised by the departments of the council responsible for transport and education as an effective policy document. It is deemed to be achievable, and likely to both decrease car use on the journey to school and to increase awareness of healthier, more sustainable and safer forms of travel. The plan has been produced by the school in such a way as to maximise acceptance of it amongst all elements of the school community.

CYC undertakes to do its part to bring about the aims of this travel plan, implementing the measures required of it by the plan whenever feasible. The council will also consult this travel plan whenever it is considering or planning measures affecting travel to and from the school.

<b>Representative</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Signed</b>	<b>Date</b>
Head Teacher	Mark Richardson		
Chair of Governors	Pete Whelan		
Pupil Representative	JM		
School Travel Plan coordinator	Mark Richardson		

*You may wish to include the signatures of any others who have been involved in the development of your school travel plan.*