

What is the TITAN! Initiative?

Together Improving Travel Abilities Now!

What are the benefits for school?

The TITAN! programme provides opportunities for practical learning and shows how the school is improving a child's social skills. It prepares students for their next stage of development - or their 'preparation for adulthood'. OFSTED look at how well a school is working in these areas as part of their inspections.

As TITAN! mentors, teachers and teaching assistants are able to get the most out of each individual learning possibility. As all TITAN! targets are agreed between the mentor and learner, it is possible for mentors to create a TITAN! programme which supports a student's needs and future ambitions.

Other opportunities within school life such as buddying, mentoring and befriending go well with TITAN! and can offer a huge boost in confidence for both the mentor and trainee.

TITAN! can also support wider plans, such as Sandwell Healthy Schools Scheme, and Sandwell's Well-being Charter Mark.



Delivering TITAN!

The GO4it Independent Travel Training Unit is encouraging all schools in Sandwell to run the TITAN! programme to help students build the skills they need to be independent and to teach skills for life - there is something in it for everyone!

The TITAN! message 'everything is a learning opportunity' means that it can be a whole school approach or focused for individual students or specific groups so there is no requirement to have a set lesson for delivering TITAN!

The programme is supported with completely FREE resources and training, and the Travel Training Unit can provide ongoing support if required.

Please call **0121 569 4144** or email travel_training@sandwell.gov.uk for more information on how you can effectively implement **TITAN!** in school or for further information about **travel training**.

...Just GO4it!



Helping students build the skills they need to be independent and teach skills for life!



Together Improving Travel Abilities Now!

TITAN! is delivered in school, by school staff to help students build the skills they need to be independent and to teach skills for life. TITAN! is designed to meet the needs of each student and provides chances to boost independence, improve choices, and could help to develop road safety skills in children. TITAN! gives new chances to learn from tasks that are already carried out in a school day. TITAN! can also be used to support Sandwell Council's 'Digital Road Safety' resource for children from year 1. These skills can then be transferred to the home environment and help children learn to start taking on some responsibilities, build confidence, improve communication, social skills, and much more!

There are important skills that can be taught at school that will have a positive impact on how a child grows through life.

Examples of activities in a TITAN! programme could be:

- Navigating your way around the school
- Asking a question, passing on a message, becoming more organised
- Strategies for managing change
- Identifying and teaching appropriate behaviour
- Building confidence – developing the 'will to have a go'
- Interacting and communicating with peers



Who can participate in the TITAN! programme?

The TITAN! programme can be run with:

- Children from the age of 2 - the earlier/sooner the better!
- ANY child who would benefit from TITAN! - e.g. students with SEND, looked after children, children who are new to the country, children who are lacking in confidence and self-esteem or children considered vulnerable for any reason.
- Children approaching transition from Primary to Secondary education (year 6 students), Secondary school age and those transitioning to Post 16 (year 11).
- Young people currently receiving home to school local authority provided transport should be prioritised.

Year 6 – Planning for transition to secondary school

Most students grow in confidence when they move to Secondary school. However, this can be an exciting but difficult time for some students and their parents.

Many parents feel that their child lacks life skills or the confidence to make their journey to Secondary school on their own. For many students a TITAN! programme is enough to give them the skills or the time to practice these skills during their final year at Primary school. Others may benefit from a travel training programme combined with lots of encouragement and opportunities within TITAN! whilst at school and this will enable them to progress to full independence.

Some students will always need support when travelling, but they can boost their confidence and personal development. This can be supported through TITAN! in school.

It is important to plan ahead over the next school year for how students are going to get to their next school. Opportunities to practice these routes can be added into a TITAN! programme through school, and journey and route planners can be used as a good visual tool for students to 'see' their route to school.



"We are so thankful for what you have achieved with him"

SB, Parent

"An excellent course - everything was explained and we were kept informed throughout"

MA, Parent

Is TITAN! appropriate for Secondary school students?

YES! TITAN! is a programme to develop a student's skills for life so it is important that this starts as early as possible. This will help them as they move through school and prepare them for their transition at Post-16.

How TITAN! can help with transition

TITAN! is designed to meet the needs of each student and provides chances to boost independence, improve choices, and could help to develop road safety skills in children. These skills can then be transferred to the home environment and help children learn to start taking on some responsibilities, build confidence, improve communication, social skills, and much more!