

# 2018

## Green-Schools Travel Annual Report



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WHAT WE DID

# Executive Summary

The Green-Schools Travel theme has been operating at a national level since 2008. The theme is funded by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and supported by the National Transport Authority. The Green-Schools seven-step methodology is a key component and enables most participating schools to achieve modal shift within a two-year period.

## Key achievements for the year include:

- » **249** schools were invited to participate in the Travel theme in 2018.
- » **400+** extra pupils walking and cycling to school and increasing their physical activity.
- » **1,500+** cars parking away from the school gate, with pupils walking the remainder of the journey to school.
- » **2,430+** journeys are carshare trips. An increase of 341 since 2016.
- » **1,180+** pupils are leaving the car at home for the whole journey therefore improving air quality and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- » **193** schools were awarded the Green flag for Travel in 2018.
- » **1,986** visits were carried out by Green-Schools Travel Officers in schools over the calendar year.
- » **17** Teacher training seminars were delivered in Autumn 2018.
- » **440** bicycle spaces were installed in 21 participating schools.
- » **920** scooter parking space were installed in 28 schools.
- » **4,312** pupils from 125 schools received subsidised Cycle Right training worth €40,800.
- » **129** 'walkability' audits carried out, resulting in some local authorities providing pedestrian crossings, footpaths and zebra crossings at schools.
- » **Over 20,000** students walked to school on National Walk to School Day.
- » **Over 5,000** cycled to school on National Cycle to School Day as part of National Bike Week.
- » **Over 2,000** students scooted to school on National Scoot to School Day.
- » Green-Schools 'Big Travel Challenge' called for awarded and active schools Travel schools to achieve a measurable increase in the use of sustainable modes of travel over a ten-day period. St. Brigid's NS, Limerick was awarded Ireland's Travel School of the Year 2018.



**193 Travel Flags  
awarded in 2018**

## 2018 in Numbers

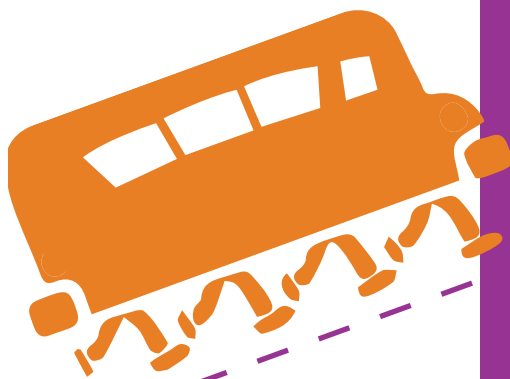


**1,172** WOW days, **277** COW days, **414** SOW



**439** Park'n'Stride days

**129** Walkability Audits, **33** Cycleability Audits



**110** Walking Buses



**CALL TO ACTION EVENTS**



## National Walk to School Week

**20,000+** students walked to school on National WOW day (Walk on Wednesday), which was held on the 16th May as part of National Walk to School Week. 2018 marked the tenth anniversary of the event and it attracted a great deal of national media coverage.

