

Travel Plan

May 2021



Mascalls Academy

Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood, Tonbridge, TN12 6LT



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URN	136847
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School Travel Plan coordinator	Ms Sam Thomas
Job title	Business Manager
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1 Introduction to the school

1.1 Background

Mascalls Academy is a large comprehensive school on the outskirts of Paddock Wood. It is comprised of 11 buildings creating a campus feel to the school. The buildings are a mix of new and old, surrounded by playing fields on three sides. The school has approximately 1217 students in attendance to include sixth form.

1.2 Changes at the school

The school is neither moving nor expanding.

1.3 Inter-site travel issues

The school is on a single site, hence has no internal travel issues.

2 Operational hours

2.1 Core hours

8.30am to 3pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

8.30am to 2pm Wednesday

2.2 Overall hours

Community use or 'lettings' are from 5pm to 10pm

3 Staff and pupil numbers

3.1 Overview of staff & pupil numbers

The academy has approximately 1217 students including sixth form on roll.

Age range of pupils: 11-18

Total quantity of pupils on roll: 1217

3.2 Current staffing levels

The school employs a total of 128 staff (98 full-time, 30 part-time, 0 working other hours).

3.3 Planned school expansion

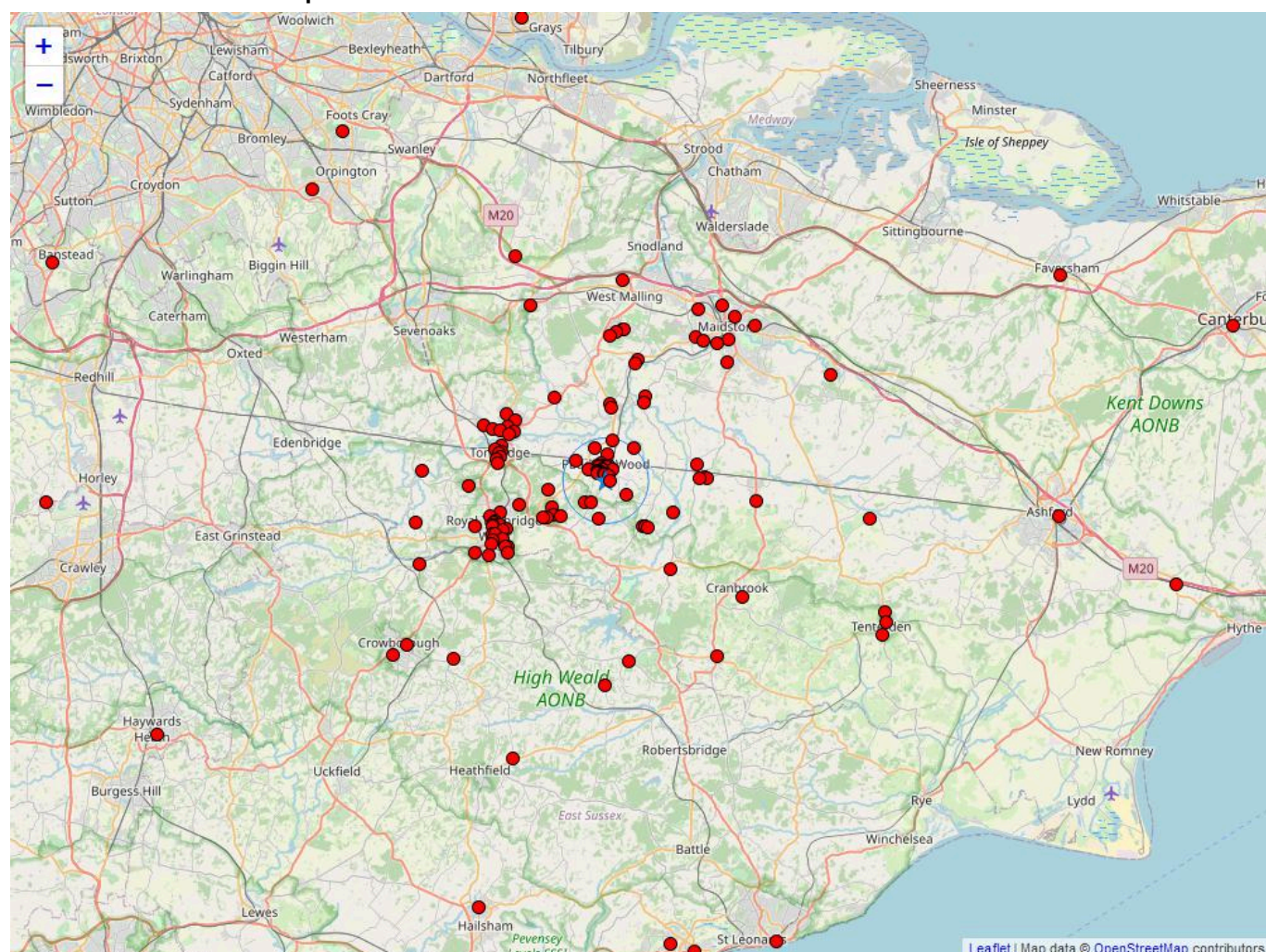
The school is not currently planning to expand.

