

Exploring your local Rights of Way

A Primary School Resource Pack

Find out about local Footpaths, Bridleways, Cycleways, and other types of local highways

Rights of way can be in or near to towns or in remote countryside. They can be wide tracks or narrow trails but all public rights of way are highways in law.

Anyone may use a right of way, and may do so at any time, just as they would any other kind of highway.

It is important to learn:

- what rights of way are available near you;
- how can you recognise them;
- how these routes should be used;
- who is responsible for looking after them;
- how to use paths and cycle ways safely.

These routes can often be improved or extended. Your suggestions would be helpful.

In this pack are a number of projects that you can undertake to find out what routes are available near your school. They include:

- simple map-reading;
- identifying signs and waymarkers – and suggesting extra local signs;
- measuring and plotting results;
- walking and cycling;
- planning routes for friends, families, cycle groups, & horse riders;
- learning a little about highways law;
- surveying routes that might be suitable for pushchair or wheelchair users;
- And even adopting a right of way!

England has about 190,000 km (118,000 miles) of footpaths, bridleways, and other rights of way. They are the most important way for visitors to enjoy the countryside, and are also useful for local people to get to the shops, school and work.



Footpath -

open to walkers only, waymarked with a yellow arrow



Bridleway -

open to cyclists, horseriders and walkers, waymarked with a blue arrow



Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) -

open to all walkers, cyclists, riders and motor vehicles, waymarked with a red arrow