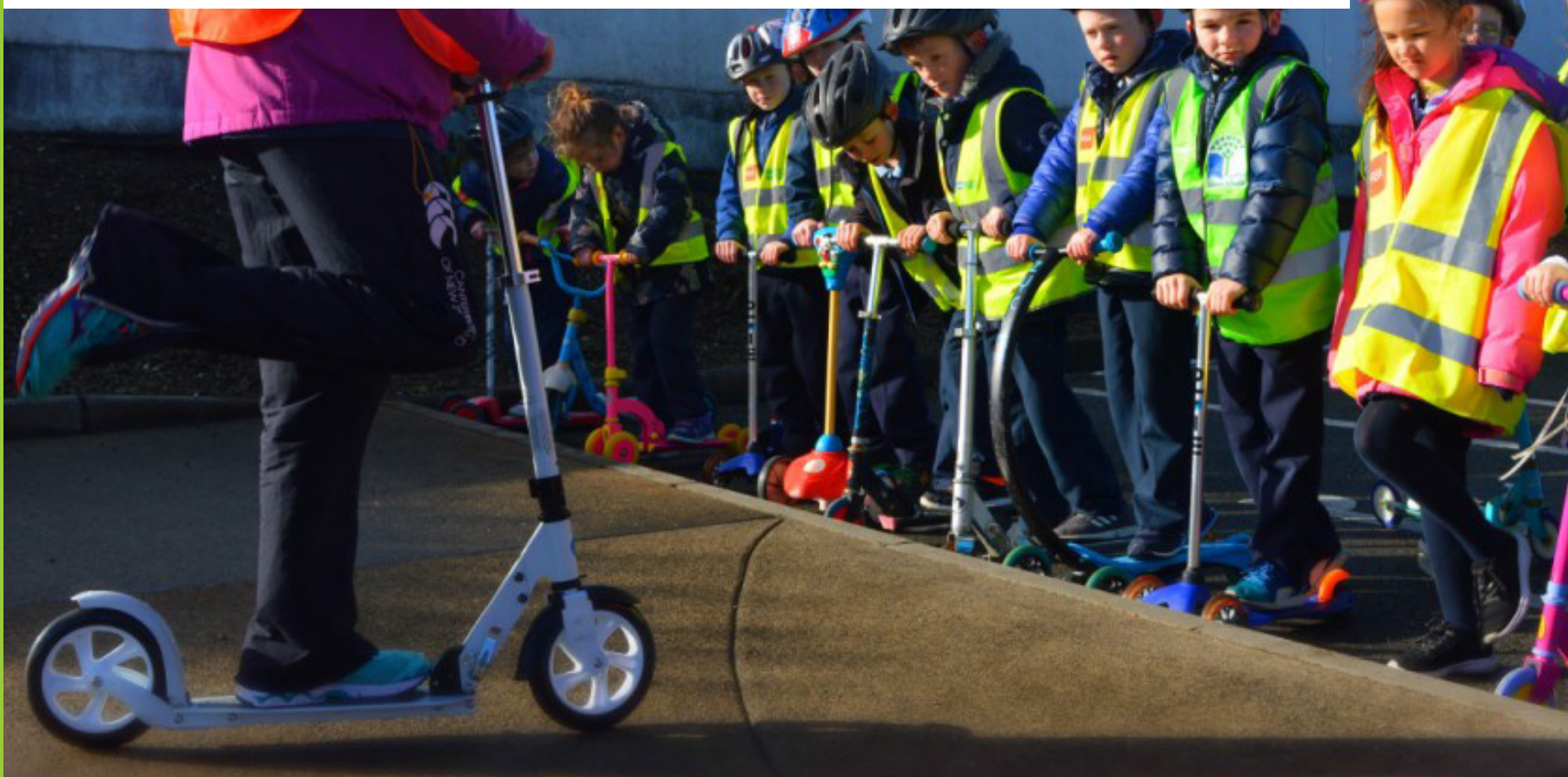
## National Bike Week

**5,000+** students cycled to school on National COW day (Cycle on Wednesday), which was held on the 13th June as part of Bike Week 2018. Hundreds of schools across the country participated in bike workshops and cycles throughout the week.



# National Scoot to School Week

**2,000+** students scooted to school on National SOW day (Scoot on Wednesday), which was held on the 14th March as part of Scoot to School Week. The event was recorded and aired on RTE News2day. Micro Scooters also supported the week with free scooters and accessories.



