

Thank you for taking part in Brake's Kids Walk and for helping children shout out for their right to make safe and healthy journeys. Brake's Kids Walk is a great opportunity to get children of all ages engaged with the road safety issues that affect them.

At Brake, we believe it is every child's right to be able to walk in their community without fear of traffic and pollution. Danger from traffic is a big factor in whether families are able to walk and wheel safely in the places where they live. It affects their ability to be healthy and socially active. Children of all ages are at risk of being hurt or killed when walking near roads.

In 2022, 1,080 children aged between four and 11 were killed or seriously injured on roads in Britain. On average, more than 15 primary schoolchildren are harmed on roads in Britain every day, that's equivalent to a classroom of children every two days.¹

For our children to walk and wheel safely in their communities, they need their journeys to be safe. They need footpaths, cycle paths, safe places to cross, slow traffic and clean traffic so that they can walk and wheel to school, home and the shops, or visit friends and family, without fear of being killed or harmed on the roads.

There is a real need for all those working with children and young people to teach clear road safety messages effectively and consistently, working together to help them to better understand and manage risk.

To help you discuss Brake's Kids Walk with your pupils, we have prepared an outline assembly presentation that highlights the importance of some key road safety issues affecting children and their families, as well as promoting the benefits of walking and wheeling.

These assembly-time activities are the perfect way to introduce Brake's Kids Walk and road safety education to pupils aged 4-11 in your school.

We suggest you hold an assembly to introduce Brake's Kids Walk about a week before the walk itself, to engage children with the event and encourage them to discuss it with their friends and families. Alternatively, you could gather the whole school together immediately before the walk to fire enthusiasm and ensure the key messages are fresh in everyone's minds.

The Powerpoint presentation discusses the health and planet-saving benefits of walking and highlights the importance of five key things that all children need to be able to walk and wheeling safely in their communities: **footpaths, cycle paths, safe places to cross, slow traffic and clean traffic.** It also talks about the things your school will be doing by taking part in Brake's Kids Walk, and will help you talk to children about being involved in a road safety campaign.

Your Brake's Kids Walk action pack includes a whole host of other resources to help you take part in the walk, including lesson plans that will enable you to link your teaching to some of the key messages of Brake's Kids Walk.

A note about sensitivity

Discussions about road safety should be approached with care. If you are aware that a pupil has been affected by a road crash, either directly or indirectly, please talk to them and their parent or carer before involving them in any of the Brake's Kids Walk activities. Please take all children's needs into consideration when planning your activities and carrying out risk assessments.

www.brake.org.uk/kidswalk

1. Department for Transport (2023) Reported Road Casualties in Great Britain: Annual Report 2022, and supporting data sets