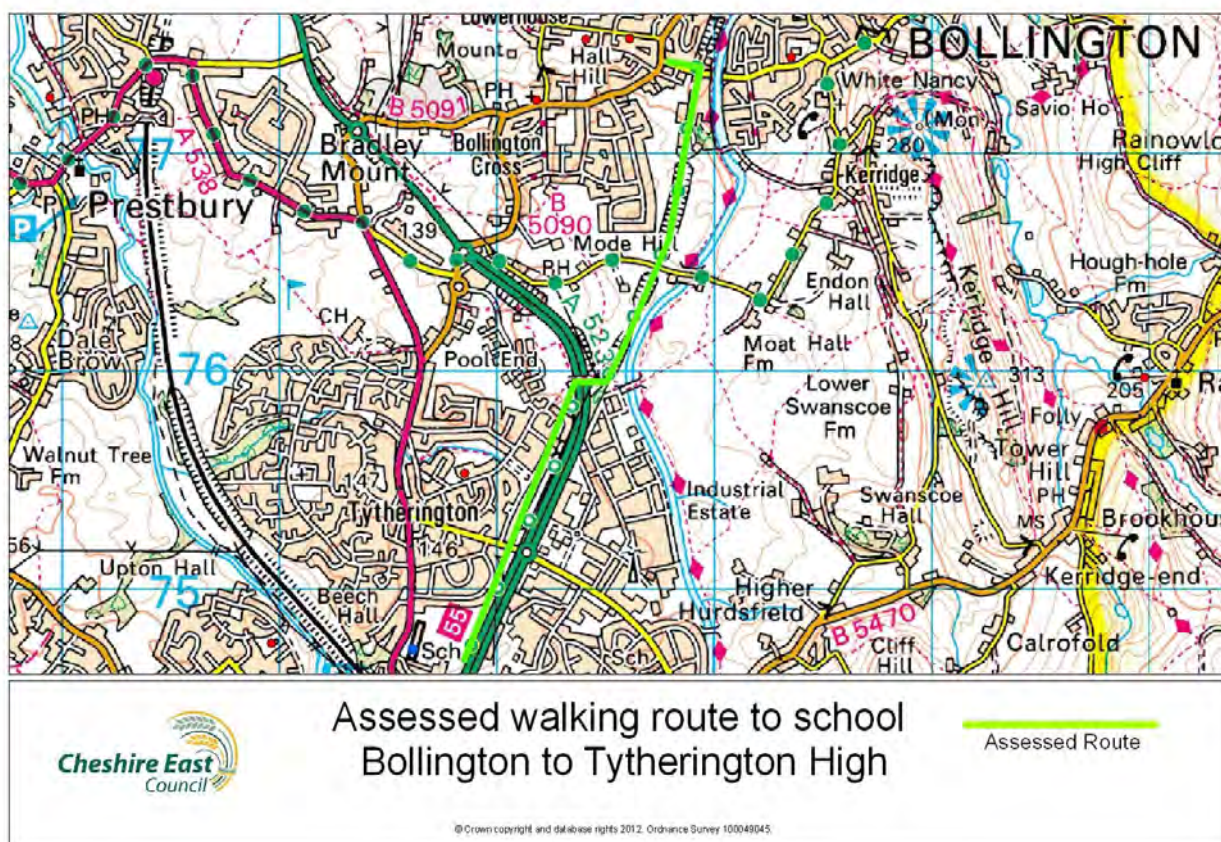


## Walking Route to School Assessment

Assessment number CE 319  
Bollington to Tytherington High via Middlewood Way  
Route assessed March / October 2015



Overall Route Assessment Outcome: AVAILABLE		Weather
Dates & Times of Assessment:	5th March 2015 (am)	Cloudy
	13th March 2015 (am)	Rain
	18th March 2015 (pm)	Fine/ Cloudy
	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2015 (pm)	Fine

### Site Safety Assessor:

This assessment is undertaken in accordance with Cheshire East Council's Available Routes to School Policy, which reflects guidance notes issued by Road Safety GB in 2012 'Assessment of Walked Routes to School' and the Department for Education's Home to school travel and transport guidance - Statutory guidance for local authorities July 2014

Any opinions expressed by the assessing officer are based on the above guidelines and the experienced professional judgement of the safety assessor.

