

# Vale Meadows Lancaster



## Resident's Travel Information Pack

Working towards a Greener Planet



# Welcome to your new home

Oakmere Homes would like to encourage sustainable travel to and from the Watery Lane residential development in Lancaster.

As a new resident, you will no doubt be considering your travel arrangements – how is the best way to get to the places you regularly visit; and which new places can I visit?



Your new home is situated in a sustainable location which allows you to consider whether to travel by car, or whether some journeys can be made by alternative greener modes of transport.

For example, you are within walking distance of the bus stop on Whernside Road which provides direct access to Lancaster City Centre; additional buses from the City Centre Bus Station provide local services to Morecambe, Heysham and Carnforth along with regular services as far as Preston, Blackpool, Kendal and the Lakes, some services also travel as far as Ingleton in North Yorkshire.

The bus stop on Whernside Road is around 1 minute walk from Watery Lane, which means travelling sustainably may be easier than you think!

## Travel Choices

Some journeys need to be made by car, but some could be made by a more sustainable mode of travel. Most homes on Watery Lane come with an electric vehicle charging point but those with more traditional vehicles may want to consider alternative greener modes of transport.

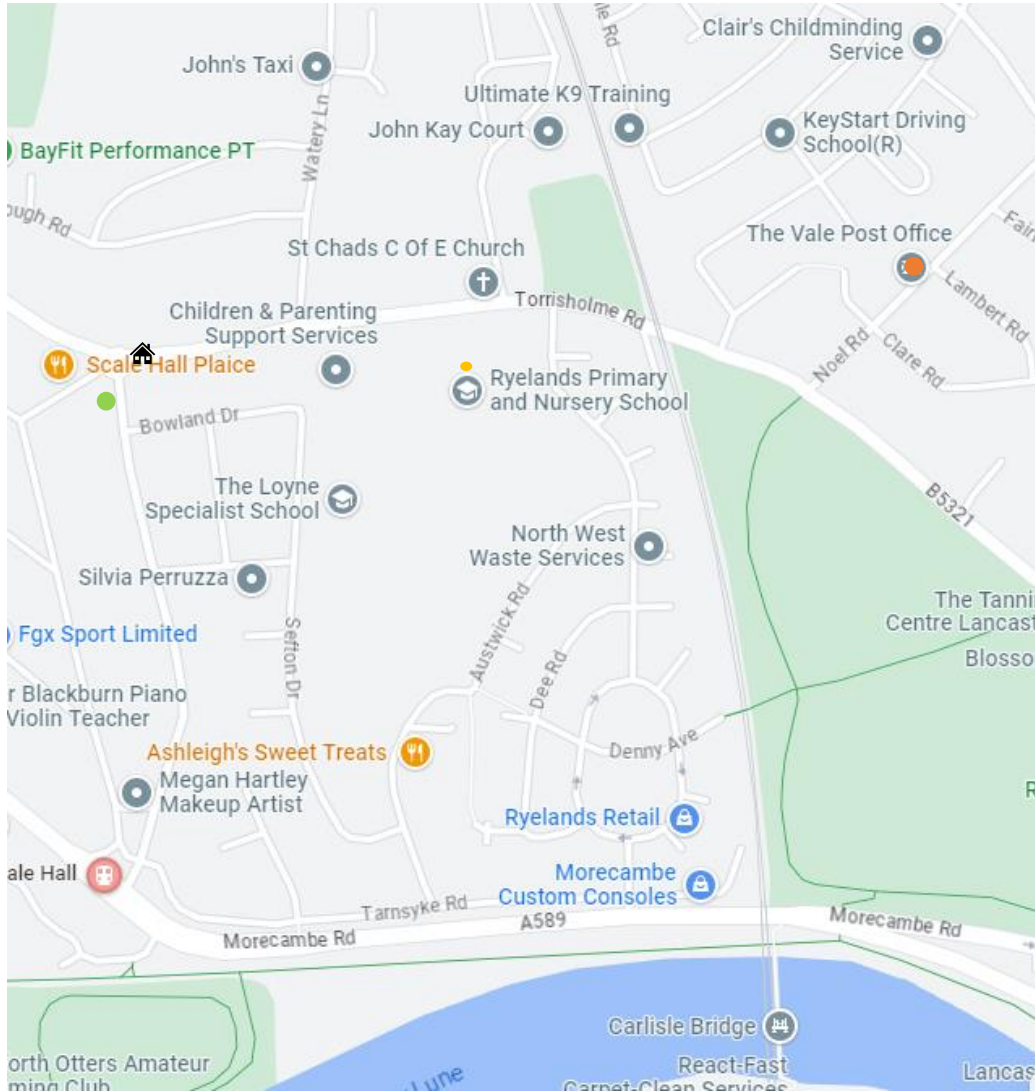
Your new home at Watery Lane is ideally located to allow you to make a choice about how you travel and the greener the choice, the better!



