

Dear Parents,

## **CROCODILE TRAIL**

It's 8.45 in the morning and the roads around the school are thick with traffic. Parents are dropping off children with their engines still running, while others drive around searching for a parking space. It's a problem that occurs outside most schools across Buckinghamshire, and a problem that could be helped by a Crocodile Trail.

More commonly known as a "Walking Bus", the Crocodile Trail is Buckinghamshire's alternative form of school transport, and a simple but effective way of encouraging walking to school. Practically, it involves adult volunteers escorting groups of children on the journey to school, along agreed routes and has four main objectives:

- To be Fun - Walking to school is more fun in a group.
- To be Healthy - Walking is a basic but highly beneficial form of exercise.
- To be Educational - Walking helps children develop important pedestrian skills.
- To be Safe - An increase in walking may reduce cars around the school.

All children using the Crocodile Trail must wear a fluorescent tabard and receive a Go for Gold passport. This is stamped every time a child uses the Trail and by collecting these stamps regularly children become eligible for free activities and certificates. The children receive Footsteps pedestrian skills training before the Crocodile Trail starts.

The only thing is the Crocodile Trail needs your help to be successful. Each route must be supervised by at least two adults. To operate every day a route will ideally need ten volunteers willing to escort children to and from school. For those volunteers, not only would it mean having to make the journey only once or twice a week, but it would also give them more time to themselves on their "days off"!

If you are interested in becoming an escort on the Crocodile Trail and would like to volunteer please fill out the attached form and return it by . If you want any further information about the scheme, please speak to the head teacher or contact Liz Thorp on 01494 586637

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Dengler  
Team Leader  
School Travel Planning Team

# Crocodile Trail

Please complete and return to the school

Name of Parent	
Phone number	
Name of Child(ren)	
Class(es)	

How do your children usually travel to school? WALK / CAR

I would like my child(ren) to join the Crocodile Trail on the following days:

*This information is needed, to determine the level of interest in the Crocodile Trail.*

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A.M.					
P.M.					

Every route needs at least TWO volunteers

Parents do not have to volunteer as an escort for their children to enable them to participate.

However, those children whose parents do volunteer as escorts will understandably be given priority.

If you are able to help please indicate on the chart below your preferred times with a 1 and other possible times with a 2. If you are willing to act as a substitute escort in the event of illness please indicate those times with an S.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A.M.					
P.M.					

Every route needs a co-ordinator as a contact point for both parents and for other volunteers. If you are willing to become a co-ordinator please indicate this below.

I am / am not willing to act as a co-ordinator

Thank you for your help