

2021 Lindfield Learning Village School Travel Plan Review

Project:	Lindfield Learning Village		
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Subject:	School Travel Plan Review – End of 2021		

1 Background

Lindfield Learning Village (LLV) is within Ku-ring-gai Council and near the border of Willoughby City Council and City of Ryde.

LLV had an enrolment of around 520 students in 2021 and is proposed to increase to a capacity of 2,000 students in the future.

Mott Macdonald were appointed by School Infrastructure NSW as the 2021 School Travel Coordinator to drive and embed sustainable travel behaviours in staff and students at the school.

Arup prepared the LLV School Travel Plan (STP), the most recent version being January 2021, to provide efficient, safe and sustainable travel for school staff, students and visitors who accessed the school during planning, construction and operation stages.

The objectives of the STP included:

- Encourage the use of sustainable transport modes by promoting walking, cycling and utilising public transport and car sharing rather than single occupant car travel and taxi usage.
- Reduce traffic congestion and air pollution to enhance safer and more enjoyable journeys.
- Travel demand management to reduce the need for energy intensive travel modes and single occupancy trips by combining journeys that are travelling towards a common area.
- Implement feasible travel options for students, staff and other users of the site and encourage travel options that will benefit their health and wellbeing.
- Implement, monitor, evaluate and review measures to assess the progress of the School Transport Plan.

This technical note reviews the STP, in January 2022, reviewing the recommended infrastructure improvements, transport strategies, temporary management measures, and monitoring strategies against what was achieved throughout 2021.

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2 School Travel Plan Review

The STP sets out the following with the aim of maximising the target mode for active and sustainable travel to LLV. A review of what was achieved throughout 2021 relative to the proposed infrastructure, measures, strategies and mode share targets is provided below.

2.1 Infrastructure Improvements

Infrastructure Improvement	Description	Outcome
Footpath on Abingdon Road	Infrastructure improvements along Abingdon Road will aim to improve the existing walking and cycling network to further encourage students and staff to walk or cycle to LLV.	New footpath and crossing infrastructure, funded by SINSW and built by Ku-ring-gai Council, mostly completed in March 2021.
One school bus route	Additional school bus route and services are aimed to provide students traveling to and from LLV with an alternative mode of transportation.	TfNSW confirmed they no longer establish new dedicated school bus routes.
566 shuttle bus to Lindfield Station	The Route 566 shuttle bus service aims to provide school staff and neighbouring residents with an alternative transport services to help mitigate single car occupancy trips. Furthermore, the shuttle service aims to achieve the mode share targets for school staff.	Additional 565 shuttle from Lindfield Station implemented for D1T1 2021. Additional bus timetabling and service changes progressed throughout 2021 and for D1T1 2022 (outlined below).
Cycling end of trip facilities	For students: 30 bicycle parking spaces are currently provided in the upper play area. An additional 70 parking spaces will be provided in the extended driveway area at the southern playground. For staff: 16 secure bicycle parking spaces, 2 showers, change room lockers.	Cycle and end of trip facilities implemented as part of school redevelopment.
Timed on-street parking restrictions	Parking restrictions on local roads near the school is being considered in order to allow easier and safer turning of buses during school hours. This will be actioned through discussions with Council.	On-street parking investigated in 2021 by Ku-ring-gai Council to facilitate the required bus movements before and after school. Initiated through the Transport Working Group, Ku-ring-gai Council and Transdev worked together to resolve an appropriate solution for the bus operation.

2.2 Transport Strategies

Transport Strategies	Outcome
<p>Encourage new students to walk, cycle, scooter or use public transport when travelling to / from school during orientation periods.</p>	<p>LLV Travel Coordinator has worked with LLV to update the travel information on the website throughout 2021, this included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LLV Travel Access Guide for Active Transport • LLV Travel Access Guide for Public Transport • Code of Conduct for School Students on Buses • Transdev School Bus Information • Transdev Back to School • Transdev School Bus Timetable • SSTS Information (free Opal cards for eligible students) <p>This information was updated most recently updated for D1T1 2022 and is being included in new starter Welcome Packs.</p> <p>Communication was also distributed directly to the school community at various times throughout 2021, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication regarding any bus service changes (including the shuttle service) • Communication on and promotion to sign up to the SSTS • Communication promoting the completion of the new footpaths and crossing facilities, improving walking and cycling opportunities • Communication on safety arriving and leaving LLV <p>15% discount at 99 Bikes Artarmon negotiated for all families at LLV.</p>
<p>Promote Walk to school date and Ride2School day</p>	<p>Walk Safely to School Day</p> <p>All students in K-6 received pedometers and a step challenge was undertaken across the classes.</p> <p>LLV Travel Coordinator worked with Road Safety Officer at Ku-ring-gai Council to facilitate this, who provided the pedometers, banners and merchandise.</p> <p>LLV Travel Coordinator led communications to school community to promote walking and safety to encourage walking to school.</p>