This Residents Travel Information Pack has been produced to assist in those choices and to inform you just how easy it is to leave your cars at home, maybe not every day, but for some of the journeys you must make.

Travelling sustainably is a vital part of looking after the environment and reducing the number of cars on our roads.

# Your Local Area



- Nearest Primary School:  
Ryelands Primary (0.2 miles) walking - 5 mins, cycling - 1 mins
- Nearest Secondary School:  
Castle View School (1.7 miles) - walking - less than 40 mins, cycling - less than 15 mins
- Nearest Supermarkets:  
Spar (0.3 miles) - walking - less than 6 mins, cycling - less than 2 mins
- Nearest Library (1.5 miles):  
walking - less than 35 mins, cycling - less than 15 mins
- Nearest Pharmacy:  
Cohens Broadway Pharmacy (less than 1 mile): walking - less than 20 mins, cycling - less than 5 mins
- Nearest Post Office – The Vale, Noel Road (0.5 miles): walking - less than 11 mins, cycling - less than 3 mins

\* Walking times are calculated from the entrance to the development and use an average of 3 miles/hour (Google Maps).

All times are approximate

## Getting to School

### Walking & Cycling

The closest local Convenience store is a Spar on Scale Hall Lane, this also has an ATM and is less than a 6-minute walk from Watery Lane. The nearest Doctor's surgery is located on West Drive, this is less than a 10-minute walk. Please refer to the map on page 2 for detailed walking and cycling times to local amenities and key transport links.

The Visit Lancaster website boasts of an extensive network of traffic-free cycle paths which makes Lancaster one of the best places in the country to cycle. More information on these cycle routes can be found at

<https://visitlancaster.org.uk/things-to-do/cycling/cycling-in-lancaster-cycling-routes/>

### Cycling Initiatives

Cyclescheme is the UK's number one provider of tax-free bikes for the Government's Cycle to Work initiative. Either speak directly to your employer about this service, visit [www.cyclescheme.co.uk](http://www.cyclescheme.co.uk) or contact your Travel Coordinator for more details.

Getting to school can be a nightmare and can often experience congestion especially at dropping off and picking up times.

### Problem Solved!!!

Lancaster has primary and secondary schools, and your new house is located close to several: - Rylands Primary & Nursery School and Castle View Secondary being the closest....



There are suitable walking routes to the nearest primary school (Rylands) which is less than a 5-minute walk, along with routes to one of the local secondary schools (Castle View) which is around 15-minutes by bike or around a 35-minute walk.



# Public Transport

Another alternative to driving is the bus, which can allow you to have a stress-free journey and save money on petrol and parking charges.

The local bus services are available within a short walk of your home on Whernside Road.



From here you can catch the bus to Lancaster City Centre, where links provide bus routes to a variety of key destinations which include, Morecambe, Heysham, Carnforth, Preston, Blackpool, Kendal, and the Lakes

Timetables are available from the following websites:

<https://www.traveline.info/>

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/>

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-andtravel/public-transport/bus-timetables/>

Another sustainable option would be to travel by train. Lancaster railway station is located within a reasonable distance from your home via a 12-minute cycle ride or a walk in less than 35-mins.

Lancaster is on the main West Coast line providing direct train services to many cities nationwide: Edinburgh and Glasgow are around 2 hrs journey and London can be achieved direct in less than 3 hrs.



<https://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>

Telephone: 03457 48 49 50  
(24 hours, every day except Christmas Day)

Textphone 0845 60 50 600 (for customers with hearing impairment)

Train Tracker: 03457 48 49 50

# Car Sharing



Have you ever thought of car sharing?

Car sharing is proven as an effective means of reducing the number of cars on the road, especially for commuting trips to work. One of the most popular services is Liftshare.



The website is <https://liftshare.com/uk>

Car sharers do not need to work for the same company, or even be based in the same building. The car share scheme matches up car drivers and passengers who travel on similar routes at similar times.



There is no fee for registering or using the website.... So why not start car sharing today!

Lancashire Community Transport – or Lancashire CT – is a collaboration of five community transport operators across the county.