3.3 SEN pupils with transport needs

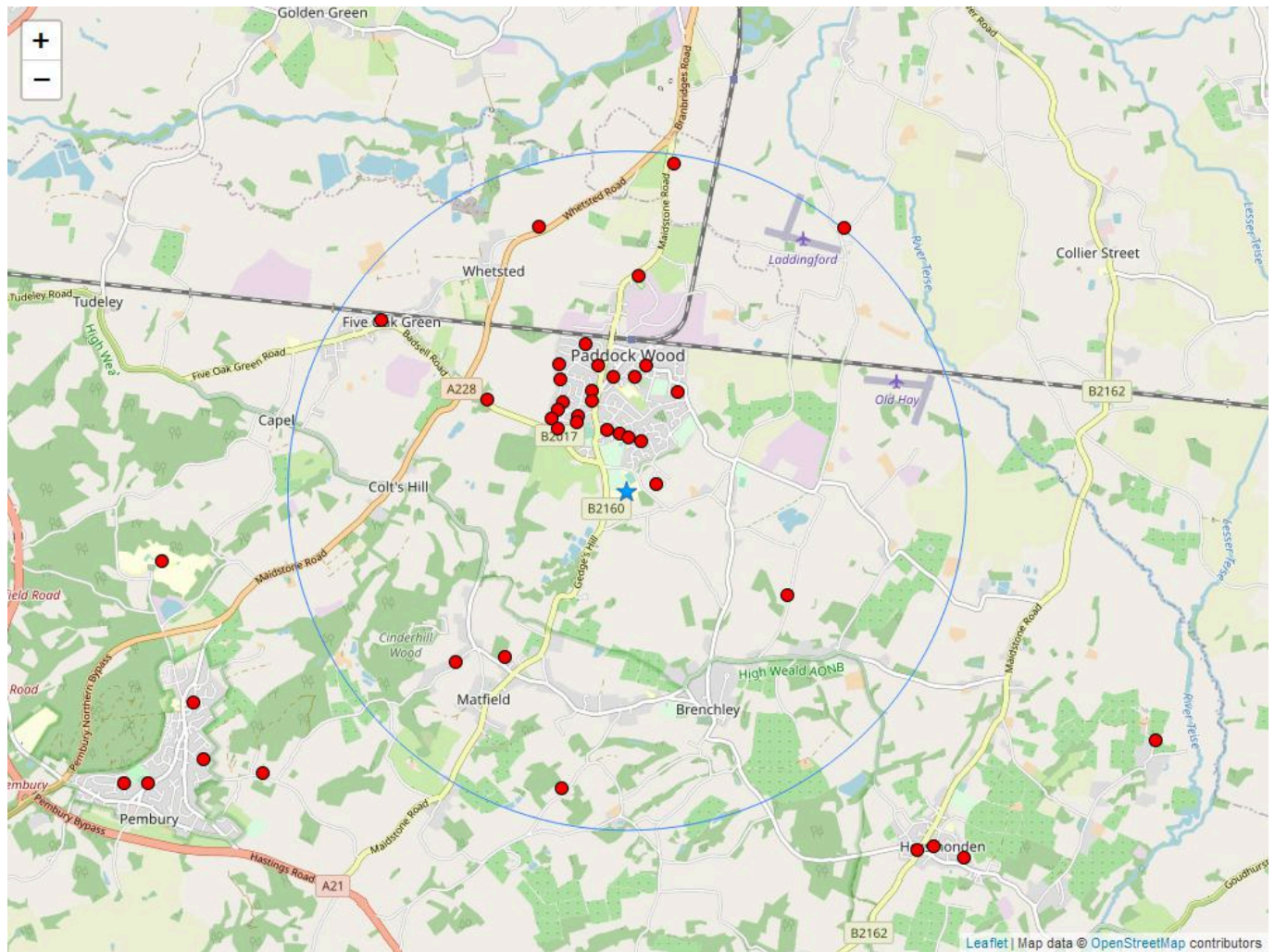
The school has no SEN pupils with specific transport needs.

