

Results from Wheatley Primary Academy footpaths questionnaire (July 2016)

23 survey forms were returned – many thanks to all those who filled one in.

The majority of respondents (21) live in Wheatley/Littleworth and their households are distributed throughout the parish.

The replies show that 16 children usually or always walk to school (and 3 sometimes do) with the majority being accompanied by a parent. Those who never walk either live too far away or are dropped off early for breakfast club (assume that parents are on their way to work).

Issues Raised

Two issues stood out from the replies:

- i) Crossing Station Road/Ladder Hill
- ii) Crossing between the school and Littleworth Park/Nursery

Other issues mentioned on the forms:

- iii) No footpath near Sun pub.
- iv) No footpath along Old Road
- v) Crossing at either end of Holloway Road
- vi) Parking in lane to Littleworth Park
- vii) Parking outside school in general
- viii) Lights along path from Coopers Close need repair
- ix) No footpath through Littleworth
- x) Traffic/parking in Church Road

Green Route

Nearly all respondents who live to the East of the school support the idea of a “Green Route” through the village away from the majority of the traffic.

Possible Solutions

We consider that the best solution for (i) would be a pedestrian crossing on Station Road just below the Co-op. Traffic is generally going fairly slowly here, because of the narrow bend just below, and visibility is generally OK. This could also form part of the “Green Route”, assuming it came through the footpath from Farm Close Lane, or along Farm Close Road, and carried on either through the Railway Inn car park or through the telephone exchange.

There are two possible solutions to (ii), either a short length of footpath along the South side of the road between Littleworth Park entrance and the school crossing, or an additional crossing near the entrance (and the Nursery). The former would probably be expensive, as it might involve moving the road a few feet North to make room for a footpath.