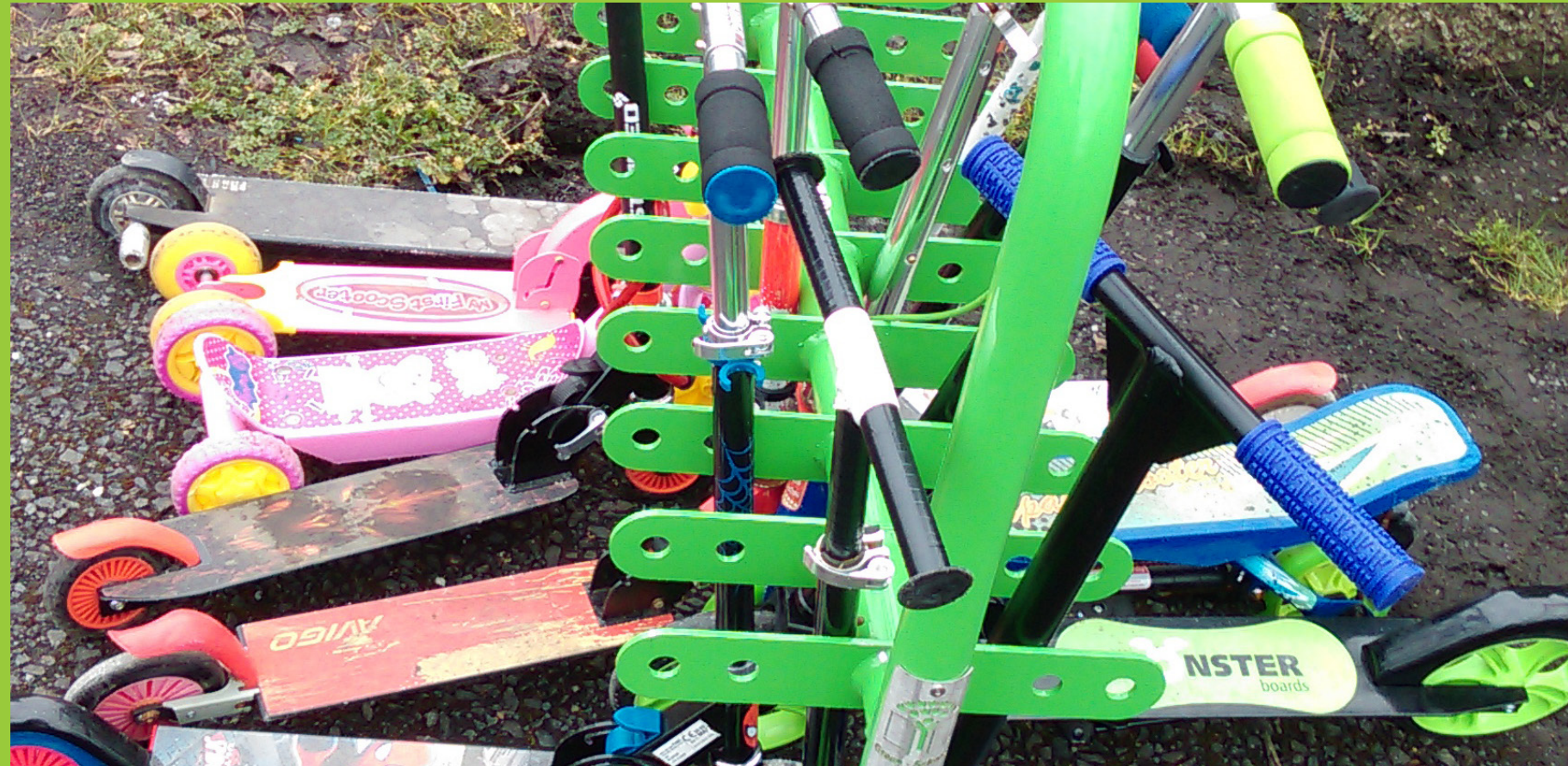
## Cycle Right Training

**4,312+** students from 125 schools that are working on, or have completed the travel theme, received subsidised Cycle Right training worth €40,800.



## Infrastructure Supports

**Cycle Parking:** 440 bicycle spaces were installed in 21 participating schools.



## Infrastructure Supports

**Scooter Parking:** 920 scooter parking spaces were installed in 28 participating schools around the country.



## Green Flag Awards

193 Green flags were awarded to Travel schools in May 2018 at 18 prestigious ceremonies in eight locations across Ireland.



**1,986 School Visits**

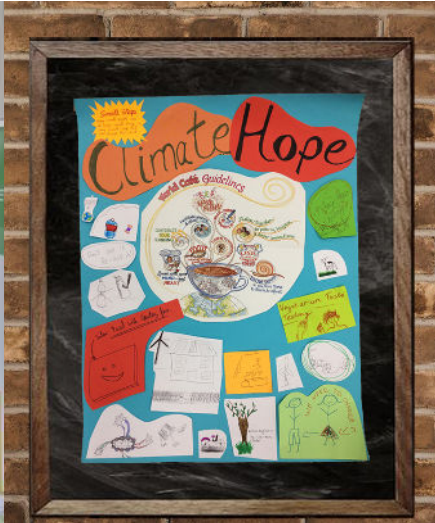
were carried out by Green-Schools Travel Officers in schools over the calendar year.



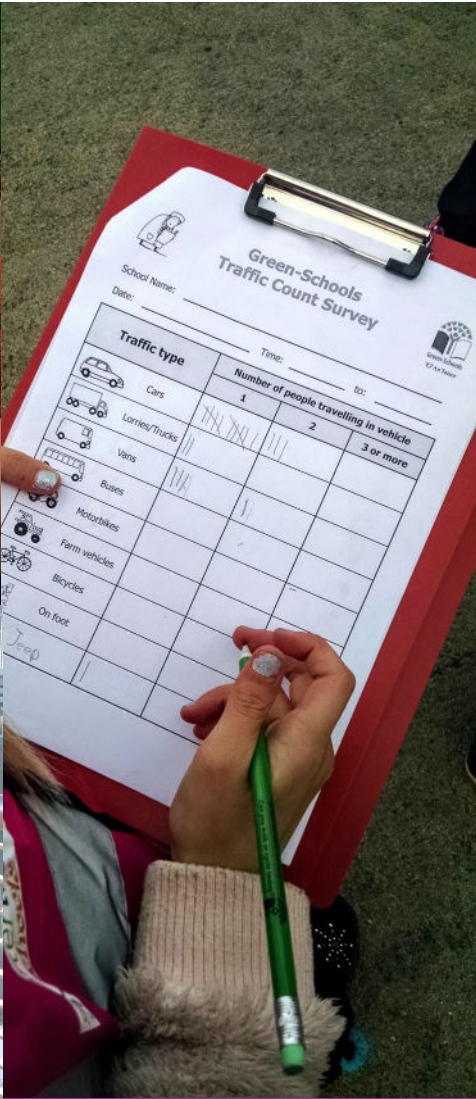


# Climate Change Workshops and Events

# Mass Cycle Events COW Days and WOW Days



# Mapping Exercises Traffic Surveys and Walkability Audits



# Scooter Skills Bike Skills and Safety





## Culture Night 2018, Cork

Green-Schools Travel, together with Climate Ambassador presented workshops and activities for children on the themes of Climate Action and Sustainable Travel at Nano Nagle Place, Cork during Culture Night 2018. Kid's Korner activities included badgemaking, a climate hope tree and sustainable travel poster making. Travel Officers Catherine Russell and Lisa O'Grady hosted workshops focused on sustainable travel.





## The BIG Travel Challenge

Green-Schools Travel's national competition, 'The BIG Travel Challenge' ran in February. The aim of the challenge is to get schools to increase the number of students who travel to school in an active, sustainable way over a ten-day period. The competition is open to schools that are currently working on, or have completed, the Travel theme and the challenge proves schools can achieve increases in walking, cycling or scooting over a short period of time. The awards event held in The Hilton Hotel, Kilmainham was attended by eleven winning schools from around the country as well as a representative from the NTA. Winning schools received a cash prize as well as a trophy and framed certificate. Saint Brigid's NS, Limerick City was named as the overall 'Travel School of the Year 2018'.

