Lake Cathie Primary School
Green Travel Plan

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Summary of Revisions

<table>
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<th>By</th>
<th>Review</th>
<th>Date</th>
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Context

The Lake Cathie Public School currently stands in isolation halfway between Lake Cathie and Bonny Hills in an area approved for a future 702 lot subdivision. There is no clear date for the construction of the subdivision and until its construction and occupation, the school will continue to draw its population from the surrounding communities. This isolation impacts alternative modes of transport, with the sub-arterial road (Ocean Drive) that links the school to Lake Cathie and Bonny Hills considered unsafe for independent bike riding and pedestrian movement for primary school aged children. While Council have proposed a network of shared pedestrian and cycle pathways, until these are built, students will continue to rely on school buses and parent kiss-and-drop facilities.

In this context, this ‘draft’ Green Travel Plan focuses on achievable strategies in the short term. It should therefore be reviewed annually by the school and modified as appropriate to take advantage of changing conditions and opportunities, such as expansion of the shared pedestrian and cycle network and the development of the adjoining subdivision community with further green travel options encouraged once the planned walking and cycling infrastructure is constructed.

Introduction

SCOPE

This green travel plan has been prepared as part of a planning submission to replace existing demountable classrooms on the school site with new, purpose built futures-focused education facilities. This document outlines the strategies and actions the school is, and will, take to encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport by staff and students once the planned/approved walking and cycling infrastructure has been constructed.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

A Green Travel Plan is an Initiative to encourage travel mode behaviour change. These initiatives are used to promote and encourage people to choose sustainable transport options reducing the number of single-occupancy car trips and promote alternative options such as walking and cycling for shorter trips and public transport or carpooling for longer trips. Implementation of a Green Travel Plan provides benefits to residents, the local community and the environment via the following:

- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- Promoting the school and surrounding area as an innovative and environmentally aware location
- Improved health and fitness of staff and students through increased physical activity and reduced exposure to vehicle fumes
- Activates the streetscape fostering a wider sense of community
- Reduced contribution to photochemical smog
- Relieving stress on local road networks (congestion, parking availability etc.)
- Encouraging a reduced dependence on finite fossil fuel resources

The coordination, implementation and funding of the Green Travel Plan will be the responsibility of the Lake Cathie Public School. Acknowledging the location and accessibility of the proposed development, this Green Travel Plan predominantly seeks to minimise the use of private vehicle transport through:

- Providing convenient access to current and relevant public transport information to all staff.
- Improved road safety and personal security for pedestrians and cyclists
- Maximising the efficient use of on-site bicycle parking and;
Site Location & Land Use

THE SITE

The Lake Cathie Public School is located on the Mid North coast, half way between the coastal communities of Lake Cathie to the north and Bonny Hills to the south, a 15-minute drive from Port Macquarie. The school site is shown in the diagram below. The school stands in relative isolation with no public bus stops within walking distance of the school. In the future, a planned 702 lot subdivision to the east of the site will provide access to a public bus stop, however no date is available for when the construction of the subdivision will commence.

LOCAL AMENITIES AND FACILITIES

The school’s isolation means that all staff and students travel to the school from either Lake Cathie, Bonny Hills or, in the case of staff, further afield such as Port Macquarie. Access to public parking, shops and alternative transportation modes is limited to those available in Lake Cathie and Bonny Hills on route to the school.
Existing Sustainable Transport Options

**PEDESTRIAN & CYCLIST NETWORK**

The Port Macquarie-Hastings Council have proposed a network of shared pedestrian and cycle paths linking the new subdivision with Lake Cathie to the north. Refer appendices for Port Macquarie-Hastings Bike Plan Extract (May 2015). Once complete, staff and students will be able to travel relatively safely from/to Lake Cathie in approximately 7 minutes by bicycle, or 30 minutes on foot. As this network has not been completed, cyclists and pedestrians are reliant on the existing road shoulder. As a sub-arterial road, Ocean Drive is not considered safe for use by primary school ages students and therefore the existing infrastructure does not support student pedestrians or cyclists.