## 1. Route Overview

This assessment relates to children of compulsory school age in years 7 to 11, (aged 11 to 16) walking to Tytherington High School. The assessor has not identified any factors in the assessment below which would affect the availability of the route for a young person in these age ranges. The assessment has assumed that pupils are accompanied by a responsible person.

The assessor has considered how the availability of this route might be affected at different times of the year. Except for the reference to some puddles on the Middlewood Way and the potential for some icy conditions, there are no seasonal factors that affect the availability of the route.

The assessor has also considered that pupils of the ages noted above would be expected to travel to and from school between 0745 and 0845 in the morning and 1520 and 1620 in the afternoon (1450 and 1550 – Thursdays). There are sections along the Middlewood Way that are without lighting but for the short period of time of the year when it may be dusk this does not impact on the road safety of the pupils because it is a traffic free route. The Middlewood way appears to be a well used path by walkers and cyclists at all times of the year.

## 2. Recorded Collision Data

In the 3 year period between 1/1/12 and 31/12/15 there were no recorded collisions involving personal injury on this route.

## 3. The Route

**Section 1** – Junction of Wellington Road / Grimshaw Lane to start of Middlewood Way heading towards Macclesfield

Grid reference: 392886 – 377353

392911 - 377351

Distance: 135 meters (0.08 mile)

**Section 2** – Continuing along Middlewood Way to Brocklehurst Road

Grid reference: 392911 – 377351

392065 – 375152

Distance: 2512 meters (1.55 Miles)

**Section 3** – Continuing along Middlewood Way across Brocklehurst Road to rear entrance of Tytherington High School

Grid reference: 392065 – 375152

391837– 374714

Distance: 533 meters (0.33 Miles)

**Distance on Middlewood Way** – 1.88 miles

**Total Distance** – 1.93 miles

## **SECTION 1 – ASSESSMENT**

### **Section Characteristics**

- This section starts at the junction of Wellington Road / Grimshaw Lane leading to the access point of the Middlewood Way towards Macclesfield
- The route is an urban area with shops or housing on both sides of the road
- This section is on a single carriageway road, classified as a 'b' road
- The speed limit along this section of road is 30 mph
- There is street lighting on both sides of the road

### **Footway Assessment:**

Is there a pavement/ footway segregated from traffic?	<b>Yes</b>  There are good quality pavements along this section, although to the western side of the road pedestrians need to walk on a slip road which is on a slight hill adjacent to the houses. Most pedestrians choose to stay on the eastern side of the pavement and cross in the vicinity of the access point to the Middlewood Way. The assessor noted that a number of pedestrians walk through Clough Bank to access the Middlewood Way at other access points. There are no seasonal variations to consider
Is there a need to walk on the carriageway?	<b>No</b>



Grimshaw Lane and suggested crossing point

### **Crossing Assessment:**

Is a crossing required?	<b>Yes</b>  There are no identified crossing points along Grimshaw Lane and pedestrians tend to cross at various points along the road.  A crossing assessment has been carried out on Grimshaw
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	<p>Lane between Field Close and Clough Bank at the access to the Middlewood Way. There are parking restrictions at this location; this improves visibility at this point. The road is 8.2 meters / 27 ft wide at this crossing point giving a 9 second crossing time.</p> <p>The crossing assessments were carried out on the following dates:</p> <p>5<sup>th</sup> March 2015 (0725 and 0835)  13<sup>th</sup> March 2015 (0725 and 0845) and  18<sup>th</sup> March 2015 (1530 and 1640)</p>
Sighting time	There is more than 4 seconds sighting time at this location
Traffic volume	Grimshaw Lane (am) 395 passenger car units Grimshaw Lane (am) 419 passenger car units Grimshaw Lane (pm) 445 passenger car units
Gap times	<p>In the mornings there were at least two 9 second crossing opportunity every minute and an average of 12 crossing opportunities every 5 minutes. The time between 0825 and 0830 had the least crossing opportunities of 7 within a 5 minute period.</p> <p>In the afternoon there were at least two 9 second crossing opportunities every minute and an average of 9 crossing opportunities every 5 minutes. The time between 1610 and 1615 and 1620 and 1625 had the least crossing opportunities of 8 within a 5 minute period.</p>