## Zeminar

Zeminar is a wellbeing and education event for 'Generation Z' that caters for 15 to 20 year olds, their parents and teachers. It is the largest and most inclusive youth gathering in Ireland with over 30,000 attendees including 2,000 teachers, 220 exhibitors, 125 speakers/performers. Green-Schools held an interactive stand at the event and developed activities and conversation starters for secondary school students around the theme of cycling. One of the main topics focussed on why the students think there are so few girls cycling and if they have any ideas to help solve the issue. The team were really surprised by the level of awareness and engagement from the students, both male and female. The information gathered here was then used to inform and shape a Girls Cycling Campaign for 2019.



# Summer Teacher Training and Seminars

Green-Schools held two five-day EPV approved teacher training courses for teachers in July 2018. A total of 37 teachers attended the courses which were held in Meath and the Green-Schools Dublin office. The courses covered all aspects of the Green-Schools programme and each course included a day of presentations, field-trips and workshops on the Travel theme. Teachers were given tips and resources to assist them in developing the Green-Schools Travel programme. From September through until January, as part of the Green-Schools Local Authority Seminars, an introduction into the theme of Travel was delivered to Green-Schools coordinators in 17 of the seminar events nationwide.



## Green-Schools Climate Action Expo

Green-Schools Climate Action Expo 2018 took place on the 22nd February 2018 in the RDS Dublin. The event was a great success with 5,000 pupils from both primary and secondary schools across the country attending. There were six themed zone areas and the Travel Zone was supported by DTTAS and the NTA. The main activities in the zone included; scooter track, display of cargo bike, Brompton bike, racer bike (with CO<sub>2</sub> calculator) and scooters, a travel badge maker and a snakes and ladders travel game. The zone was a great draw for the students and LEAP cards were awarded to winners of a lucky dip. Videos and pictures of work promoting sustainable travel to school, from schools and colleges throughout Ireland was on display throughout the day. In addition, there were 12 schools chosen nationwide to exhibit at the event. The event trended on twitter for the day and reached over 371,000 people.



# Bus in the City Event – Limerick

Green-Schools Travel linked up with Bus Éireann, An Garda Síochana and Limerick Smarter Travel for a sixth year to deliver the 'Bus in the City' workshop with three schools across the city. Over 220 students participated this year. This initiative ran in September 2018 as part of European Mobility Week. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness about public transport routes and the benefits associated with taking the bus (lower emissions, less traffic, cheaper). It also included talks from An Garda Síochana about bus safety.



## Love 30 Campaign

Green-Schools continued their support for the Love 30 Campaign in 2018 which calls on local authorities to introduce more 30kph zones in urban areas, but particularly in town centres, residential estates, in the vicinity of schools and places of public assembly. In 2018 work was ongoing on developing Love 30 materials and resources for use in schools. As well as the promotion of 30km/hour zones outside schools, monitoring and recording of driver speeds was audited. Green-Schools Travel Officers gave informational 'Love 30' presentations to several school principals and they also continue to meet and work closely with the Love 30 Campaign members. The campaign now features in the Green-Schools Global Citizenship Travel Handbook and Travel Officers now sit on road safety working groups in a number of counties.

# PARK(ing) Day

Green-Schools Travel took part in PARK(ing) Day in September 2018. It is a place-making initiative that calls on Artists, Public Awareness Campaigners, Businesses and Citizens to take a parking space and turn it into a park for the day. Two spaces were taken over in Cork, Flower Studio created a Mindful Space for people to come and relax and take time out and Bia Blasta created an extension of their café. Travel officers provided resources and scooters for members of the public to promote sustainable travel. Taking back these parking spaces for the street creates a valuable, social public space.



# Climate Hope Forums

In April 2018 Green-Schools held four regional Climate Hope Forums in Dublin, Cork, Waterford and Limerick engaging 155 individuals from primary and secondary schools, Climate Ambassadors, Local Councillors, Mayor's and Environmental Awareness Officers. The aim was to bring together young people interested in climate change to harness the collective wisdom, ideas and enthusiasm for making the world a better place. This event utilised the World Café methodology and was solutions oriented, encouraging collaborative dialogue in a regional setting. The forums included several schools undertaking the travel theme and focused on the key actions including incentives, infrastructure and events that schools could incorporate to reduce their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions with respect to sustainable travel.





## Car Free Day - Kidical Mass Cycle, Galway

Tiarnan McCusker, Travel Officer with An Taisce Green-Schools organised a 'Kidical Mass' cycle ride through the streets of Galway as part of Mobility Week and World Car Free Day. 100 children and their parents happily cycled the 3km route around the City Centre with rolling road closures facilitated by An Garda Siochana. The event started and ended in Fr. Burke Park with face painting, music from a giant gramophone sculpture and samba drummers from Macnas. It was supported by Galway's Westend and Galway City Council.



## European Mobility Week - Car Free Day, Limerick

To celebrate Car Free day in Limerick City, Green-Schools Travel took part by providing fun activities for children on Saturday the 22nd of September. O'Connell Street was closed to all traffic except buses. This left the rest of the street free for various groups and organisations to celebrate Car Free Day with the public. At the Green-Schools Travel tent, travel themed snakes and ladders proved to be the most popular activity with adults and children. It was great to see so many different groups celebrating what O'Connell street could be used for when car travel is restricted in the future.