**BUS SERVICE**

A single bus route travels past the site, linking Lake Cathie and Bonny Hills with Port Macquarie to the north. The closest bus stops are located in either Bonny Hills or Lake Cathie, some distance from the site. As such, bus services are not a practical means of accessing the site for staff. Students however, are serviced by a school bus service providing three morning and afternoon services. Refer timetable below.

### SCHOOL TIMETABLE

Lake Cathie Public School

Timetable effective from Wednesday 21 February 2018

**MORNING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bus Number</th>
<th>Route Number</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Locations Serviced</th>
<th>Route Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td>7:59 AM</td>
<td>Lake Cathie</td>
<td>Departs Lakeside Wy &amp; Kenwood Dr via Lakeside Wy (R)2nd Fishermans Wy (L)Lakeside Wy (L)Kenwood Dr (L)Talmaong Dr (L)Ocean Dr (L)Dirah St (8:10am) (L)Koribah Av (R)Evans St (R)Ocean Dr to School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td></td>
<td>8:06 AM</td>
<td>Bonny Hills</td>
<td>Departs Ocean Dr &amp; Parancime Dr via Ocean Dr (R)2nd Beach St (L)Seafront Ctr (L)2nd Kendall Ctr (R)Jasper Ctr (L)Rainbow Beach Dr (L)Seawind Chase Dr to Houston Mitchell Dr roundabout, turns around &amp; returns Ocean Dr to School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td></td>
<td>8:07 AM</td>
<td>Lake Cathie</td>
<td>LAST PICK UP ERNEST ST &amp; MONICA PL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AFTERNOON**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bus Number</th>
<th>Route Number</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Locations Serviced</th>
<th>Route Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
<td>2:50 PM</td>
<td>Bonny Hills</td>
<td>Departs Schools Bus Bay via (L)Ocean Dr (L)Seawind Chase (R)Rainbow Beach Dr (R)Jasper Ctr (L)Kendall Ctr (R)Seafront Ctr (R)Beach St (L)Ocean Dr to Third Av.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td></td>
<td>2:50 PM</td>
<td>Lake Cathie</td>
<td>FIRST SET OCEAN DR &amp; FIONA CRES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Bus Services Timetable

**CAR-POOLING**

The school employ a total of approximately 35 staff and whilst some staff working hours may be different there will be a significant core of staff working similar hours throughout the day. An opportunity therefore exists to connect staff living in similar areas and encourage car-pooling as a measure to reduce vehicle trips to and from the site.
Sustainable Transport Initiative

While the school is currently isolated from surrounding communities, this is expected to change as the adjoining subdivision commences and dedicated pedestrian and cycle paths are established. As such, the following initiatives are reflective of future opportunities and should be reviewed and communicated to the school community annually as the wider community continues to grow.

MODE SHIFT INITIATIVES

Students and parents are to be educated about sustainable transport options to & from the school at parent/teacher sessions and other events. Appropriate information is to be placed in the school’s administration where it is clearly visible to staff, students and visitors to the school. Appropriate detailed travel information will be supplied within LCPS orientation packages, which will be provided to staff and students and could include the following regarding sustainable transport alternatives available to staff and students.

The LCPS orientation package could include the following:

- School map showing location of secure bicycle parking area and end of trip shower facilities.
- Pedestrian and Cycle map showing dedicated paths linking the school with the surrounding communities.
- Bus time table and map

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

When available, and to encourage public transport, travel information sourced from Transport NSW and Busways will be provided by means of pamphlets detailing bus scheduling, frequency of services and location of bus stops in relation to the school. This information will be presented in the LCPS orientation packs.

CYCLING

The school will incorporate a dedicated, secure bicycle parking area along with end of trip shower facilities to support bicycle transportation modes.