4 Pupil & staff postcode maps

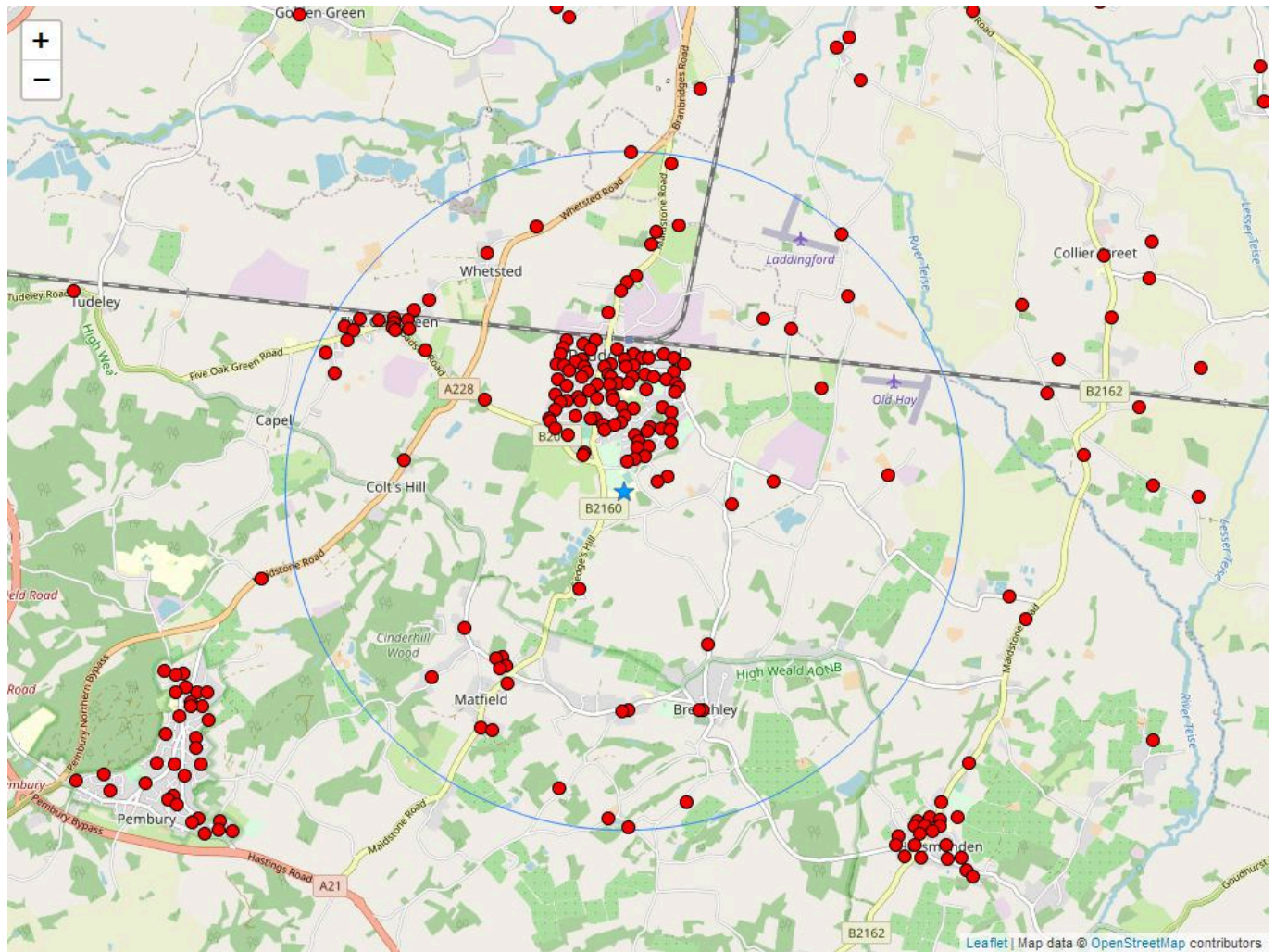
Overview of staff postcodes



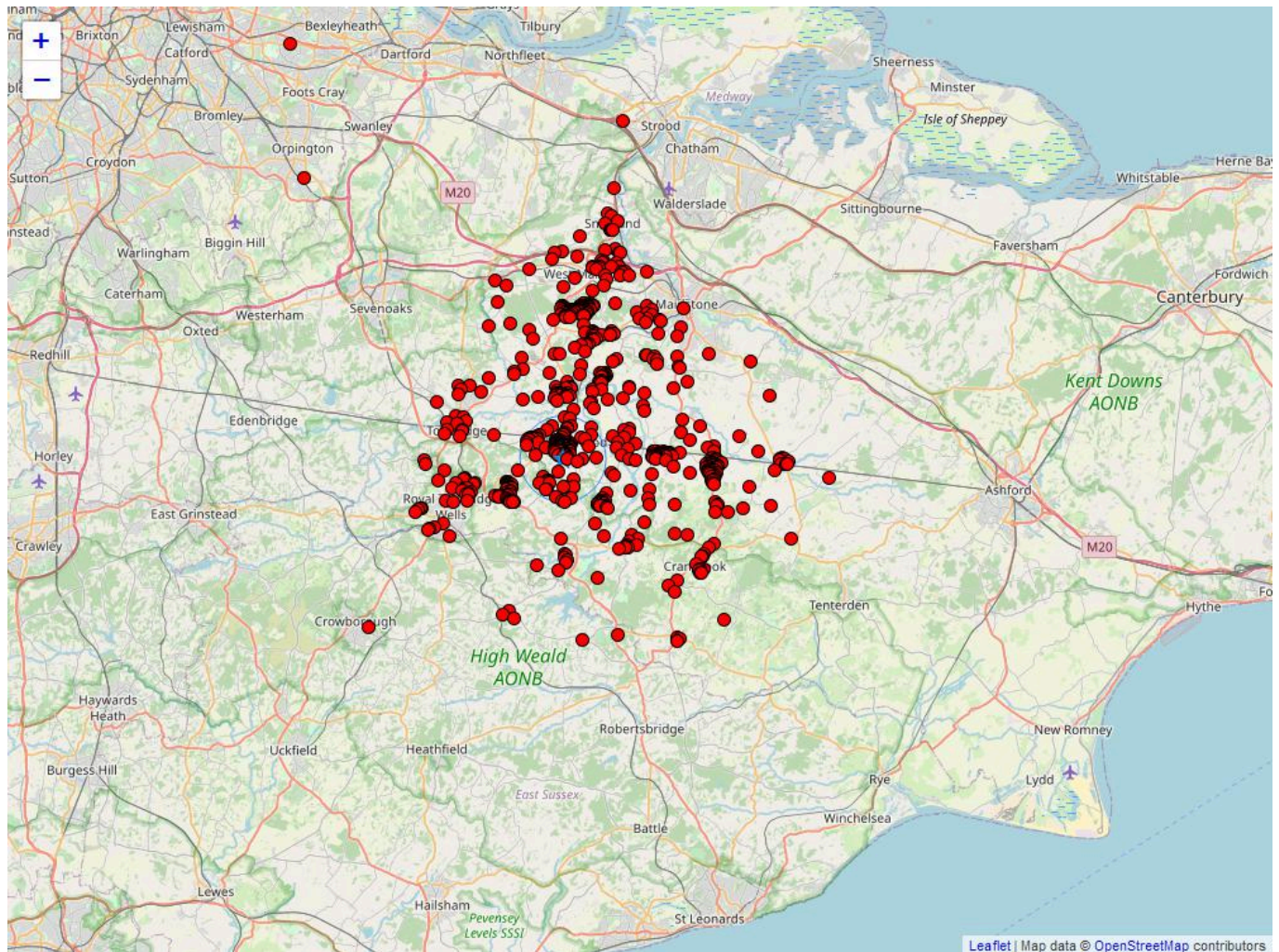
Closer view showing a two mile radius (staff postcodes)



Closer view showing a two mile radius (pupil postcodes)



Overview of pupil postcodes



5 Travel plan details

5.1 Previous travel plan

The school has a previous travel plan (2006), with the following objectives, targets, issues and successes.