## FEE Eco-Schools NOM visit – Greenmount NS, Cork

FEE Senior Director Pramod Kumar Sharma and FEE Coordinator Nicole Andreou, Jane Hackett, Green-Schools Travel Manager and Michael John O'Mahony, Director EEU, An Taisce visited Greenmount NS during the FEE NOM. Travel Officer Lisa O'Grady informed the group of the work Greenmount NS Green-Schools Committee carried out over the two years and what ensued was an informal meeting attended by principal Fergal Hurley, Coordinators Maureen Aherne and Kevin Dooley and some fantastic students on the committee. There was great discussion and the students were very articulate and were excellent in relaying their experiences and gave a clear account of the work they had been doing to achieve their Travel flag.

## Eco Schools National Operators Meeting

In November Green-Schools played host to the annual Eco-Schools National Operator Meeting (NOM) 2018. The much-anticipated conference launched the celebrations of the 25th Anniversary of the Eco-Schools Programme. National Operators from over 67 countries traveled to Cork to participate in the meeting where they discussed, exchanged experiences, participated in professional development sessions and made their contributions to the development of the programme. During the three day conference Green-Schools Coordinator Caoimhe Galvin of Travel school Sunday Well Boys NS, delivered an inspiring presentation of the work carried out by the school on the Travel theme.



# National Ploughing Championships, Tullamore

Travel Officer, Chiara Hanrahan was thrilled to be asked to attend the National Ploughing Championships 2018 and assist in the Climate Hope area. The event was a great opportunity to engage with students and deliver positive solutions to increase sustainable travel, within a lively festival atmosphere. Chiara got a chance to engage in the many activities from flood prevention design, Climate Cards, the ever popular higher or lower game and perhaps most importantly: one-on-one conversations with children and their parents about the small steps they can take to help protect our planet.



RESOURCES  
DEVELOPMENT

# Global Citizenship Travel Theme Development

A new theme and handbook resource were developed for incoming schools in September 2018. The Global Citizenship themes have been designed as a maintenance programme for long term Green-Schools. Global Citizenship Travel is a revision theme for schools and allows schools to learn more about sustainable travel in a global context and how it is having a positive effect on global issues including greenhouse gas emissions, air quality and sustainable development.

For this Global Citizenship Travel resource, we have chosen four Sustainable Development Goals which are most relevant to the programme and the handbook gives insight into each goal and how the theme of Global Citizenship Travel links with them.



## Green-Schools Programme

Information booklet for schools

## Global Citizenship Travel



## Global Citizenship Focus

The focus of the work on this theme is to promote sustainable transport options to students and teachers and to change their travel habits on the journey to school.

This includes:

- » Reviewing what travel habits are present in the school.
- » Raising awareness of the sustainable modes of travel such as walking, cycling, and scooting, among others.
- » Promoting and facilitating 'Active Citizenship' by actively moving towards a culture of sustainable travel.

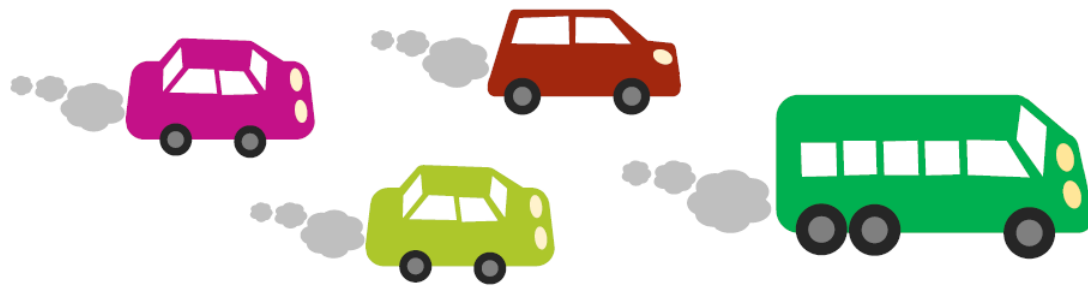
# No Idling Resource

A 'No Idling Toolkit' was developed for Green-Schools coordinators and teachers currently on the Travel and Global Citizenship Travel theme. The main focus of the toolkit is to eliminate idling outside schools to reduce emissions and improve air quality.

The toolkit is packed with ideas and templates to kickstart a No Idling Campaign as well as myths and facts on idling engines.

**Myth** Starting a vehicle uses more fuel than letting the vehicle idle.

**Fact** More than 10 seconds of idling uses *more* fuel than restarting the engine, thanks to fuel-injection systems.



Green-Schools



No Idling Toolkit  
for Schools



[www.greenschoolsireland.org](http://www.greenschoolsireland.org)



Green-Schools  
An Taisce

INFRASTRUCTURE  
IMPROVEMENTS

The delivery of walkability audits in schools and subsequent presentation of findings to Local Authorities resulted in several local authorities providing new walking infrastructure including pedestrian crossings, footpaths and zebra crossings at schools.