	<p>On Walk to School Day the Travel Coordinator facilitated a welcome event that included tattoos, rulers and stickers promoting safe walking. Promotion banners were also displayed outside the school to promote safe driving and the awareness of students walking to and from school.</p> <p>National Ride2School Day</p> <p>LLV Travel Coordinator negotiated with 99 Bikes Artarmon for all LLV families to receive 15% discount in store.</p> <p>Communications were distributed to the school community to promote Ride2School Day, including the benefits of cycling.</p> <p>On Ride2School Day the Travel Coordinator facilitated a welcome event that included free fruit for students that cycled, tattoos, posters and postcards.</p>
<p>Organise bike and scooter education where an outside company runs a bicycle use, maintenance and safety training program with students</p>	<p>99 Bikes Artarmon were willing to carry out free bike maintenance sessions at LLV, however this was not approved by the school Principal.</p>
<p>Liaise and develop school bus routes with TfNSW</p>	<p>A Transport Working Group was established and met monthly throughout 2021 to discuss, amongst other items, bus operations.</p> <p>At the first TWG, TfNSW indicated they no longer establish new school bus services given the inefficiencies in operating school bus routes along with other public services. The TWG therefore focused on improving public bus services to facilitate LLV requirements.</p> <p>Bus services in Term 1 did not align with LLV bell times for the 565 service to / from Chatswood via Roseville.</p> <p>Temporary charter bus operated during Term 2, funded by SINSW as a short-term solution. Charter bus was discontinued after Term 2 and TfNSW did not take over the service.</p> <p>TfNSW adjusted timetabling to improve interchange wait times at Chatswood Station for students travelling from / to Chatswood West. Students living in Chatswood West having to interchange at Chatswood, which is not ideal.</p> <p>TfNSW also adjusted the timetable in Term 3 to align better with school bell times.</p>

	<p>New bus turn-around facility completed Term 2 2021.</p> <p>New bus stop at school to be operational from Term 1 2022.</p> <p>Anonymised 2022 enrolment data was provided to TfNSW to inform 2022 bus planning.</p> <p>TfNSW have confirmed that Transdev will operate additional bus services to and from LLV to assist with increased enrolments in 2022. These include:</p> <p>Morning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three additional route 565 services from Lindfield Station to LLV • One extended route 565 service from Chatswood West to LLV via Chatswood Station <p>Afternoon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One additional route 565 service from LLV to Lindfield Station • One additional route 565 service from LLV to Chatswood West via Roseville Station
Bike and scooter education and tracking using a tool like RideScore, a third party run program which tracks student bicycle trips, sending arrival and departure information to parents	Delayed sustainable transport initiatives until 2022 due to lockdown in Term 3 and a focus on students safe return to school in Term 4.
Carpooling where the school directs parents to reputable services	<p>In 2021 the Travel Coordinator investigated car pooling platforms and opportunities (summary note developed). There however was minimal interest from the Principal given the Term 3 lockdown and COVID-safe return priorities in Term 4. There was also no funding available for an externally provided platform.</p> <p>It is recommended to implement a car pooling scheme in 2022 given it was identified as a popular initiative in the travel surveys and the school population is increasing.</p>
Bus pooling to pair students for bus travel, where the parents are able to facilitate these connections	<p>Temporary charter bus operated during Term 2 which was well used by students and valued by parents.</p> <p>Students studied from home during Term 3 due to the COVID-19 lockdown.</p> <p>Reduction in bus occupancy in Term 4 due to social distance concerns on public transport and a focus on students safe return to school.</p>
Students buddy up to sustainably travel	Delayed sustainable transport initiatives until 2022 due to lockdown in Term 3 and focus on student safe return to school in Term 4.
Walking school bus that runs along planned walking routes at set times	Delayed sustainable transport initiatives until 2022 due to lockdown in Term 3 and focus on student safe return to school in Term 4.