Decrease the number of students arriving by car and increase the number using the bus service.

Re-design the entrance of the site to help with flow of traffic and allow busses to enter. This was completed in 2009.

5.2 Reason for new travel plan

The new travel plan will give an updated overview of the travel conditions and any issues arising to and from school. It will also provide an opportunity to identify barriers to active travel and give the school a clear set of actions and objectives that we can work towards. In turn, this will help the academy to take proactive and positive steps to promote and encourage active and sustainable travel for its pupils, staff, and visitors where possible.

6 Surrounding roads

6.1 Surrounding roads

Surrounding roads are 'B' roads and country roads/lanes.

6.2 Entrances and exits

There are three entrances and exits to the academy: a pedestrian entrance at the main entrance; a pedestrian entrance to the site in the corner of the field, with a footpath running within the academy grounds; and a main vehicle entrance.

Aerial view of the site showing the pedestrian and vehicle entrances



6.3 Parking restrictions nearby

There are school clearway markings outside the school.

There are parking restrictions on nearby corners

The main entrance is on the Maidstone Road (B2160). There are no yellow lines further down the road and parents tend to block the adjacent farm entrance and further up the road creating a traffic jam.

6.4 Traffic management measures

The school offers the following traffic management measures:

speed limit controls

We have a turning circle inside the grounds so parents can drive in, drop and drive out. The speed limit on site is 5mph.

6.5 Drop-off on roads outside the school

Parents are not able to drop pupils off on nearby roads.

6.6 Congestion and access problems

The school experiences traffic congestion and/or access problems.

The main issue is at the entrance of the school where the busses and parents are waiting to enter the site to drop children off. This can cause long queues in the morning and afternoon on both the Maidstone Road and Mascalls Court Road.

7 Car parking & usage

7.1 School car park

The school has an on-site car park.

In total, 132 parking spaces are available.

Parking spaces are managed.

Parking spaces are allocated as follows:

123	employees (total)
5	visitors
2	mobility impaired
0	a drop off point
0	car sharers
0	pupil parking
2	minibus
0	other

7.2 Drop-off points

The school has no off-site drop-off point.

Parents are able to drop pupils off within the school grounds.

There is a supervised turning circle within the school grounds.

7.3 Parking on surrounding roads

Members of staff do not (have to) park on the surrounding road network.

8 Pedestrian facilities

8.1 Access by footpath

The school is accessible by footpaths which are of good quality but which lack safe crossing points.

The footpath runs within the school grounds, along the field. This can be muddy in poor weather.

8.2 Access difficulties for pedestrians

None.

8.3 Crossing patrols

None.

8.4 Highway signs

There is an illuminated school sign with flashes 30mph, near the school entrance.

8.5 (Walking bus - inapplicable to secondary schools)

8.6 Other walking initiatives

The school does not promote any other walking initiatives.

8.7 Other pedestrian issues

As above, the footpath to walk into site can be quite muddy in poor weather. There isn't a footpath on the main Maidstone Road.

9 Cycling & scootering

9.1 (Pupil scootering - not applicable to a secondary school)

9.2 Pupil cycling

Some pupils (4) cycle to school.

Cycling to Mascalls from Paddock Wood is well catered for. To cycle from other directions is not as well catered for. Maidstone Road has no provision for cyclists and has blind corners and no cycling signs.

9.3 Staff cycling

No staff currently cycle to school.

Staff that live in Paddock Wood walk and others that live outside of the village drive. A small number travel via train.

9.4 Cycle routes/lanes

The school site is not accessible by external cycle routes/lanes.

9.5 Cycle parking

9.6 Cycle training

The school does not access cycle training for its pupils.

