



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy

"Benedict Biscop is aspirational and nurturing" – Ofsted 2024

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Headteacher: Mrs S Armstrong

'With God, all things are possible'

Thursday 10th April 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As part of our drive to become a more sustainable school and reduce the traffic congestion around school, the children have chosen to be part of an exciting initiative to encourage more children and their families to walk to school! WOW – the walk to school challenge is delivered by Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking, to help as many children as possible experience the benefits of walking to school.

The pupil-led challenge enables children to self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or 'Park and Stride') at least once a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge - it's that simple!

What are the benefits of walking to school?

- Children feel happier and healthier
- They arrive to school refreshed and ready to learn
- Helps reduce congestion and pollution around school

What if we can't walk to school?

If you live too far from school to walk the whole way and need to drive, consider 'Park and Stride' to help your child earn their WOW badges. This is where you will park at least ten minutes away from the school and walk the remaining journey. We have an agreement with The Prior, Public House to use their car park so if walking the full journey is not an option, this would class as 'Park and Stride' if walking from there.

If using public transport, hop off at least ten minutes away and walk the rest (which they can record as 'other' on the WOW Travel Tracker, once they arrive at school).

Children will start to record their travel activity from **Monday 28th April 2025**.

What is a WOW badge?

There are badges to be earned from April 2025 – July 2025. Each badge has been designed by a pupil from across the UK as part of our annual WOW Badge Design Competition. A new badge can be earned every month if pupils' walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride at least once a week.

WOW 2024/25 encourages pupils to Walk with Imagination, with a selection of badges ranging from a Bird's Eye View to Road Surfing up for grabs.



Historic England



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy is part of Northern Lights Learning Trust, an exempt charity. It is a company registered in England and Wales under the company number 07909140.

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy is committed to the protection and safety of its pupils and staff.

The badges are made in Cornwall from material that was otherwise destined for landfill, including fridge trays, plastic plates and yoghurt pot off-cuts. For more information, visit: <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/recycling>

In the UK last year, around 2,300 schools and over 600,000 pupils enjoyed the benefits of walking to school with WOW. Will you join us?

If you have any questions about the programme, please contact Mr Allison, or find more information and useful videos at: <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/wowlaunch>

Let's swap those school runs for school walks!

Yours sincerely,

Mr Allison
Senior Assistant Headteacher