<p>Footpath upgrades on key routes</p>	<p>SINSW funded the upgrade of local footpaths and additional crossing facilities along key pedestrian access routes to and from the school.</p> <p>Additional paths and two crossings on Eton Road, and a crossing on Abingdon Road were constructed by Ku-ring-gai Council to provide a safer and continuous pedestrian network for those travelling to and from LLV on foot.</p> <p>Two additional zebra crossings are located on the eastern side of Eton Road across Abingdon Road, and the eastern side of Austral Avenue across Eton Road.</p> <p>There were connected with a 1.5m concrete footpath A pedestrian refuge was also built across Eton Road, to the north of Abingdon Road. A footpath was also installed along Abingdon Road.</p> <p>The majority of these works were complete in March 2021.</p>
<p>Articles on school newsfeed to include travel tips for students</p>	<p>LLV Travel Coordinator has worked with LLV to update the travel information on the website throughout 2021, this included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LLV Travel Access Guide for Active Transport • LLV Travel Access Guide for Public Transport • Code of Conduct for School Students on Buses • Transdev School Bus Information • Transdev Back to School • Transdev School Bus Timetable <p>This information was updated in Term 4 and will go out to 2022 new starters in a Welcome Pack.</p> <p>Communication was distributed to the school community providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safe travel tips - Advice on the benefits of the SSTS and how students could be eligible for free public transport travel - Health benefits of active travel to school - Safety messages targeted to parent / carer drivers around LLV
<p>Carpool program run</p>	<p>In 2021 the Travel Coordinator investigated car pooling platforms and opportunities (summary note developed). There however was minimal interest from the Principal given the Term 3 lockdown and COVID-safe return priorities in Term 4.</p>

Provision of end of trip facilities at the school	There are existing bicycle racks throughout LLV at key buildings and existing shower facilities.
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2.3 Temporary Management Measure

Staging Impact	Suggested Management Measure	Effect	Outcome
Reduced available staff car parking spaces	Implement 10 dedicated carpooling staff parking spaces.	Reduce single-occupancy car trips for staff.	There are currently 9 dedicated staff carpooling parking spaces close to the main entrance at LLV.
	Introduce 566 shuttle bus service between Lindfield Station and the school.	Increases capacity and frequency of services between station and school, allowing more staff to travel via public transport.	<p>Temporary charter bus operated during Term 2, funded by SINSW as a short-term solution. Charter bus was discontinued after Term 2 and TfNSW did not take over the service.</p> <p>TfNSW have confirmed that Transdev will operate several additional bus services to and from LLV to assist with increased enrolments in 2022.</p> <p>Morning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three additional route 565 services from Lindfield Station to LLV <p>Afternoon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One additional route 565 service from LLV to Lindfield Station
Reduced Kiss and Ride capacity	Initiate parent-run carpooling.	As outlined in 4.4, carpooling will increase the number of students dropped off in each car and lessen queuing for Kiss and Ride.	In 2021 the Travel Coordinator investigated car pooling platforms and opportunities. There however was no funding available and any roll-out was impacted by COVID.
	Introduce a school bus route.	A school bus route servicing Chatswood West would allow more students to travel to school by public transport and	Temporary charter bus operated during Term 2, funded by SINSW as a short-term solution. Charter bus was discontinued after Term

		not rely on being driven to school. This would need to utilise the Eton Road bus bay for this stage.	2 and TfNSW did not take over the service. TfNSW confirmed they no longer establish new dedicated school bus services. •
	Initiate walk and cycle to school programs.	Implement programs to inform and encourage more students living nearby to travel to school by active modes.	Delayed sustainable transport initiatives until 2022 due to COVID impacts and a focus on student safe return to school in Term 4.
	Increase Route 565 afternoon services.	TfNSW has increased the frequency of Route 565 services with an additional AM and PM service. This will make it more feasible to travel to school via bus.	TfNSW have confirmed that Transdev will operate several additional bus services to and from LLV to assist with increased enrolments in 2022. Morning • One extended route 565 service from Chatswood West to LLV via Chatswood Station Afternoon One additional route 565 service from LLV to Chatswood West via Roseville Station.
	Enrolment into the SSTS program.	The school to encourage and support enrolment into the school student travel scheme (SSTS) that allows subsidised travel on the TfNSW public transport network	Communication was issued to the LLV community each term encouraging enrolment in the SSTS. Based on the travel surveys undertaken, the following proportion of students were registered throughout 2021: Term 1: 51% Term 2: 57% Term 3: no survey (lockdown) Term 4: 55%

