

# Walking and Cycling in Smethwick

2024



## The Smethwick Connected Project



Cycle and pedestrian links have been created from two railway stations to the town centre and local hospital and aims to achieve uplift in the number of people using active travel modes within Smethwick, the wider borough and region to assist in reducing congestion, poor air quality and other health inequalities.

The location of interventions includes Smethwick High Street, A457 Transport Corridor including Oldbury Road, Tollhouse Way, Soho Way, Grove Lane and Cranford Street situated within the St Pauls, Smethwick and Soho and Victoria Wards.

- 2.7km resurfaced/ improved roads
- 2.7km new cycle ways
- 3.6km new pedestrian paths

Please visit [www.swbh.nhs.uk/our-new-hospital/](http://www.swbh.nhs.uk/our-new-hospital/) to find out more about the new Midland Metropolitan University Hospital.

Or to plan a journey please visit [www.tfwm.org.uk/plan-your-journey/](http://www.tfwm.org.uk/plan-your-journey/)

we are **cycling** UK

## The BIG BIKE Revival

[www.cyclinguk.org/bigbikerevival/take-part](http://www.cyclinguk.org/bigbikerevival/take-part)

Allows people to find information on cycling groups doing free activities in their area.

[www.cyclinguk.org/beginners](http://www.cyclinguk.org/beginners) contains a lot of useful information for beginners which is very beneficial to those new to cycling.

Find a cycle friendly route at

[www.cyclinguk.org/journey-planner](http://www.cyclinguk.org/journey-planner)

## Park & Stride

It may not be possible for you to walk all the way from your home to school, but there is the option of walking a least some of the way. Use this map to find somewhere quieter to park away from the school gates, you can then walk the rest of the way with your child or they can walk with other students.

Parking and striding is a great option because it:

- Reduces traffic congestion and air pollution around the school at drop off and pick up times
- Can often be quicker and less stressful than driving because you don't have to struggle to find a parking place, or get stuck in the traffic around the school
- Improves the health and fitness of everyone who walks
- Increases children's road safety awareness and sense of independence

## Welcome to Smethwick

From the brand new state of the art Midland Metropolitan University Hospital to Sandwell Aquatics Centre purpose built for Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, Smethwick has so much to offer!

Discover Smethwick on foot or by bicycle using the many miles of walking and cycling routes, including National Cycle Network routes 5 and 81 shown on this map.

The marked walking times on the map show you just how far you can travel in only a few minutes.

Use the TfWM Journey planner to plan your route, using public transport links from the nearby Smethwick Galton Bridge and Rolfe Street stations:



Modeshift STARS is the Centre of Excellence for the delivery of Effective Travel Plans in Education, Business and Residential settings. The scheme recognises schools, businesses and other organisations that have shown excellence in supporting cycling, walking and other forms of sustainable and active travel.

Is your school a Modeshift STARS school? Find out about the rewards for you at [www.modeshiftstars.org/](http://www.modeshiftstars.org/)



Living Streets is a UK charity supporting everyday walking. Our mission is to achieve a better walking environment and to inspire everyone to walk more. One street, one school and one step at a time. Find out more at [www.livingstreets.org.uk](http://www.livingstreets.org.uk)



SANDWELL MBC PARTNERSHIP

## Improve Your Cycling Skills and Confidence

- Learn To Ride/Led Rides  
Free and friendly organised cycle rides led by knowledgeable ride leaders.
- Group Rides  
Join an organised ride locally with a community group. Meet and ride with like-minded people, share experiences and make new friends.
- Women only rides  
Fun free bike rides for women of all abilities. If you are just looking to keep fit, or use cycling as a means of self-propelled transport then these sessions are for you!

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

## Road safety

Use this map to plan a safe route to work, school or the shops. How long is your journey going to take? Will you avoid main roads where air pollution is a lot worse? Manage your time wisely and always plan ahead to ensure a stress-free trip that means you can arrive on time.

To cross a road safely, follow the steps below. Give the road your full attention - do not be distracted by mobile phones, headphones or friends.

- Find a safe place to cross
- Stop behind the kerb
- Look in all directions
- Listen - bikes and electric cars are quiet
- Look out for emergency vehicles - they can move at speed
- Only cross when it is safe to do so - do not take any risks



## Cycle Signs



## Cycle Parking Signs



## Cycle Checkpoints

Before getting on a bike, do these checks every time and ensure that your bike is safe to ride. Check the weather and road conditions before setting off and check frequently when out and about, to help ensure you have a safe journey.

