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Dear Martin

Ravenscliffe at Spring Hall

Cycling is more popular than ever and we are starting to see a mass of people cycling on a regular basis taking part in a variety of different cycling activities, including cycle sport and recreation, road safety and training and sustainable travel. This increase in cycling did not just simply happen, Calderdale Council, British Cycling and Ravenscliffe High School have been proactive about cycling for years.

In 2006 I met with Ravenscliffe to look into the potential of developing cycling at the school. The aim was to improve cycling for disabled students and make cycling inclusive for all. At the time the school had a small fleet of bikes that catered for a good percentage of students, however working together we knew we could do so much more. The first major development included the installation of a directional cycleway within the school grounds; this created a one way system with stop lines and give ways enabling students to understand the basics of road safety.

Since then the school have not looked back and now all students at the school have taken part in some form of cycling. The number of students completing Bikeability training has dramatically increased along with the number of two wheeled riders. I would describe Ravenscliffe as a proactive cycling school and the leading Calderdale School regarding development and participation.

The installation of a pump track in the grounds and a BMX fleet has enabled more confident students to develop technical skills and introduce them to racing. This has been supported further by students attending the Manchester Velodrome and the use of bikes at Spring Hall Track, a facility used by the school since the track opened in 2007.

Ravenscliffe High School is not only passionate about cycling they are passionate about sport. I fully support their plans to create a facility at Spring Hall and look forward to working with the school and community on future projects.

Andy Geall
Calderdale Cycling Officer

Geoff Willerton
Head of Planning and Highways

