

on shared paths

Cycling on a footpath is an offence under the Highways Act 1835 section 72. It is an offence to cycle on any footpath which is not designated for cycling or designated for shared use between cyclists and pedestrians.

Shared use paths help many people make their everyday journeys safely and they are also important for leisure with many people, including the young, elderly, and disabled people, benefiting from shared paths, which provide valuable opportunities to travel in a traffic-free environment.

All users of shared use paths have responsibilities for the safety of others they are sharing space with. People riding bikes tend to be the fastest movers on these paths and particularly need to consider their speed so not to startle other people, particularly those who are frail or who have reduced sight, hearing or mobility.

"TOP TIPS" FOR SHARING THE SPACE:

Behaviour - Cyclists

- Only cycle on a path when there is a sign which says you can use it.
- If there is a dividing line segregating cyclists from pedestrians, keep to the appropriate side; this is normally indicated on blue and white road signs and by logos on the pavement surface.
- Travel at a speed appropriate to the conditions, slow down near bends, at junctions, entrances onto the path, or any other 'blind spots' where people could appear in front of you without warning and always be ready to stop as you never know what may happen.
- When it's dark, or in dull conditions, make sure you are visible to others and use lights at night.
- Give way to slower and wheelchair users and take care around older or disabled people, as well as children and dogs and horse riders leaving them plenty of room, especially when approaching from behind.
- Use the path in a way that is considerate to the comfort and safety of others.

• Be courteous, use your bell or call out politely and say "thank you".

 Remember that a shared path is for sharing but pedestrians have priority.



Behaviour - Pedestrians

- If there is a dividing line segregating cyclists from pedestrians, keep to the appropriate side; this is normally indicated on blue and white road signs and by logos on the pavement surface.
- Be aware of cycles on shared paths.
- When it's dark, or in dull conditions, make sure you are visible to others.
- Use the path in a way that is considerate to the comfort and safety of others.
- Keep dogs and small children safe by ensuring they do not stray into the path of cyclists.
- Remember that a shared path is for sharing.



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Sustrans advisory cycle routes

https://fourpointmapping.sustrans.org.uk/nottinghamcyclemap/nottingham.html