Cycle training is usually completed in the last year of Primary school. Therefore as a Secondary we do not offer this.

9.7 Encouragement & promotion of cycling

Cycling is encouraged and/or promoted.

Cycling is encouraged through school activities, although we would not advise students to cycle from other villages as it could be dangerous.

10 Public transport

10.1 Use of public transport

A small number of staff and a reasonable number of students travel to the academy via train.

A large number of students arrive by KCC provided and public bus services.

A Kent Freedom Pass is used by 255 pupils.

10.2 Obstacles to use of public transport

None

10.3 Promotion of public transport

A bus route and timetable booklet is produced every year and provided to the new intake of students. Sixth form students are also encouraged to purchase the 16+ travel pass. Information is provided.

10.4 Bus stops and services

10.4a Bus stops within 400m of site entrances

Mascalls Corner

10.4b Services currently serving these bus stops

6, 6A, 205, 215, 206, 506, HRCS2

10.4c Shelters at these bus stops

There are no shelters at the nearby bus stops.

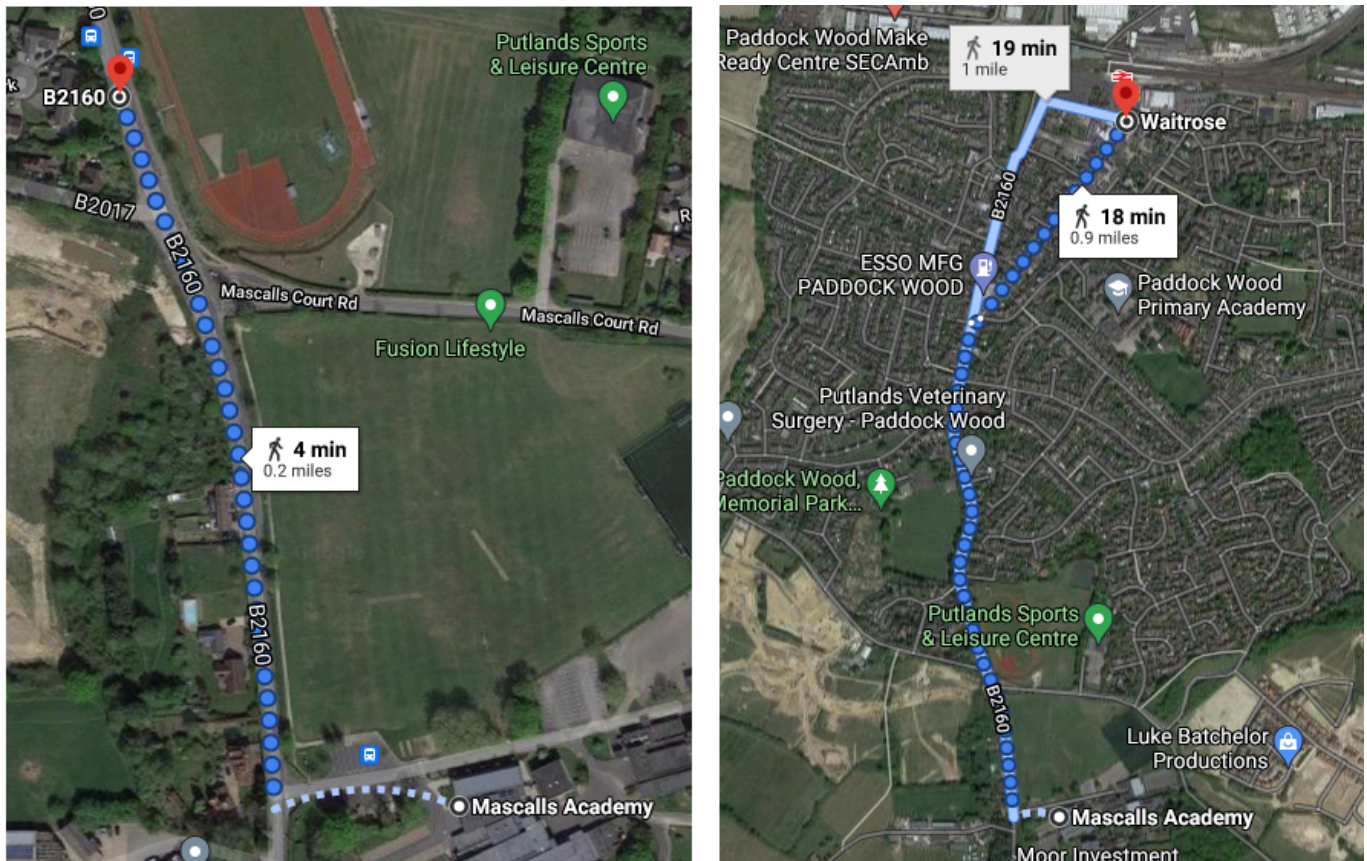
10.5 Railway stations and services

The site is served by one or more nearby railway stations.

Paddock Wood Station

Paddock Wood railway station is on the South Eastern Main Line and Medway Valley Line in south-east England, serving the town of Paddock Wood, Kent. The station also serves the villages of Matfield, Brenchley and Horsmonden, which have do not have stations of their own.

Map showing Mascalls Corner bus stops and Paddock Wood Train Station



10.6 Other public transport issues

All buses enter the school grounds to drop off and pick up.

11 Contract transport

11.1 School buses

The school benefits from 4 dedicated buses.

The services run to and from areas such as Kings Hill, Yalding, Horsmonden, Collier Street etc. Parents are able to apply for a pass from KCC. Low income parents or families that do not have a public bus service are able to obtain a pass free of charge.