	Prepare a TAG for D1T1 2021.	Inform students and parents of their travel options through the development of travel access guide (TAG)	Completed a Travel Access Guide for both Active Transport and Public Transport in 2021. This information was updated for Term 2, Term 4 and D1T1 2022 as transport options changed.
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2.4 Monitoring Strategy

Monitoring Strategy	Monitoring Activity	Timeframe	Outcome
Travel survey	Transport Plan Coordinator to prepare an online survey for staff and students (parents) to fill out on their travel patterns	After the first month of each term for the construction period and twice yearly thereafter	LLV Student and LLV Staff travel surveys carried out in Term 1, Term 2 and Term 4. No survey was conducted in Term 3 due to the COVID lockdown.
Walking, cycling and scooting arrival data	Transport Plan Coordinator to commission a transport survey company to set up cameras at the school entrance to obtain data on pedestrian, cycling and scooting use to support the travel survey	Once mid-term after each construction stage completes, yearly thereafter	No funding was available to commission surveys. Travel coordinator undertook surveys of bicycle and scooter use in Term 1, Term 2 and Term 4. No survey was conducted in Term 3 due to the COVID lockdown.
Observations and notes	Transport Plan Coordinator to conduct site visits of the school's transport systems and report on operations of buses and other issues	Once mid-term after each construction stage completes, yearly thereafter	Bus, car parking, bicycle and scooter parking occupancy surveys carried out in Term 1, Term 2 and Term 4. No survey was conducted in Term 3 due to the COVID lockdown.
Consultation with TfNSW and Council	Using the travel coordination meetings, the Transport Plan Coordinator should discuss any issues that have been raised to these bodies such as bus demand, parking issues	Monthly coordination meetings with TfNSW and Council (held virtually) during the construction stages, quarterly thereafter	A Transport Working Group was established and met monthly throughout 2021. Attendance included SINSW, TfNSW, Ku-ring-gai Council, Willoughby Council and Savills.

	<p>or pedestrian path concerns.</p>		<p>Discussed project updates on the development of LLV, including travel data/patterns, hotspots and any areas of concern regarding accessing and egressing LLV.</p> <p>Bus operations was discussed at each meeting.</p> <p>Raised awareness of upcoming project milestones at LLV, as well as projects in the Ku-ring-gai area to minimise conflicts. Identified potential issues related to LLV and local projects.</p> <p>Worked through solutions to risks and problems enabling improved planning applications that respond to the needs of all parties in a transparent and positive way.</p>
<p>Consultation with the Parents and Citizens group</p>	<p>Transport Plan Coordinator to organise question and answer (Q&A) events with the P&C to broadcast travel issues and obtain feedback</p>	<p>After the first month of each term for the construction period and twice yearly thereafter</p>	<p>Travel Coordinator met regularly with the Friends of the Village. This included meeting with the President, Jason Wong, to discuss options for parents to contribute to improved bus services. Also consulting regularly with Chris McLean to discuss ongoing transport issues at LLV.</p> <p>Travel Coordinator presented at the Community Consultative Committee, presenting what was being undertaken at LLV with regards to travel.</p>

Identify any school parking demand that spills out onto the road network	Car parking demand surveys (undertaken during and after school hours)	After the first month of each term for the construction period and twice yearly thereafter	<p>Travel Coordinator undertook visual parking surveys in Term 1, Term 2 and Term 4.</p> <p>Travel Coordinator also liaised with residents about any parking concerns.</p> <p>Some unsafe parking behaviours observed at pick-up time. No all-day overspill parking issues identified.</p> <p>No funding was available to commission surveys.</p>
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3 Mode Share Targets

The mode share targets for Term 1 2021 are set out below. There were approximately 520 students enrolled.

Mode of Travel	Percentage	Number of Students (520 total)	Term 4 Travel Survey Results	Outcome
Walk / cycle / scoot	10%	52	16%	Achieved target.
Bus	65%	338 (4.5 buses required based on 75 students per bus)	30%	Not achieved due to social distance concerns on public transport (COVID-19), and not enough bus services available to students, including the charter bus being discontinued at the end of Term 2. (Term 2 travel survey results = 40% bus mode share)
Car	25%	130	54%	Not achieved due to social distance concerns (COVID-19).
Total	100%	520	100%	

At the beginning of Term 1 2022, there will be approximately 710 students enrolled. The updated student numbers per mode are below, based on the mode share percentages. The school has a capacity of 2000 students in total.

