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Dates for the diary

25 Mar to 5 Apr  The Big Pedal
20-24 May  Walk to School Week
8-16 June  Bike Week
2-8 July  Catch the Bus Week

For more dates, visit stars.tfl.gov.uk/about/diary
Rising STARS of sustainable travel

The STARS programme has been supporting pupils’ wellbeing, reducing congestion at the school gates and improving road safety and air quality for more than 10 years.

It continues to inspire young Londoners to travel to school sustainably, actively, responsibly and safely by championing walking, scooting and cycling.

Nearly half of London schools are STARS accredited, helping to reduce the number of car trips to schools by an average of six per cent. This amazing mode shift makes a real difference to our city by supporting the Mayor’s vision for Healthy Streets.

Last year, more than 250 schools attended our STARS seminars, which featured a range of new sustainable travel activities. Students visited our STARS City secret Tube station where they attended workshops covering everything from presentation and influencing skills through to air quality and road safety education.

If your school was unable to attend the seminars, you can request the resources from your borough officer. Completing the activities outlined in the resources can count towards STARS accreditation, so why not run one in your classroom?

To sign up to STARS, contact your borough officer or visit tfl.gov.uk/stars

Winning ways

The highest performers received their awards at our Top Schools event. A huge well done goes to the following schools:

Schools of the Region
- The Campion School, Havering (East)
- Guru Nanak Sikh Academy, Hillingdon (West)

Cycling
- Turing House School, Richmond upon Thames
- Whitefield School, Barnet

Pupil-led projects
- Totteridge Academy, Barnet
- Meridian High School, Croydon

Road Safety
- The Halley Academy, Greenwich

Public Transport
- Little Heath, Redbridge

Walking
- The Archer Academy, Barnet
Our Youth Travel Ambassador (YTA) teams got off to a flying start over the autumn term. There are 115 schools taking part in the programme. They have created teams of enthusiastic students to make positive changes to travel in their school communities, while gaining new skills.

YTA teams have shared key road safety messages with their peers through assemblies, reaching 11,500 students so far. They also target specific transport issues within their school, such as improving behaviour on buses, increasing cycle proficiency and raising awareness of air quality.

The teams can also pitch for £250 of funding to help launch new travel initiatives in a Dragons’ Den style event. The team at the Campion School in Havering used its funding to deliver Bikeability training to 65 per cent of its students, as well as running cycle workshops, competitions and events. This led to an increase in cycling from zero to 2.7 per cent and reduction in car use by 6.5 per cent by the end of last year.
Apprentice recruitment now open

We have now opened applications for our Apprentice Scheme, offering candidates a diverse range of schemes, starting this September.

Whether your students would like to earn while they learn and gain a degree in Engineering, make an impact by innovating in our Technology and Data teams, or develop their leadership skills through one of our Business schemes, we’ve got an opportunity for them.

Our apprentices are at the heart of our business. We give them the knowledge, experience and opportunities to develop their careers while continuing our legacy of providing a world-class service to London.

Here’s what one of our apprentices said of the scheme:

‘It’s great to be a part of the teams who have such an impact on the daily operation of the Tube. You really do make a difference! I’ve learned so much being a TfL apprentice and I’m very glad to have been offered this opportunity. I’m sure you will too!’

Megan Fox, London Underground Apprentice

For more information on each scheme, visit tfl.gov.uk/apprentices

Youth Panel

The panel consists of around 25 volunteers, aged 16-25, who regularly travel in London. They play an important role in helping create a transport network that works for them and other young people across our city.

Not only do panellists get to positively impact our city, but through their involvement they also build relationships with other young people and develop a host of skills to help build their CVs, such as public speaking, debating, organising and influencing.

Since it launched in 2009, panel members have helped shape the Mayor’s Transport Strategy, Road Safety campaigns and Year of Engineering, among many other initiatives. They also formally submit consultation responses, representing the voice of young Londoners, and take part in campaigns.

If you are interested in finding out more or know someone who would like to take part, please email youthpanel@tfl.gov.uk

Recruitment for our Youth Panel is open until Monday 11 February.
Think! Slow down

Too many people are still being killed or seriously injured on our roads. The Mayor has pledged to eliminate deaths and serious injuries on our streets by 2041.

The Vision Zero action plan, launched last July, sets out bold and ambitious plans to eliminate deaths and serious injuries from our transport network. More than 2,000 people are killed or seriously injured on London’s streets each year, taking a devastating toll on the people involved, their families and communities.

Working with the Metropolitan Police, City of London Police and London boroughs, our radical approach starts from the premise that no death or serious injury on London’s roads is acceptable or inevitable.