These buses are neither under- nor oversubscribed.

The school cannot see their use of these buses being improved in any way.

11.2 Taxis

Taxis, whether for SEN or other students, are not a regular part of the school day.

11.3 Parking issues related to contract transport

None.

11.4 Other contract transport issues

The academy has dedicated parking spaces for the busses.

12 Current travel issues

12.1 Overview

To summarise the academy faces some issues with traffic congestion, particularly during collection at the end of school, as there is no entry to site or anywhere for parents to park. The closest place for parents to 'park and stride' is within the high street.

Often cars park along the Maidstone Road blocking the adjacent farm entrance and causing a traffic jam. Yellow lines are needed here.

New housing is being built around the academy and this is likely to add to the traffic congestion during school drop off and collection.

The public footpath that runs inside the academy grounds can get very muddy and needs to be widened and drainage added.

13 Travel survey results

modal split percentages (actual) - pupils

	Apr 2021	Oct 2017	Jun 2016	Jun 2016	Jun 2013
walk	21.7	23.6	19.1	19.1	30.8
park & walk	4.9	0.0		0.0	
cycle	0.4	0.0	0.9	0.9	0.0
scoot/skate	0.0	0.0		0.0	
bus (all types)			53.4		48.2
public bus	7.5	17.4		38.1	
school bus	27.8	31.4		15.2	
rail	14.7	14.0	11.4	11.4	3.8
car share	4.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
car (alone)	17.8	13.0	15.2	15.2	17.3
other	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0

NB rounded percentages may not add exactly to 100.0%

modal split percentages (ideal) - pupils

	Apr 2021	Oct 2017	Jun 2016	Jun 2016
walk	20.1	23.6	34.3	100.0
park & walk	2.9	0.0		0.0
cycle	9.2	0.0	0.9	0.0
scoot/skate	0.0	0.0		0.0
bus (all types)			53.4	
public bus	2.0	17.4		0.0
school bus	15.2	31.4		0.0
rail	12.6	14.0	11.4	0.0
car share	2.9	0.3	0.0	0.0
car (alone)	34.1	13.0	0.0	0.0
other	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.0

