



People Services

School Organisation & Assets
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My Ref

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Dear Parents/carers,

Re: Bike thefts and prevention measures

Cycling is heavily encouraged throughout Salford and it is great that we have so many pupils cycling to school. Unfortunately, bikes are attractive targets for thieves because they are widely available, easy to sell and, critically, often left poorly secured despite their high value. A number of bikes, including very expensive ones, have been stolen from schools in recent months, despite robust security measures and CCTV.

Please make sure your child knows how to secure their bike and always locks it up to deter thieves. Schools cannot get insurance cover for loss or damage to personal property and cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage. Parents of cyclists are advised to take out appropriate insurance of their own.

Below are a few pictures from bike sheds in Salford to show how some bikes are being left insecure and at risk of being stolen.



Greater Manchester Police also offer advice about preventing bike theft here:
<https://www.gmp.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/theft-of-a-bicycle/how-safe-is-your-bike/>

1. Register it

Get your bikes security marked and registered at www.bikeregister.com/register
or Immobilise.com

It's a highly effective, visible deterrent to bike thieves. They know that if they are caught with a registered bike, the owner can be traced and they can be arrested. Salford City Council has

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provided this free for Salford pupils, please check your child's bike is registered. If not, contact school to find out if registration events are planned.

is another free site where you can register your bike's details.

2. Record it

Remember to record details of your bike such as the frame number (normally found underneath the bike between the pedals or where the back wheel slots in), the BikeRegister number plus any other distinguishing features, and take photos of it.

3. Lock it

It can take thieves as little as few seconds to cut through some locks, so use good quality locks, such as a 'Sold Secure'D-lock shown below.



4. Act fast

If your bike has been stolen, contact the police as soon as possible (you can report it online). Give your frame number, BikeRegister number, a photo and any other details and make sure you update the status on BikeRegister. The sooner they know, the sooner they can act, which might stop it being sold on, and increase the chance of getting it back.

What to do if your bike is stolen:

Whatever you do, make sure you do it as soon as possible. Time really is of the essence.

<https://stolen-bikes.co.uk/> will help spread info about the theft and offers advice to help get it back.

<http://www.bikeshd.co.uk/> and <http://www.findthatbike.co.uk/> both list adverts for bikes placed on online marketplaces, usually within 24 hours of the theft but it can take a few months. Check regularly to see if yours is listed, if so report this to GMP via 101 or online:

<https://www.gmp.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

School Asset and Organisation Team
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