

Excellence and Opportunity



Lisia School

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Update No. 4. This week's [video](#) focuses on transport, which, as we all know, can present all sorts of challenges on an island. However, whilst transport is an important consideration, we believe the paramount consideration is delivering the best education outcomes for our young people.

So, to tell you more about transport and its management, here's a message from Richard Evans - a well-respected senior civil servant supporting the education programme.



Managing significant change is difficult, I know that only too well from my work on the waste strategy. There are notable similarities with the transport side of education transformation: people telling me that the community will never accept it, the need to change some behaviours, and the importance of listening and responding to concerns.

The waste strategy is a good, recent example of there being a fair amount of resistance to change, but, once it arrived, the change was broadly welcomed by the vast majority. Since the publication of the Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) in December, there have been understandable concerns raised about traffic management at the two college sites.

None of the concerns, and none of the challenges, are insurmountable, but given the TIA is some 250 pages long I wanted to summarise some key facts and debunk some myths:

Worst-case scenario

The TIA is based on the 'worst-case scenario'. This means that all known potential developments in the surrounding areas - like Leale's Yard or the Guernsey Data Park - are assumed to have happened. In reality, there are questions when, or indeed if, such developments will come to fruition.

The good news, however, is that even in the 'worst-case scenario' traffic congestion can be kept at the levels currently experienced around both sites (or even improved) with only fairly modest changes to transport behaviour. We are talking about a relatively small number of students going from being dropped off to walking, cycling or catching the bus to make a big difference.

Going green

Our young people are passionate about the environment, as evidenced by the numbers who took part in a climate change protest last year. We should all be fiercely proud of them for that.

The 2019 Young People's Survey revealed the same thing. Of the 590 Year 6 students surveyed, only 17% said they wanted to travel by car when asked "If you could choose, how would you like to travel to school?" For secondary school students, the figure was only 24% (of the 856 students surveyed).

So, if the majority of students are telling us they would choose to arrive at school other than by car, that modest shift in transport behaviour is looking all the more achievable.

Cars are provided for too

For some people, however, car travel will still be necessary. There is certainly no intention, and no need, to try and stop students being dropped off or picked up by their parents.

Likewise, it's not going to be the case that 1,400 young people will descend on a single place at a single time. There will be multiple 'drop-and-stride' points for each college, so families can choose whatever is most convenient for them. These will, of course, be close to the colleges - I can categorically state that using Vazon as a drop-off point for de Saumarez College, as has been suggested on social media, is pure fiction.

Lastly, some concern has been raised about transporting school books, materials and equipment. It's important to clarify that every student will have a locker, so there is no need to transport all their books etc home each day. On top of this, there will be improved digital networks and the increased use of IT (such as log-ins provided from home so students can access resources), which should lessen the load even further.

We expect all of this to have a knock-on effect in terms of the number of students who are willing and able to get themselves to school actively.

Kind Regards,

Richard

Hopefully, that provides a little more information, and thank you to Richard for providing the update. If you'd like to know more about transport, or anything else, please visit our Twitter and Facebook pages.

Best wishes,

The Executive Leadership Team