



# Glebe Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs M Penney MA, BA (Hons), PGCE

Sussex Road, Ickenham, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB10 8PH

Tel: 01895 462385

Web: [www.glebe.hillingdon.sch.uk](http://www.glebe.hillingdon.sch.uk)

Email: [office@glebeprimary.org](mailto:office@glebeprimary.org)

28/11/2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

This term, we are excited to be announcing a new addition to our Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) project: we will be introducing scooters!

Alongside the generous donations, FOG have procured scooters for the children. We would like to thank FOG for their continued commitment to the OPAL project – their support has been integral to the programme. These scooters have adjustable handlebars, meaning that the height can be tailored to the individual child.



## Benefits of Wheeled Play

Wheeled play will develop the children's gross motor skills, balance and coordination. Furthermore, a good selection of wheeled play resources will support many kinds of muscle development: arms, legs, shoulder and core. They will also help increase coordination, balance, spatial awareness and prediction.

## Helmets During Wheeled Play

After careful consideration and discussion with our OPAL working party, children will not be required to wear helmets while scootering at school. The reasons for this decision include:

- Flexibility: The benefits of children being able to hop on and off their wheeled play at will, scooting for a few minutes, stopping to play elsewhere and scooting off again.
- Helmet Fit: The dangers presented by ill-fitting helmets; loose chin straps can provide as much, or more, danger than no helmet.
- Time Efficiency: The time needed to fit a helmet properly and take it off again at the end of the ride.
- Safety: Children should not wear helmets when they are not on their wheeled play because of the entrapment dangers helmets produce.
- Speed: The speed children will generally be travelling on the school site is comparable to the speed of two running children colliding heads.
- Traffic-Free Zone: Cars and traffic will not be present on the school site.
- Education: The need to tell children the difference between riding in school grounds and out in public.
- Terrain: The flatness of the site will not allow scooters to reach alarming speeds.



## Risk-Benefit Assessment

We will conduct a risk-benefit assessment with the children in a play assembly prior to introducing scootered play. Additionally, all children will have a class-based session using the scooters, prior to them being used at playtimes and lunch, to allow them to digest these rules in a smaller group and allowing teachers to support any pupils, if necessary. This will ensure that the children understand the safety guidelines and the benefits of scooters. There will be an area specifically designated to scooter play and this will be sectioned off from other play with tyres.





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## Parental Discussion

Should you wish for your child to wear a helmet whilst scootering, please feel free to provide one for them – named, to avoid it going missing. The child will have responsibility for looking after the helmet and taking it out with them to wear. Please discuss with your child should you not wish for them to take part in wheeled play. If you have any concerns or questions, feel free to contact us. We are looking forward to seeing the positive impact that wheeled play will bring to our children's development and enjoyment.

Yours sincerely,

J. Griffiths

Miss Griffiths

Curricular Leads for Play

A. Bhardwaj

Mrs Bhardwaj