[www.sandwell.gov.uk/roads-travel-parking/cycling](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/roads-travel-parking/cycling)

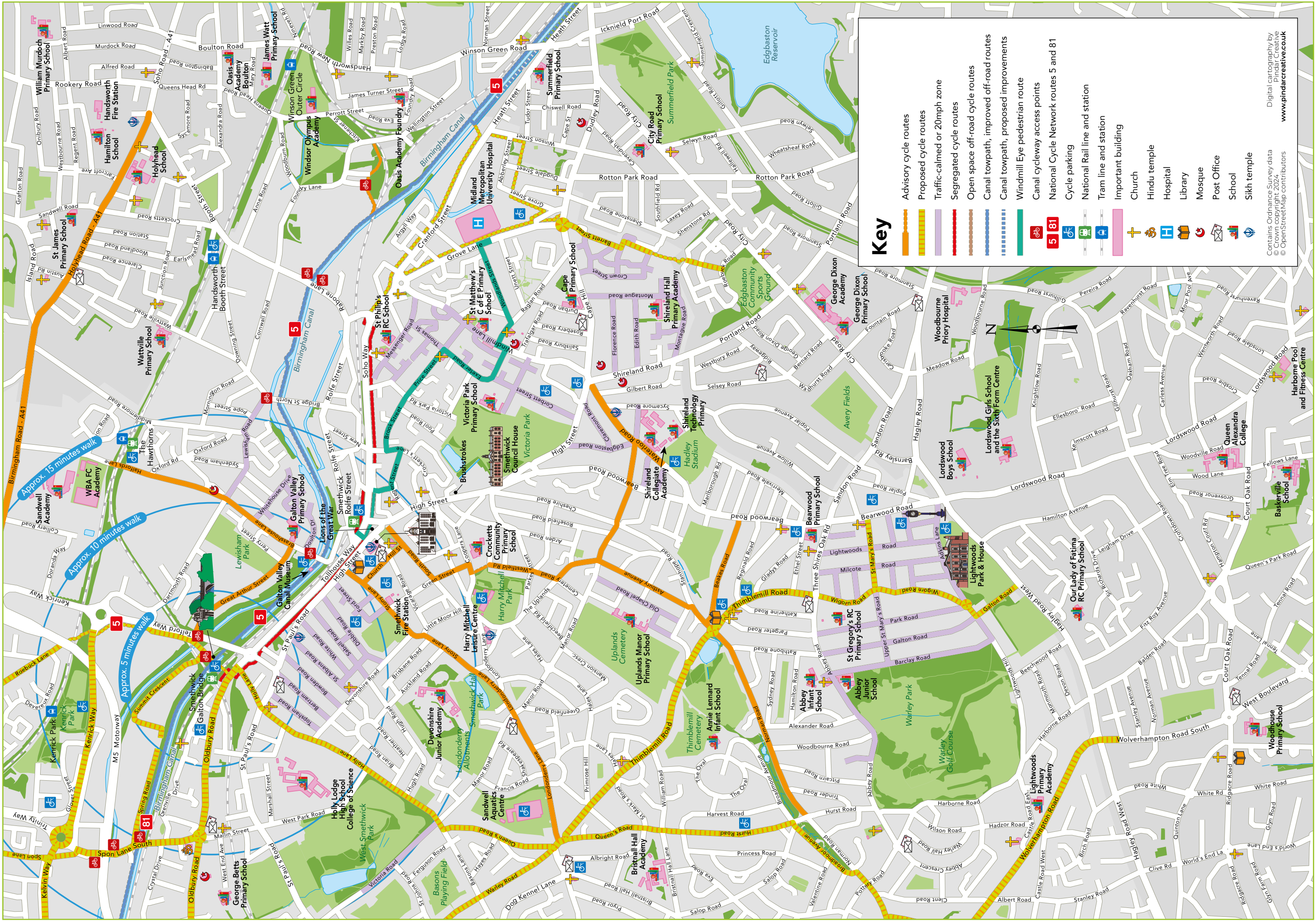
**Be Secure!**  
Always lock your bike frame and both wheels to an immovable object.

**Lights are a must!**  
Bike lights boost your visibility to other road users - even during daylight hours.

**What to wear!**  
Wear brightly-coloured clothing, a cycle helmet and gloves.

**As Easy as ABC**  
Check your bike regularly.  
A = air  
B = brakes  
C = chain





### Key

- Advisory cycle routes
- Proposed cycle routes
- Traffic-calmed or 20mph zone
- Segregated cycle routes
- Open space off-road cycle routes
- Canal towpath, improved off-road routes
- Canal towpath, proposed improvements
- Windmill Eye pedestrian route
- Canal cycleway access points
- 5 81 National Cycle Network routes 5 and 81
- Cycle parking
- National Rail line and station
- Tram line and station
- Important building
- + Church
- + Hindu temple
- H Hospital
- L Library
- M Mosque
- M Post Office
- S School
- S Sikh temple

Digital cartography by  
Pindar Creative  
www.pindarcreative.co.uk

Contains Ordnance Survey data  
© Crown copyright 2024  
© OpenStreetMap contributors



**Map Labels:**

- Streets:** Birmingham Road - A41, Edgbaston Road, High Street, Broad Street, Victoria Park Road, etc.
- Schools:** William Murdoch Primary School, St James Primary School, Holyhead School, Oasis Academy, City Road Primary School, etc.
- Parks:** Summerfield Park, Victoria Park, Warley Park, etc.
- Landmarks:** Edgbaston Reservoir, Woodbourne Priory Hospital, Lightwoods Park & House, etc.
- Other:** Approx. 15 minutes walk, Approx. 10 minutes walk, Approx. 5 minutes walk.