Mode of Travel	Percentage	Number of Students (710 total)	Number of Students (2,000 total)
Walk / cycle / scoot	10%	71	200
Bus	65%	462 (6.2 buses required based on 75 students per bus)	1,300 (17.3 buses required based on 75 students per bus)
Car	25%	177	500
Total	100%	710	2,000

4 Further actions for consideration

4.1 Overall LLV travel initiatives

Hosting a transport event by suburb and age group would be a great way for new starters to meet and learn their neighbourhood pathways to school – all of these.

This would facilitate connections across the growing LLV community to introduce families that could car pool or develop walk, bike or travel buddies to travel together to and from LLV.

4.2 Active Transport Initiatives

Primary School

- Drawing competition to create a healthy travel to school logo that could be included on the website / promoted at LLV.
- Themed walk to school event – favourite book or movie character.
- Student leaders appointed to encourage and teach peers on the benefits of active travel.

High school

- 5-day active travel challenge – travel to school in an active way for 5 days in the first 2-week period back to school. Create a competition across Hubs / classes.
- Bike maintenance session. 99 Bikes in Artarmon are able to come and run bike maintenance session.

4.3 Carpooling

- Carpooling aims to limit the amount of single occupancy trips taken via private vehicle.

- A car share scheme is where two or more students share a journey to and from school. Parents and staff can connect with others who live in close proximity. It may be that the second student is picked from their home address or a convenient place of pick up, and parents can take it in turn.
- This would reduce the number of vehicles on the road network, and queuing issues in the kiss and ride area.
- Rewards can be used as incentives for carpooling. For example, staff car parking spaces could be in the most convenient area that is closest to the school entrance and sheltered. For students, the kiss and drop spaces located closest to the school could be prioritised, or food vouchers could be provided for school lunches / snacks.
- There are various different platforms that can be used to organise and operate carpooling.
- Currently there are 9 car pool spaces at LLV.
- In 2021 the Travel Coordinator investigated car pooling platforms and opportunities. There however was no funding available.
- Travel Coordinator seeking to establish some form of carpooling coordination for D1T1 2022.

4.3.1 Carpoolworld

- Carpoolworld work with schools and can set up a dedicated web portal for LLV.
- This web portal includes privacy options to control access to the school carpool program by invitation only.
- Three monthly plans are available:
 - Basic: AUD\$7/month per 200 users
 - Standard: AUD \$69/month per 1,000 users
 - Premium: custom pricing
- It is recommended LLV trial Carpoolworld for at least 2 months to pair up with other families who drive to school.

4.4 School Travel Coordinator Role for 2022

- Continue TWG (quarterly) and relationships with TfNSW, Ku-ring-Gai Council and Willoughby Council.
- Continue to work with Ku-ring-gai Council and Willoughby Council to collaborate on priorities surrounding LLV and travel options.
- Continue to update TfNSW on enrolment data, bus patronage and bus operational concerns.
- Bus occupancy survey at new school stop.
- Continue to embed sustainable travel behaviours in staff and students at the school to achieve mode share targets.
- Chase response for school crossing supervisor (if not received in 2021).
- National Ride 2 School Day will be held on 25 March 2022. Materials and comms to start 4 weeks in advance.
- Walk Safely to School Day will be held on 20 May 2022. Material and comms to start 4 weeks in advance.
- Active transport initiatives for primary and secondary school.
- Set up and promote car pool scheme to reduce single occupancy vehicles.
- Transport event by suburb and age group for new starters to meet and learn their local journey to school. This would also be an opportunity for students to find a walk, bike or bus buddy to travel to school with, and an opportunity for families to coordinate for carpooling.

4.4.1 How could the role be best delivered?

- There are efficiencies to be made by a School Travel Coordinator role covering 3 or 4 schools in the area to create an efficient and effective outcome with LGAs, TfNSW and for all that use the local transport network (of all modes). There are many similar schools within the area that the single role could cover, such as Lindfield Public School, Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Cromehurst School, Roseville Public School, Lindfield East Public School, and Killara Public School.
- Given the delivery and outcomes of the School Travel Coordinator role are derived from and benefit travel, there is merit in the role being delivered by TfNSW.
- By facilitating a School Travel Coordinator role that crosses multiple schools and is driven by TfNSW, efficiencies and benefits will be seen across the road, public transport and active travel networks in the area. It would also strengthen relationships across TfNSW, LGAs and local school communities.