



Walking bus - Frequently Asked Questions

1. Will the children be walked to their classrooms to make sure they go in safely?

The children will be walked to their classrooms. Once at the Larch one of the volunteers will break off to drop any year 2 to their drop off point, with the remaining children going with the remaining volunteers to be dropped in the designated area at the front of each queue.

2. Can you volunteer with your buggy or younger sibling?

Children aged 3 and under are requested to travel in a buggy if they are accompanying you to volunteer. Accompanying children will need to follow the rules of the bus. If disruption is caused through the child accompanying the bus we will ask that you do not volunteer so you must be confident that the child will follow the rules of the walking bus.

3. Can you volunteer with a dog?

This is a community project and we want as many people to be involved as possible. A walking bus may be a good opportunity for many children to get used to being around dogs. That said, we will check with those travelling with the walking bus on the day whether they are comfortable with a dog coming along and we ask that the volunteer in question and the dog accompany a fully staffed walking bus **BEFORE** making the longer term weekly commitment to check this works for all involved.

4. What about all the things the children need to carry? Eg Cellos, Violins, PE kit, swimming kit...

Children will need to be capable of carrying their own things to walk with the walking bus. Most children can carry their musical instrument. We ask a common sense approach is taken as to the size of any homework items that may be constructed (and then need to be carried!). When children return to school after the holidays please consider staggering the items they are bringing in.

5. What is the adult/child ratio and how do you manage this?

The adult / child ratio is 6:1.

The number of children allowed on the walking bus is limited by the number of volunteers on the day. If there is demand for places on a particular day we will operate a waiting list on a first come, first served basis (although where we have shortages we will give priority to those children where parents have volunteered. Once registered we will not remove a child to give another priority). Where we are operating waiting lists we will occasionally advertise for volunteers through the school newsletter or on parent facebook groups.

6. Do we pay for the walking bus?

We have decided not to charge for the walking bus. It does cost £75 per DBS check (required for each volunteer) which the school are funding, recognising we would like to give the opportunity to use the bus to as many children as possible. If you would like to give a donation for the operation of the walking bus you can give to the [PSA](#).

Any more questions or wish to volunteer? Email - simonballewalkingbus@gmail.com