Lancashire CT came together in April 2015 to ensure the survival of the Community Transport ideals in Lancashire, as well as to build a platform for growth and innovation to meet the challenges of the coming years.

Together with the valued support of Lancashire County Council they have ensured the continued provision of Community Transport services in Lancashire; keeping people connected and involved with their communities and able to live independently.

Little Green Bus Ltd is the lead body for the collaborative and is working with all partners to improve, enhance and grow these services into all areas of Lancashire.

Find out more at: -

<http://www.lancashirecommunitytransport.org.uk/>

# Eco-Driving

Although driving a car is the least sustainable choice of travel, sometimes it's a necessity so here are 7 eco-driving tips that can really make a difference:

1. Service your car regularly to maintain engine efficiency.
2. Check your tyre pressures regularly (and before long journeys), under-inflated tyre's use more fuel as they increase rolling resistance.
3. Lose any unnecessary baggage, extra weight means extra fuel.
4. Combine short trips, cold starts use more fuel, so it pays to combine your errands.
5. Drive smoothly, accelerate gently, and read the road ahead to avoid unnecessary ~~braking~~ braking.
6. Cut down on the air-con, air-conditioning increases fuel consumption at low speeds (the effects are less noticeable at higher speeds).
7. Stick to the speed limits, the faster you go the greater the fuel consumption (cruising at 70mph uses up to 9% more fuel than at 60mph and up to 15% more fuel than at 50mph).



## Electric Car Charging Information

Electric vehicles offer a range of advantages, including air quality and economic benefits. The Government has announced the phase out date for the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans will be brought forward to 2030.

Lancashire County Council is working with the District Councils, the National Parks, BPChargemaster (now known as bpPulse), Lancashire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and other partners to support and facilitate the uptake of electric vehicle charging opportunities across the county. Their website has a list of car charging point locations for public use across the county, go to <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/strategies-policies-plans/roads-parking-and-travel/installation-of-electric-vehicle-charge-points/> for further information.





# National Railcards

For £30\* per year (£20 for a Disabled Persons Railcard), National Rail offer a variety of Railcards, giving discounts for train travel, including:

- 16–25 Railcard – for those aged 16-25, or mature students (26+) and in full-time education
- Two Together Railcard – for two named people travelling together.
- Family & Friends Railcard – for those travelling with children aged 5-15 (up to 4 adults and 4 children can travel on one card)
- Senior Railcard – for those aged 60 and over
- Disabled Persons Railcard – for those who have a disability that makes travelling by train difficult could qualify for a Disabled Persons Railcard, giving the user 1/3 off railfares for them and a friend.

For further information, and to order online, go to <https://www.railcard.co.uk/>



## Bus Passes

There are also a selection of local/national incentives to promote travelling by public transport, including:

- National Free Bus Pass – for those at the State Pension age, you're entitled to a bus pass that allows free off-peak travel on local buses anywhere in England
- Disabled Persons Free Travel Bus Pass – like the National Free Bus Pass, eligible disabled people are entitled to free off-peak travel on local buses anywhere in England
- NoWcard Concessionary Travel Pass – Lancashire County Council provides free off-peak travel on scheduled bus services for older people and people with disabilities throughout Lancashire, for further information, go to.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/public-transport/apply-for-a-concessionary-travel-pass/>



# Further information is available via the websites below

## **Free Journey Planner:**

[www.traveline.info/](http://www.traveline.info/)

## **Walking Routes and Initiatives:**

[www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-with-us](http://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-with-us)

[www.thetrailshop.co.uk](http://www.thetrailshop.co.uk)

## **Online Cycle Route Planner:**

[www.sustrans.org.uk/find-a-route-on-the-national-cycle-network](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/find-a-route-on-the-national-cycle-network)

## **Bus Timetables, Leaflets and Maps:**

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/public-transport/bus-timetables/>

## **Bus stop Finder:**

[www.nextbuses.mobi/WebView/BusStopSearch/Index](http://www.nextbuses.mobi/WebView/BusStopSearch/Index)

## **Rail Travel Information:**

[www.thetrainline.com](http://www.thetrainline.com)

[www.nationalrail.co.uk/](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/)

# Useful Travel Apps for Smartphones & Tablets

National Rail



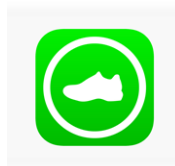
Bus Checker



STRAVA



WALKOMETER



## Contact Details

If you would like to discuss the Welcome Pack or any transport-related services, please do get in touch with your Travel Coordinator at [travelplan@oakmerehomes.com](mailto:travelplan@oakmerehomes.com)

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