



What's going on this week?

Encouraging people to use buses more often is to be a central part of the Government's plan to reach net zero by 2050. Bus stops will be heated and have changing rooms and Wi-Fi in a bid to create eco-friendly park and rides for cyclists. They will also act as a focal point for cyclists, electric car drivers and rail commuters to switch easily between different modes of transport, with bosses calling the new stops 'mobility hubs'.

Main question:

What would encourage you to use public transport?

Listen, think, share

- Look at this week's poster. Share some of the things you can see. Explain that this is an imagined version of a mobility hub, something that the Government would like to see more of. They believe that if more facilities and things that might make our journeys more enjoyable and comfortable were available at public transport stations, more people would use them. Do you agree?
- Share your own experiences of bus/train stops and stations. Talk about some of the main facilities that they have, e.g. toilets, cafes, parking. The Government's goal is to try to encourage more people to use public transport, what kinds of things would you like to see in the mobility hubs?
- Watch this week's useful video. Can you recall the reasons given for building mobility hubs? Do you think that they are a good idea overall?
- Look at the design for a possible mobility hub found on the assembly resource. Talk about the different parts and why you think each has been included. Do you think a mobility hub would be a success in your area? Do you think it would encourage more people to use public transport?
- Aside from mobility hubs, can you think of any other ways the Government could encourage people to use public transport more?

Reflection

Mobility hubs aim to make it easier and more comfortable to use public transport, so less people travel by car, which is better for the environment!



KS1 Focus

Question:

What kinds of things can you do and see at train and bus stations?

Listen, think, share

- Think about bus and train stations. What are they for? Have you ever used one? When? Did you enjoy your time at the bus or train station?
- Explain that a bus station is different to a bus stop because it is larger and has a number of buses arriving and departing. The buses often start and end their routes at bus stations and may park up and stay there overnight.
- Discuss some of the things you can do or see at bus and train stations. Use resource 1 to help. Have you ever seen any of these things at a bus or train station? What else do you think you can see and do?
- For each of the examples on resource 1, discuss why we might find them at a bus or train station e.g. magazines, newspapers and books so people can buy something to read whilst they travel, a clock so we know the time and don't miss the bus or train!
- What else do you think would be useful to have at a bus or train station? Think about what would help to make your journey more enjoyable or that you might find useful.
- Are all bus and train stations the same? Why do you think some might have more to see and do than others?

Reflection

There are different things to see and do at bus and train stations. Many of these things are useful and make our journeys easier.



KS2 Focus

Question:

What do you think should be included in 'mobility hubs'?

Listen, think, share

- Think about the different modes of public transport. Can you list them e.g. train, bus, tram, ferry? Have you ever used public transport? Where were you going? Did you enjoy your journey?
- Discuss the places where you get on or off public transport. What facilities are there? What did you find useful? If you haven't used public transport before, what facilities do you think would be useful?
- Explain the 'mobility hubs' are designed to encourage people to use public transport by providing facilities that make journeys easier and more convenient.
- Look at resource 2, which shares some people's opinions about what should be included in the 'mobility hubs'. What would you like to see included? Why?
- Discuss some of the reasons why people may prefer not to use public transport e.g. it doesn't travel at a time that suits them, they have to travel to get to the station in the first place, it takes more time. How do you prefer to travel?
- Do you think having any of these facilities would make you more likely to use public transport?

Reflection

The Government are trying to encourage more people to use public transport. It is hoped that having a range of facilities will make journeys more comfortable for everyone.



KS2 Follow-up Ideas

Option 1: Ask the children to design their own 'mobility hub'. Think about:

- What facilities will encourage people to use public transport?
- Where will you put each facility so that it is located in the most convenient place?
- How much space will be given to each facility?

Sketch a plan, either like the one found on the assembly resource or as a floor plan. Encourage the children to label their designs, explaining why it will be included.

Option 2: Share some of the bus or train timetables from your nearest station. Ask the children to explain the information in them to each other. Ask questions such as:

- How could I travel to town to ensure I arrived for my hospital appointment at 11.30am?
- How often does a bus/train leave the station/stop?
- What is the furthest place I can travel to without changing transport?

Ask the children to look at the public transport timetables and use them to plan a day out in your local area. Think about where they would go, what they would want to do and see and how they would get there using public transport!



KS1 Follow-up Ideas

Option 1: Ask the children to imagine they are going on a bus journey. If possible, role-play this by setting out the chairs as if they were getting onto a bus. They could pay the bus driver, collect their ticket and take their seat! Once on the bus, think about:

- What can you see out of the window?
- What can you hear?
- Is the journey smooth or bumpy?
- What are you doing on your journey?
Chatting to your friend, listening to music, reading, sleeping?
- How do you feel?

Once the journey has ended, ask the children to describe it using pictures, words and sentences.

Option 2: Explain that we often find an analogue clock hanging in a train or bus station.

- Why do you think a clock is useful in a train or bus station?

Knowing the time is important so that we can catch the train or bus! Show the children an analogue clock and use the opportunity to practise telling the time. Focus on o'clock and half past to begin with, reminding the children of the clock hands and how they move. If possible, give the children their own clock and ask the following:

- My bus leaves at 1 o'clock. Show me.
- My train arrives at half past 4. Show me.
- I arrive in the station at half past 9. Show me.

Repeat with further examples, moving to quarter past.



This Week's Useful Websites

This week's news story

<https://bit.ly/3lStrE1>

This Week's Useful Videos

The future of mobility hubs

www.cittimagazine.co.uk/videos/go-ahead-and-arup-publish-future-mobility-hubs-report.html

This Week's Virtual Assembly

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This Week's Useful Vocabulary

Commuters – people who travel some distance to work on a regular basis.

They will also act as a focal point for cyclists, electric car drivers and rail **commuters**.

Eco-friendly – not harmful to the environment.

Bus stops will be heated and have changing rooms and Wi-Fi in a bid to create **eco-friendly** park and rides for cyclists.

Encourage – persuade someone to do something by giving advice and support.

Do you think it would **encourage** more people to use public transport?

Facilities – buildings, pieces of equipment or services provided for a particular purpose.

Talk about some of the main **facilities** that they have.

Focal point – the centre of interest or activity.

They will also act as a **focal point** for cyclists, electric car drivers and rail commuters.

Net zero – a state in which greenhouse gases going into the atmosphere are balanced by removal out of the atmosphere.

...a central part of the Government's plan to reach **net zero** by 2050.