When complete, the 2.5m wide shared cycle and pedestrian pathway located on Wollum Drive will allow pedestrians and cyclists to travel safely off-street from the school to the adjoining subdivision and the Lake Cathie town centre. In the meantime, the existing road network along Ocean Drive and Houston Mitchell Drive provide sealed road shoulders which can be used by adult cyclists. See appendices for Port Macquarie-Hastings Bike Plan May 2015.

The use of bicycles by students and staff will be encouraged and promoted by providing a map highlighting on/off-street bicycle lanes & shared path networks surrounding the school. Promoting the benefits of cycling can also be considered/integrated into school educational programs such as “Cycle-Skills training, bicycle maintenance workshops and Ride to School day / Bike Week”. This information will be presented in the LCPS orientation pack and through school noticeboards, flyers, emails and social media when appropriate infrastructure is in place to support the safe movement of students.

WALKING

When complete, the adjoining housing subdivision will incorporate a network of shared pedestrian and cycle pathways and dedicated pedestrian footpaths. Refer appendices for St Vincent's "Street Hierarchy and Pedestrian Movement Plan Exhibit 08B" (DA-10.2016.465.1). This will be connected to the shared pathway linking the school to Lake Cathie, providing a safe alternative mode of travel for local staff and students.

Pedestrian access to the school by staff and students will be encouraged and promoted by providing a map highlighting the pedestrian and shared path networks surrounding the school. This information will be
presented in the LCPS orientation pack and through school noticeboards, flyers, emails and social media when appropriate infrastructure is in place to support the safe movement of students.

CAR-POOLLING INITIATIVES

Lake Cathie Public School employs approximately 35 staff members and whilst some staff working hours will differ, there will be a core number of staff working similar hours throughout the day. This provides an opportunity to connect staff living in similar areas and encourage car-pooling as a measure to reduce vehicle trips to and from the site.

To encourage the application of car-pooling the school has an opportunity to implement car-pooling initiatives into their practices. These should be reviewed annually and may include the following strategies:

1. Annually reviewing staff residential addresses to identify groups of staff who could benefit from a car-pooling system.
2. Encourage car-pooling by looking to ensure these groups of staff remain on regular, equivalent hours.
3. Promote the environmental and social benefits associated with car-pooling at staff meetings.
4. Providing dedicated car-pooling car parks in prime locations within the staff carpark.
5. Provide a rewards scheme (term prizes) for those involved in the car-pooling scheme e.g. Travel cost reimbursements etc.

SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL GUIDE

A sustainable travel guide will be developed for the School’s staff to provide information and recommendations on sustainable travel options to and from the school. The guide will be readily available and will be structured in a manner that provides concise, relevant and easily understood. Topics to be covered in the Sustainable Travel Guide will include:

- Access to public transport infrastructure, including
  - Directions
  - Walking distances and times
- Services provided by local public transport, covering
  - Availability of bus services
  - Routes covered by local services, including connections to other services
- Ticketing information for public transport, including:
  - Pricing
- Location of local facilities and amenities within walking distance and cycling distance
- Overview of cyclist provisions (bicycle storage, showers, etc.)
- Details of car-pooling strategy and benefits.
Conclusion

This Green Travel Plan has been developed to encourage the adoption of more sustainable forms of transport compared to the current proliferation of private vehicle usage. The school’s current, relative isolation makes many of the alternative modes of transport unrealistic in the short term, however as the surrounding subdivision and pedestrian infrastructure is established, these measures will become more viable. As such, this plan will be reviewed annually with the objective of motivating staff and students to consider alternative, more sustainable modes of transport.

The school management team is committed to embedding the principles of social responsibility across its activities and the implementation of this Green Travel Plan is, therefore, a significant element in the fulfilment of this commitment to social responsibility.
Appendices

Public Transport Map (route 334)
Subdivision Street Hierarchy and Pedestrian Movement (King + Campbell 2016)