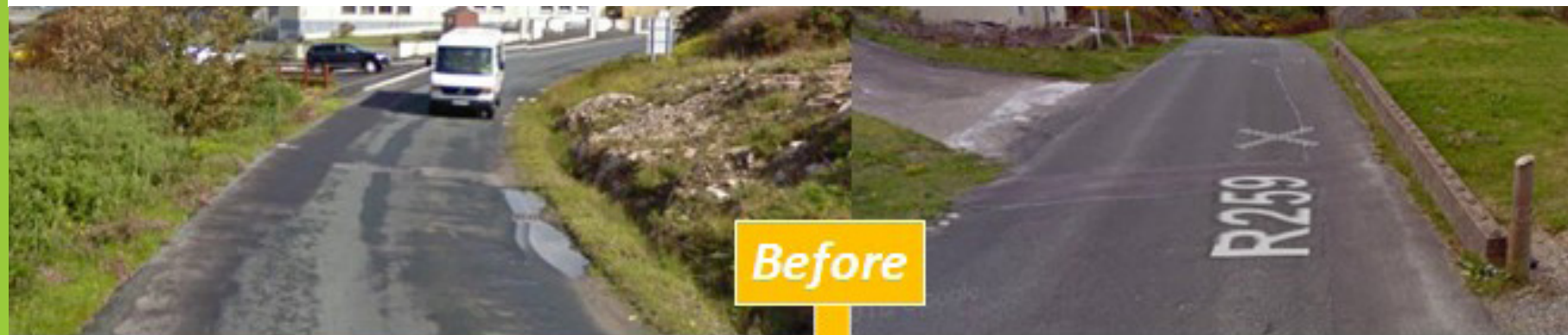
## Walkability Audit Success! Presentation Secondary School

Presentation Secondary School is a girl's school located on the outskirts of Listowel in County Kerry. After the school had sent in their findings and recommendations from their walkability audit Kerry County Council added two zebra crossings near the school grounds. Road markings were also added to the road outside the school, warning drivers that a junction is ahead, so encouraging drivers to slow down. Double yellow lines were also repainted just outside the school entrance.



## Walkability Audit Success! Donegal County Council

Shown are before and after images of safety measures carried out in several schools around Donegal. The works were funded by the CLÁR programme, as a direct result of the walkability audits conducted by the schools, with the assistance of Travel Officers, which were submitted to the Council.



Before



After

## Walkability Audit Success! St. Oliver's NS, Co. Kerry

St. Oliver's NS is a mixed rural school in the North Kerry village of Ballylongford. They renewed their Green-Schools Travel flag in May 2017. As part of their work at the time on the Travel theme they conducted a walkability audit. Their findings were shared with Kerry County Council, which followed with road signs being put into place.



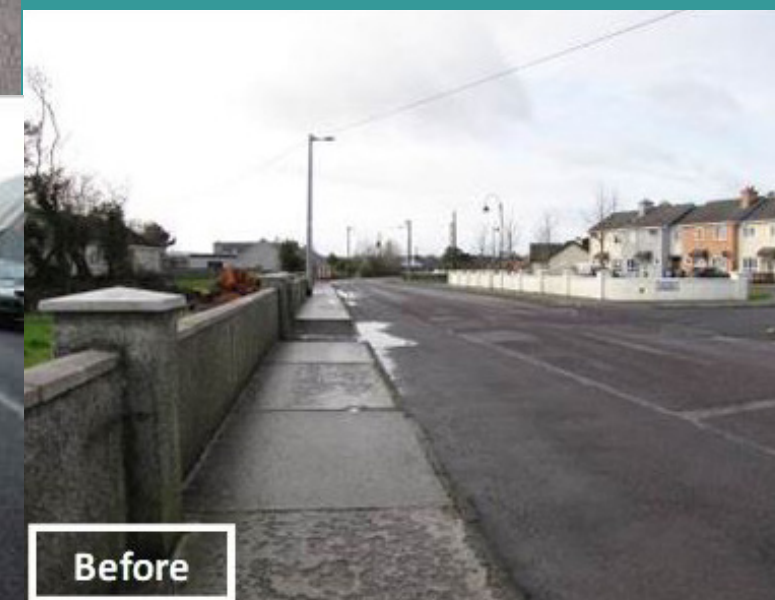
Before



After

**Works undertaken include the following:**

- Improved road surface through the village
- Road markings indicating a school ahead
- Double yellow lines at appropriate locations



Before



After

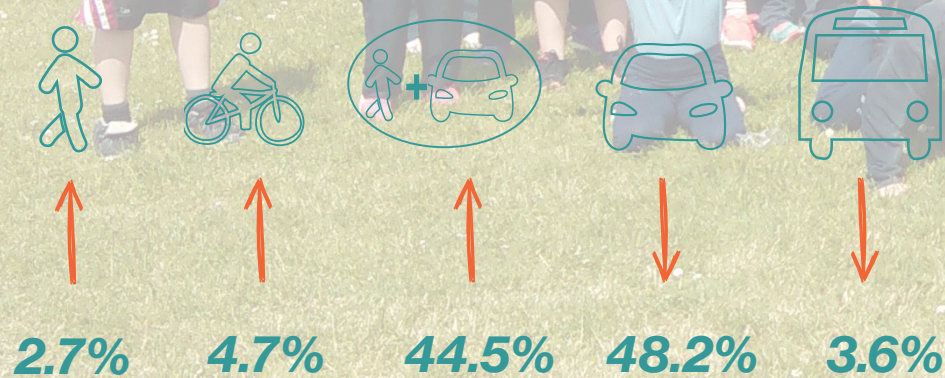
# Athlacca NS - County Limerick

Athlacca NS is a mixed rural primary school in the village of Athlacca in County Limerick. The school faced issues of congestion at the school gate and wanted to promote walking and active travel to school. Over two years there was a significant increase of sustainable travel modes to school.