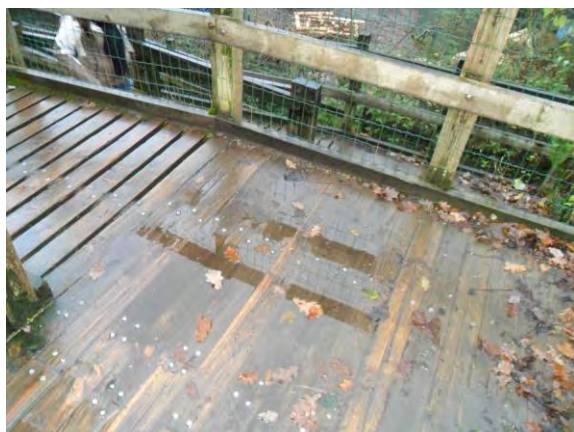
<b>Section assessment result</b>	<b>Available</b>
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## SECTION 2 – ASSESSMENT

<p><b>Section Characteristics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This section starts at the access point to the Middlewood Way on Grimshaw Lane and continues along until Brocklehurst Way</li> <li>• The Middlewood Way is a traffic free greenway and is open to pedestrian, horse riders and cyclists; this route forms part of the Sustrans 55 cycle route</li> <li>• There is street lighting for a major part of the route but the section after the second bridge up to Brocklehurst Way does not have street lighting. Street lighting has recently been upgraded to LED.</li> </ul>
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<b>Footway Assessment:</b>	
Is there a pavement/footway segregated from traffic?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>Between the access point on Grimshaw Lane and Brocklehurst Road, the path has a good surface and is generally 3 meters wide.</p> <p>There are some sections where puddles form in very wet weather but these can be avoided. Pedestrians would need to take care in icy conditions as this path is not gritted. There are two bridges on the Middlewood Way which can be crossed either on foot or cycle. The first bridge can collect water but puddles are not very deep. A mesh has recently been installed on the wooden boards of the bridge to increase friction and prevent slipping</p>
Is there a need to walk on the carriageway?	<b>No</b> (go to next section)



Bridge with puddle \*



Bridge over Silk Road

<b>Crossing Assessment:</b>	
Is a crossing required?	<b>No</b>
Sighting time	
Traffic volume	
Gap times	

<b>Section assessment result</b>	Available
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## SECTION 3 – ASSESSMENT

### Section Characteristics

- This section starts at Brocklehurst Way where pedestrians need to cross the road at the Toucan crossing and continue on the Middlewood Way to the rear entrance of the school
- Brocklehurst Way is on a single 2-lane carriageway, in an urban area and is classed as a C road. The speed limit is 30mph
- There is street lighting on Brocklehurst Way
- The Middlewood Way is a traffic free greenway and is open to pedestrian, horse riders and cyclists; this route forms part of the Sustrans 55 cycle route
- There is lighting on part of the route
- The assessor noticed that the rear entrance to the school was heavily used by a high number of pupils travelling from the north and south on the Middlewood Way

### Footway Assessment:

Is there a pavement/ footway segregated from traffic?	<b>Yes</b> Between the access point on Brocklehurst Way and the rear entrance to the Middlewood Way, the path has a good surface and is generally 3 meters wide. There are some sections where puddles form in very wet weather but these can generally be avoided. Pedestrians would need to take care in icy conditions as this path is not gritted. There is access to Tytherington High school, via a gate at the rear entrance to the school; this gate is opened and closed at school starting and finishing times
Is there a need to walk on the carriageway?	<b>No (skip to next section)</b>

### Crossing Assessment:

Is a crossing required?	<b>Yes</b> There is a Toucan Crossing at this location and no further assessment is required
Sighting time	
Traffic volume	
Gap times	

### Section Assessment Result

Available



Toucan crossing on Brocklehurst Way



Section on Middlewood Way with lighting



Middlewood Way showing section without lighting