

Press Release

PR 2207

18 November 2008

For Immediate Release

Extra money for walking buses

More children will be able to walk to school, thanks to thousands of pounds worth of grants being awarded to schools across the county.

East Sussex County Council is helping 47 primary schools spend a total of £82,000 on walking buses and other walking projects.

The money has been awarded by the Government's Walk to School campaign. The Department of Transport grants of £1000 a year for the next two years will be paid to the schools that want to set up a walking bus. Smaller grants of £500 a year for the next two years will be paid to schools that want to set up other walking to school schemes.

A walking bus is a group of children who walk a safety-checked, set route to school in the morning. They are supervised by trained, police-checked volunteers.

Once adult supervisors and possible routes have been identified by schools, the County Council can start preparing by carrying out risk assessments, training volunteers, providing free high-visibility jackets and sorting out insurance.

Councillor Matthew Lock, Lead Member for Transport and Environment, said: "I'm delighted these schools have been awarded this money for walk to school projects. They allow children to keep fit and healthy, learn about road safety and enjoy extra time with their friends.

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“A walking bus also means there are fewer cars on the school run and less congestion around the gates.”

For more information about walking to school go to
www.eastsussex.gov.uk/walktoschool

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