

Creating a Healthier School Environment

Living in rural West Berkshire means many of us rely on cars. However, every extra car on the road increases pollution and traffic, particularly around school drop-off and pick-up times. This not only affects air quality but also the safety of our children. By choosing more sustainable options like walking, cycling, or car sharing, we can make a positive impact on our community's health and environment.

What is a School Street?

Francis Baily Primary is part of the School Streets Scheme, which aims to create a safer, healthier environment around schools by reducing traffic during drop-off and pick-up times. Under this scheme, motorised traffic is temporarily restricted on key roads around the school, including Skillman Drive, Jedburgh Close, and Edwin Close. This reduces congestion, improves air quality, and makes it safer for children to arrive on foot, by bike, or scooter.



Who was Francis Baily?


Born on April 28, 1774, in Newbury, Baily was an adventurous explorer who charted uncharted lands in America. After nearly being shipwrecked twice, he returned to England and became a successful stockbroker. However, his true passion lay in astronomy. Francis Baily



Welcome to Francis Baily Primary School

Francis Baily Primary School, located on Skillman Drive, Thatcham, has a rich history deeply connected to its local community. Skillman Drive is named after Horatio Skillman, the school's first headmaster when it opened in 1913. Back then, the school had 200 children and five classrooms. By 1964, the student body had grown to 500, and the school was renamed in honour of the famous astronomer Francis Baily.

How We're Making It Safer



We've worked hard to improve the footpaths and pedestrian crossings around the school. These crossings help reduce waiting times and make it safer for your children to walk to school. Please remind your children to use them, and if you notice any issues on the route, report them via www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem

Public Transport



If feasible, public transport is a fantastic, low-cost alternative. Bus rides in West Berkshire are just £2*, no matter how far you travel. For help planning your trip, visit www.westberks.gov.uk/travel

Car Sharing



If driving is necessary, why not consider car sharing? It's a great way to cut down on the number of cars on the road, reduce CO₂ emissions, and have some fun by catching up with other parents. Car sharing also saves time and money, making the journey more enjoyable for everyone.

is renowned for discovering "Baily's Beads," the bright spots of light visible during a solar eclipse. He passed away in 1844, and his wish was to be buried in Thatcham St Mary's Church.

A blue heritage plaque now marks his birthplace at 62 Northbrook Street in Newbury.

Together, we can make Francis Baily Primary School a healthier, safer place for our children.

Special thanks to Connie Stacey and our Year 5 pupils for helping us create this leaflet and map.

**Price correct at time of going to print*

If you require this information in an alternative format or translation, please contact Customer Services, on Telephone 01635 551111

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www.westberks.gov.uk/school-streets-francis-baily

Scot, Walk, or Cycle



Walking, scooting, or cycling to school not only keeps your children fit but also helps them arrive refreshed and ready to learn. Year 5 and 6 students can take part in Bikeability training to develop safe cycling skills, and there's plenty of storage for bikes and scooters at the school.

Why We Need Your Help With School Travel

At Francis Baily Primary, we are committed to promoting safer, healthier, and more environmentally friendly travel to school. Traffic congestion, particularly around the school gates, affects the air quality and safety of our children. By making small changes, we can collectively improve this situation:

Park and Stride: We encourage parents to use the two Park and Stride locations, which are only a short walk from the school:

- Dunstan Green car park
- Old Bluecoats school car park

These are no more than 8 minutes walk away from the school. Parking here reduces congestion around the school gates and creates a safer environment for children arriving on foot, by scooter, or by bike.

Park and Stride map

Francis Baily Primary School



Walking or cycling is a great way to keep fit and it's free!

Roads with School Streets restrictions in operation

Park and Stride parking locations



Park and Stride parking locations



Spurcroft Primary School

Burdwood

THE GROVE

H STREET

THE MOORS

THE QUANTOCKS

PARK AVENUE

STATION ROAD

MOUNT ROAD

HARTMEAD ROAD

OAK TREE ROAD

DUNSTAN ROAD

COOMBE CT

BEECH WALK

MARSH ROAD

ELMS AV

EXANDER ROAD

HARTS HILL ROAD

VICTOR ROAD

BLYTH AVENUE

STATION ROAD

TURNERS DRIVE

THE MARTINS

SIMMONS FIELD

LONDON ROAD

THE MARTINS

FLORAL WAY

BROADMEADOW END

HURFORD DRIVE

PEACHEY DRIVE

CHOLSEY RD

BOLINGBROKE WAY

FALMOUTH WAY

ASHMAN WAY

SCRIVENS MEAD

FULLER CLOSE

BOSCAMEN WAY

BERKSHIRE DRIVE

ENTER