The actions we will take to achieve this include introducing lower speed limits on our road network, transforming dangerous junctions, launching tough safety standards for the design of HGVs and a comprehensive bus safety programme, which features speed-limiting technology and a new innovative training course for all drivers.

To support the launch of the plan, we are running a new ad campaign urging people to slow down. The campaign illustrates the tragic consequences of inappropriate speeds and explains that ‘when your foot goes down, the risk goes up’.

We encourage you to help support this vital campaign in your school through road safety education activities such as:

- **Hold a stall** selling hi-vis clothing, lights and other road safety equipment
- **Organise a practical pedestrian skills training programme**
- **Run a Strictly Road Safety session**, where road-crossing skills are judged by classmates in a TV gameshow-style scenario

Visit the [STARS website](https://tfl.gov.uk/stars) to register for the programme and get more inspiration.
Bus Days: Get on board with safer travel for all

Our Bus Days are designed to promote independent travel for all.

Developed for special educational needs and more vulnerable students, sessions are run on a bus and include real-life scenarios to help assess the barriers to safe travel.

The course will help your students to travel safely and independently with confidence. It covers important topics such as stranger danger, suspicious packages, personal safety, passenger awareness, crossing the road, understanding your route, bus features and appropriate behaviour while travelling.

Programmes can be tailored to meet the requirements of the group.

This year we would like to encourage more schools to get on board.

For more information, please contact travelmentor@tfl.gov.uk

Flying high with Emirates Air Line

Bring the curriculum to life with this special offer for schools on our Emirates Air Line. Rising to a height of 90 metres, the cable car offers an exciting 1.1km cable car journey across the River Thames, connecting the Greenwich Peninsula and the Royal Victoria Dock.

You and your pupils can take in views of some of London’s most famous landmarks, including the Shard, St Paul’s Cathedral and Canary Wharf. The trip can be related to the curriculum by highlighting the incredible design and construction of the cable car, while enjoying a fun and cross-curriculum learning experience for all.

Pupils aged 6-18 pay £1 for a 20-minute return flight on the Emirates Air Line, while accompanying adults travel for free. The adult to child ratio at Key Stage 1 is 1:5 and at Key Stage 2 and above it is 1:9.

Book your visit now by using the online booking form and return it to EALGroups@macemacro.com
Help clean up London’s air

Air pollution is one of the most significant challenges facing London. Every child in the Capital breathes toxic air every day, which can damage lung development, with road transport the biggest source of the emissions causing this damage.

That’s why we’re taking action to help protect children from this threat, by introducing the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) on 8 April 2019. It will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year in central London, within the same area as the current Congestion Charging zone. Vehicles will need to meet new, tighter emission standards or pay a daily charge to travel within this area. Drivers can find out if a vehicle meets ULEZ standards by using our online vehicle checker at tfl.gov.uk/ulez

There are lots of ways your school can raise awareness of how our travel choices can help clean up London’s air. Here are some ideas for activities to get pupils and parents involved:

• Run an Air Quality Day
• Organise an assembly on the environmental benefits of active travel
• Launch an Air Quality competition
• Set up a Park and Stride scheme to give everyone the opportunity to walk at least part of their way to school
• Create a car-free zone for a healthier and safer environment
• Introduce an anti-idling campaign to improve air quality around your school

For more inspiration, useful tips and resources, visit the STARS website and search for ‘air quality activities’. You can sign up to STARS on the website or by contacting your borough officer.

Your help is vital, because everyone should have the right to breathe clean air.
Make the city your subject!

Escape the classroom and make the city your subject with the Mayor’s London Curriculum, which offers free teaching resources at Key Stages 2 and 3 to help bring the national curriculum to life.

Using the city as a classroom is a great way to ignite enthusiasm in your students towards their work and sense of identity as young Londoners.

Since the London Curriculum for Key Stage 3 students was launched in 2014, nearly 60 per cent of secondary schools have signed up. The programme covers subjects including English, music, art and design, geography, history, dance (PE), STEM, and computing – with resources on citizenship and fashion due in the next few months.

There are also three cross-disciplinary learning packs for primary schools and a series of Family Explorer Trails to open up the city’s culture and heritage to families.

Schools that sign up get access to free teacher resources created by the likes of the Royal Geographical Society and Museum of London, invitations to free teacher ‘lates’ hosted by the National Portrait Gallery, British Library and other inspiring venues, and the latest news about competitions and events that give students the chance to showcase their learning.

For more details, visit [www.london.gov.uk/london-curriculum](http://www.london.gov.uk/london-curriculum)