NB rounded percentages may not add exactly to 100.0%

modal split percentages (actual) - staff

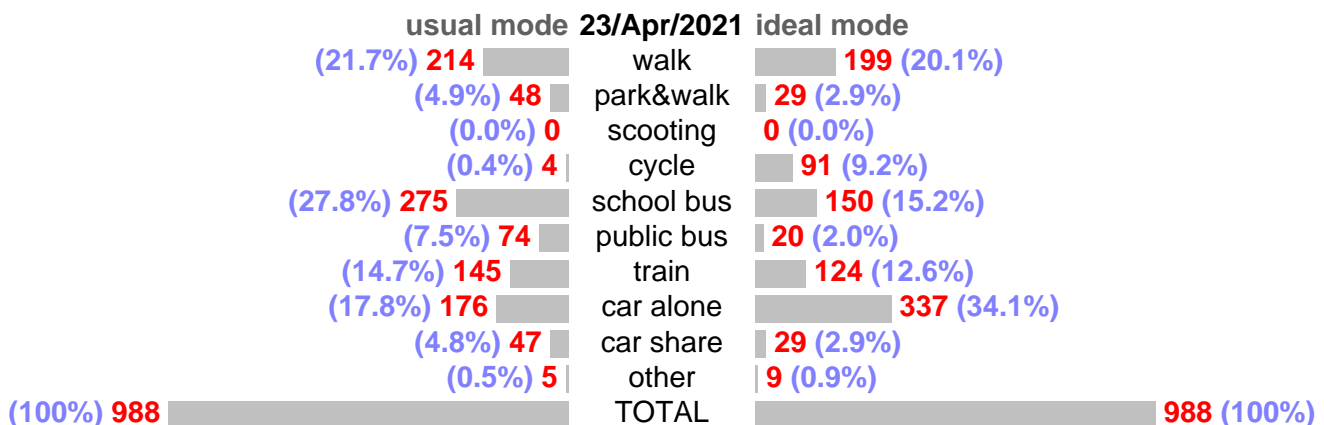
	Apr 2021	Jun 2016
walk	0.9	0.0
cycle	0.9	1.4
bus	0.9	1.4
train	1.9	6.9
car (alone)	92.5	83.3
car share	2.8	6.9
other	0.0	0.0

NB rounded percentages may not add exactly to 100.0%

modal split percentages (ideal) - staff

	Apr 2021	Jun 2016
walk	10.4	0.0
cycle	7.5	0.0
bus	0.9	0.0
train	0.0	0.0
car (alone)	79.2	0.0
car share	1.9	100.0
other	0.0	0.0

NB rounded percentages may not add exactly to 100.0%

13.1 Barchart of latest pupil actual/ideal survey

14 Issues & objectives

1	<i>Improve cycling safety to the academy</i> <i>Access to the school by bicycle is not safe. The main issue is that there is no dedicated cycle path to the school.</i>
2	<i>Highways</i> <i>Contact the Highways team to discuss Maidstone Road and the possibility of adding double yellow lines.</i>

15 Targets

A	<i>increase % of pupils cycling to & from school from 1% (Apr 2021) to 3% by Apr 2022</i>
B	<i>reduce % of pupils coming to school by car from 17% (Apr 2021) to 16% by Apr 2022</i>
C	<i>increase % of pupils travelling actively to & from school from 5% (Apr 2021) to 7% by Apr 2022</i>

16 Action plan

<i>summary</i>	<i>tasks</i>	<i>lead</i>	<i>timing</i>
Discuss cycle routes with Highways to enable more cyclists to safely travel to the Academy and therefore increase the % of students arriving by this method.		STH	finish by 1/Sep/2021
Promote public and dedicated bus services to parents and carers of students to help reduce the % of students arriving by car.		STH	finish by 1/Dec/2021
Highway Engineering/Measures - Engage with Highways to discuss Maidstone Road to see if double yellow lines can be added.		STH	finish by 31/Aug/2021
Park and Stride - Promote and encourage more parents/carers to drop their children off approximately 10 minutes distance from the academy to complete the rest of the journey on foot, thus engaging in 'Active Travel' and helping to reduce congestion at the academy entrance.		SLT	start by 1/Sep/2021

17 Monitoring and reviews

The Travel Plan will continue to be monitored closely by the school, and reviewed on an annual basis.

The school agrees to complete an annual review and pupil hands up survey when requested by KCC. The hands up data and review will be feed into KCC's Travel Plan Management System. This will be led by Ms Sam Thomas.

The review will take into account all pupils' needs arising from new developments in education and transport provision. A more detailed review will be carried out should the school seek planning permission for further development.

This Travel Plan has been agreed and signed up to by the following people, who agree to the plan being viewed publicly.

Headteacher	<i>Mr Will Monk</i>	17/May/2021
Chair of Governors	<i>Mr Bob Sherwood</i>	17/May/2021