



Barham CE Primary School

Policy on Children Walking to School Alone and Being Collected/Walking Home

Adopted by Governors: November 2025

Review date: November 2026

Our Vision Statement

Barham is a vibrant, inclusive and high-achieving primary school with a family feel at the heart of the local and church community. We are committed to supporting everyone to be confident, kind and curious. Our curriculum is broad, engaging and supports everyone to flourish as God intends.

1. Purpose

This policy aims to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children who walk to school alone or are collected/walk home by parents or carers. It clarifies the school's expectations and responsibilities, as well as parental roles in ensuring safe travel arrangements.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all children enrolled at Barham CE Primary School and their parents/carers.

3. Walking to or from School Alone

- The school recognises that some children, particularly in upper Key Stage 2, may walk to or from school independently.
- Parents/carers should assess their child's readiness and maturity to walk to school alone, considering factors such as age, route safety, and the child's confidence.
- The school recommends that children under Year 5 should not walk unaccompanied unless parents have discussed and agreed this with the school.
- Parents/carers must inform the school if their child will be walking to or from school unaccompanied using: [Consent Form for Child Walking to and/or from Barham Church of England Primary School – Fill out form](#)
- The school is not responsible for children's safety once they leave the school premises unless they are under the school's supervision.

4. Being Collected from School

- Parents/carers or authorised adults are responsible for collecting children at the end of the school day.
- The school requires parents/carers to notify the school if someone different will be collecting their child.
- Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 must be collected by a responsible adult unless otherwise agreed with the school.
- For children in Key Stage 2, parents may agree for their child to walk home alone or be collected by an older sibling of secondary school age or authorised adult. This must be communicated to the school using: [Consent Form for Child Walking to and/or from Barham Church of England Primary School – Fill out form](#).

5. Walking Home Alone

- For children walking home alone, parents/carers should ensure the child knows the route and understands road safety rules.
- The school encourages parents to discuss safe walking practises with their children regularly.
- A responsible adult must be at the home when the child arrives.

6. School Responsibilities

- The school will maintain a register of children who walk to school alone or walk home unaccompanied.
- Staff will ensure children are dismissed safely and that children not collected within a reasonable time are cared for according to safeguarding procedures.
- The school will communicate clearly with parents about expectations and responsibilities regarding travel arrangements.

7. Parental Responsibilities

- Parents/carers are responsible for their child's safety when walking to and from school.
- Parents must ensure the school is informed of any changes to collection arrangements.
- Parents should discuss and rehearse safe travel behaviours with their children.

8. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or as required in response to changes in legislation or school circumstances.