# CASE STUDIES

## Key Actions:

- » Took part in travel surveys.
- » Conducted traffic surveys.
- » Took part in a mapping exercise.
- » Conducted a walkability audit.
- » Shared findings with parents, Limerick City and County Council.
- » Launched a WOW campaign during National Walk to School Week.
- » Held weekly WOWs with results shared on the notice board.
- » Took part in National Bike Week – cycle skills sessions.
- » Received Climate Change workshops.
- » Received Cycle Right training.
- » Received Helmet fitting workshops and Bike Maintenance workshops.
- » Played the GS Travel Snakes and Ladders game.
- » Took part in European Mobility Week.
- » Younger students received scooter skills workshops.
- » Ran the Golden Boot Award.

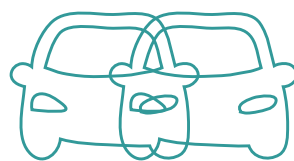


# Ballincarriga NS Co. Cork

Ballincarriga NS is a rural school where 100% of pupils were driven to school with no bus service or footpaths. When the committee surveyed they found there were 55 cars travelling to the school each day. The committee decided to concentrate on encouraging car pooling by producing a leaflet informing parents, teachers and the community, about the environmental and the health benefits of sustainable travel. They also used example journeys to illustrate money and miles saved. The committee at Ballincarriga NS launched the car pooling initiative as part of their action day by offering all drivers tea or coffee and cake. This initiative was very successful and the number of cars travelling to school was reduced to 34% from 55 cars a day to 36.



55 cars  
a day



36 cars  
a day



# Scoil na Buachialli NS. Co. Cork

Scoil na Buachialli are a NS, located in a town on the main road N71, in Clonakilty, County Cork. 262 students began the Travel theme in September 2016. A survey revealed that 60% travelled by car and it was decided to encourage walking and cycling. To promote cycling, 5th class did a 6 week Cycle Sense course and Travel Officer, Catherine Russell, delivered cycle skills lessons and a Dr. Bike workshop for all classes. The school held a 'cycle to school' event during Bike Week with 10km bike rides to Inchidoney Island and Beamish Lagoon. The teachers even formed their own cycling club to promote active travel.

## Key Actions:

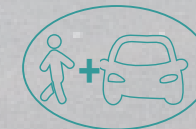
- » Electing the Committee.
- » Holding regular meetings and keeping minutes.
- » Researching the benefits of sustainable travel.
- » Travel surveys and risk assessment of routes.
- » Informing the community via website and online newsletter.
- » Creating a Green-Schools notice board in school.
- » Cycle Sense and Dr. Bike workshops.
- » School Bike Rides and 'Cycle to School'.



6.5%



2.6%



20%



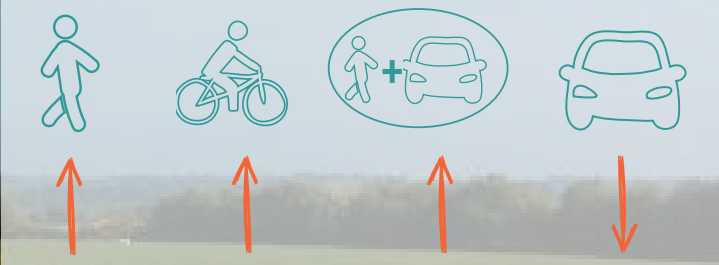
30%





# Glanduff NS, Co. Roscommon

Glanduff NS is in a rural location in Co. Roscommon with very poor infrastructure to support walking or cycling. Most of the school population live within 2km of the school, however the busy N61 divides the community. The school carried out a traffic survey and discovered that most cars on the road are school-going traffic. To reduce the rate of cars around the school they focused on increasing the number of people walking and cycling to school. In February they participated in Green-Schools Big Travel Challenge, which saw 93 out of a total 123 students actively travelling to school on the final day of the challenge.



- Key Actions:**
- » Electing the committee
  - » Regular meetings and keeping minutes
  - » Researching the benefit of sustainable travel
  - » Travel surveys and route risk assessment
  - » Informing the community via website and online newsletter
  - » Developing Green-Schools notice board
  - » Cycle Sense and Dr. Bike workshops
  - » School bike rides and 'Cycle to School'



