



Outwood Academy Shafton
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Principal: Mrs Alison McQueen

19 May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Important Safety Message Regarding Cycling to and from the Academy

As the weather has improved, we have seen an increase in the number of pupils cycling to and from the academy. While we encourage active travel, we must address some serious safety concerns that have recently been brought to our attention.

We have received reports of unsafe cycling behaviour by some pupils near the academy. This includes riding erratically, cycling in the middle of roads, performing wheelies and crossing roads directly in front of traffic.

We must also inform you of a recent incident where a student, while riding a bike at speed from a junction, collided with a passing car. Fortunately, everyone involved was unhurt, but this incident highlights how quickly a serious accident can happen. The primary concern for everyone involved was the child's safety, as the situation could have been much worse.

The safety of our students is paramount, and we urge all parents and carers to speak with their children about responsible cycling practices and the importance of adhering to the rules of the road. Please emphasise the following points with your child:

- **Road Positioning:** Cycle safely at the side of the road, not in the middle.
- **Awareness:** Always be aware of surrounding traffic and other pedestrians.
- **Crossing Roads:** Dismount and walk bikes across busy roads or junctions, or look and listen carefully before proceeding. Never ride out into traffic at speed.
- **Conduct:** Avoid dangerous or erratic riding, such as performing wheelies, on public roads.
- **Personal Safety:** Wear a cycle helmet.



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Your support in reinforcing these safety messages at home is vital to ensuring all our pupils travel safely to and from school.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison McQueen', written in a cursive style.

Alison McQueen
Principal