

Headteacher: Mr A Cunningham

Deputy Headteacher: Ms S Rainey

Assistant Headteacher: Mr C Jeremy

23rd May 2018

Dear Parent

Cycle Helmets

We have recently met with a small number of students who cycle to school and you are receiving this letter because your child has been identified as someone who either currently cycles to school or is likely to cycle to school in the future. As a caring, learning community you will understand that The Lakes School takes its responsibilities for the safety of its students extremely seriously. It is because of this that I am writing to parents to inform them that from 4th June 2018, it will be compulsory for all Lakes School students who are cycling to school to wear a cycle helmet.

I am sure you will understand why the school needs to take this position and I thank you in advance for ensuring that your child leaves home wearing their cycle helmet and develops good habits on their way to and from school. It is important to note that most of our cyclists already wear a cycling helmet which is great.

As I am sure you will already be aware, cycle helmets save lives. There have been a number of campaigns in recent years and it is sad that every year children are injured as a result of a cycling incident which commonly takes place on the way to and from school. You might like to refer to the Headway website for further information which can be found here <https://www.headway.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/cycle-helmets/>.

You may also feel that this information and the videos on the Headway website are useful for your child as a means of educating them about the importance of developing good habits around the wearing of their cycle helmet. Local children are particularly vulnerable in our community; roads are tight, there is an absence of cycle lanes and there are a high number of visitors to the area who may not be fully aware of their surroundings whilst trying to navigate in the National Park. I know you will agree that the wearing of a cycle helmet is essential for all cyclists, not just children, and I thank you once again for your support with this matter.

I hope that the half term period provides enough time for you to purchase a cycle helmet for your child and I would encourage you to visit a recognised outlet to ensure that the cycle helmet fits your child correctly. During the week beginning 4th June 2018 we will be monitoring the situation with the students who cycle to school and anyone who continues to cycle to school without wearing a cycle helmet will not be allowed to cycle to school from the week beginning 11th June 2018. We will of course be in regular contact with parents who may be affected by this arrangement but I am sure that the school can work closely with parents and students to ensure that all of our cyclists can continue to cycle to school safely.

If you would like to discuss any aspects of these arrangements then please do contact me at The Lakes School by calling reception on the number above. These arrangements have been developed out of a genuine concern for the safety of your child and I thank you once again for your support, particularly as we move into a very busy time of the year on the roads in our community.

Kind regards



Andy Cunningham
Headteacher