# WORLDAL SHIFTS



400+ extra students walking and cycling to school



1,180+ students are leaving the car at home

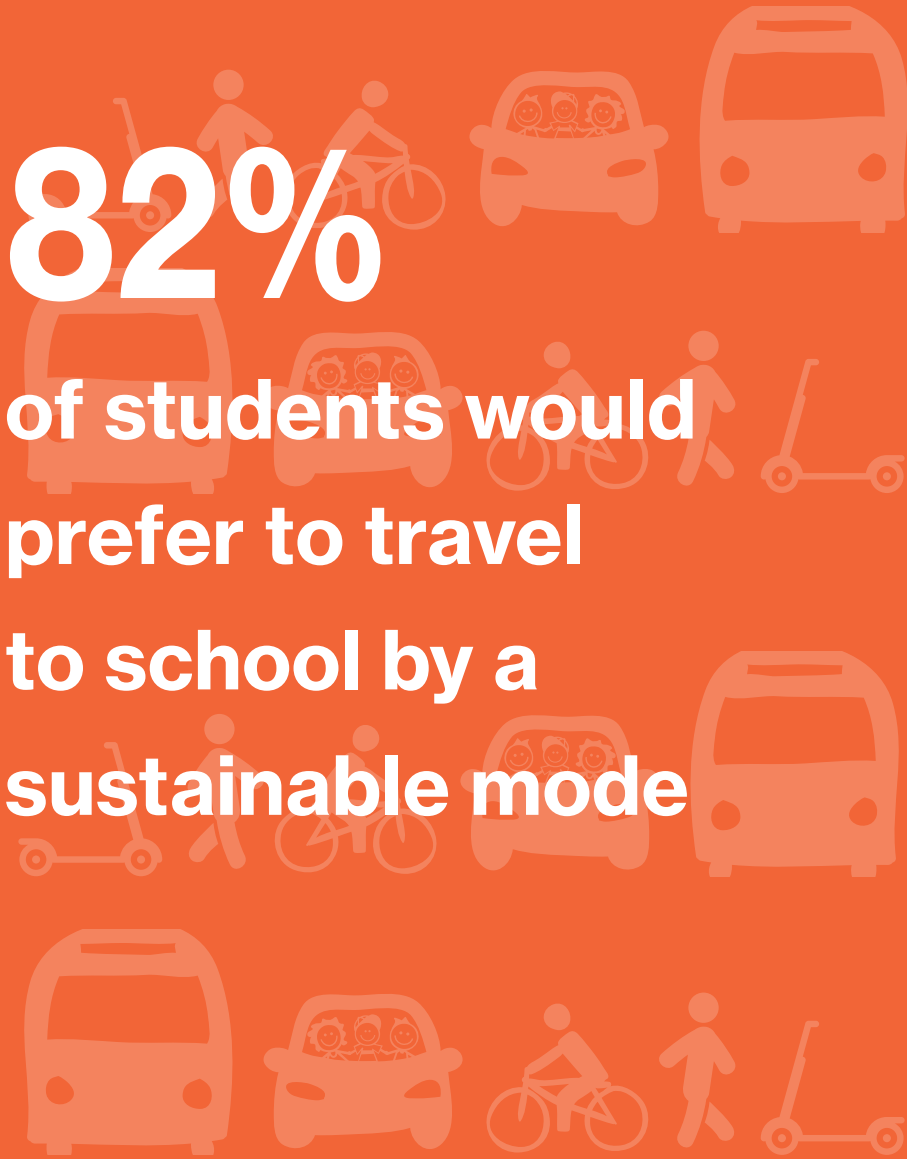
9% participate in weekly cycling

48% participate in weekly cycling events

13% of car journeys are shared journeys

82%

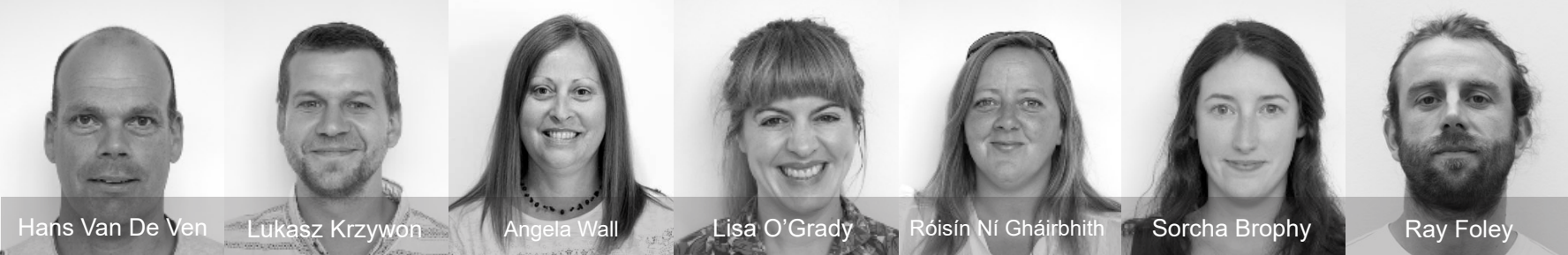
of students would prefer to travel to school by a sustainable mode



# Green-Schools Travel Officers



Ciara Norton Karen Moore Allison Phillips Caitriona Buggle Caitriona Cunningham Caterina Macnamara Caroline Murphy



Hans Van De Ven Lukasz Krzywon Angela Wall Lisa O'Grady Róisín Ní Gháirbhith Sorcha Brophy Ray Foley



Susan Doorley Ellen Murphy Edwina Coman Davé Brooks Camilla Tunney Catherine Russell Fiona Barry



Chiara Hanrahan Tiarnan McCusker Aengus Kennedy Aine O'Loughlen Lisa McDaniel

# WHO WE ARE

# Education An Taisce The National Trust for Ireland

