

# School Travel Survey: St Lorcan's Boys National School

Making the 'school run' safer and more enjoyable, and promoting active travel

This flyer summarises feedback from surveys and conversations with students, parents, staff and the wider community on how we might promote safer travel, walking and cycling in St Lorcan's Boys National School. The feedback was gathered by M-CO, working on behalf on South Dublin County Council.

The council have funding for measures to help tackle issues of congestion and road safety around the school and to promote active travel. To make sure the best solution is identified, they need to understand:

- how people are getting to school now,
- how they'd like to travel to school
- feedback on actions that could be taken to improve safety and promote walking / cycling (e.g. better road crossings, marked walking & cycling routes, traffic calming, bollards)
- other ideas, hopes and concerns

380 pupils enrolled in St. Lorcan's  
Pupils' Hands-up Survey: 327  
Parents Survey: 143



- 53% of pupils travel by car
- 32% of pupils walk to school
- 7% of pupils cycle to school
- 69% of pupils live under 1km from the school
- 82% of parents think that traffic is a problem

## Benefits of Taking Action

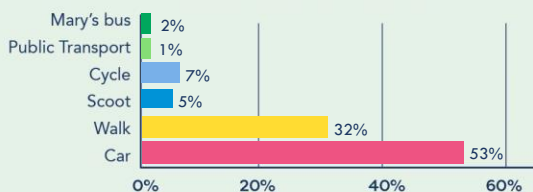
The works aim to make a safer, calmer and better environment outside the school along with promoting more cycling and walking. This can:

- reduce traffic congestion
- make it easier and more attractive to cycle, walk or scoot to school
- create a safer and more welcoming environment around the school
- reduce environmental impact by lowering carbon emissions and air pollution from car travel and improving biodiversity in the vicinity
- help children meet their wishes to walk and cycle to our school

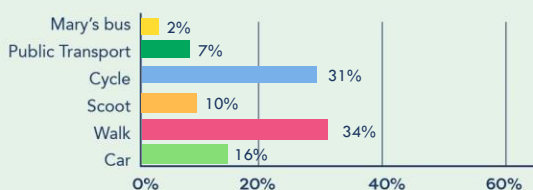
## How are people travelling to school?

We asked pupils and parents how they got to and from school and what their preferred travel mode would be.

### How we travel now



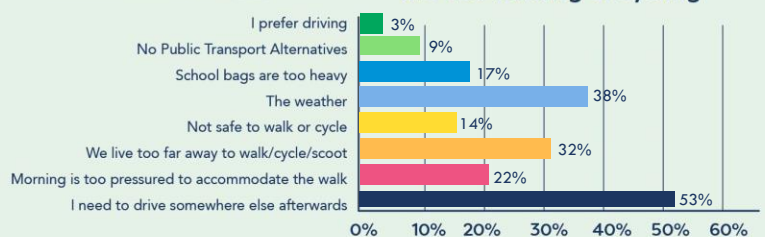
### How we'd like to travel



"I walk with my boys and its a lovely way to talk in the morning but having to cross the road outside the school is quite dangerous as cars are flying up and down the road knowing that children are going to school."

"Traffic very busy near school entrance so I prefer to park near the shops and its only 5 min walk... its also great to have lollipop lady helping people cross the road."

### Reasons given why pupils are not walking or cycling



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## General Feedback

- **Active mobility:** There is strong active mobility culture within the school. A relatively large number of older students cycle (between 7-10%). There are good bike parking facilities, suggestions for bike training. Respondents noted that improvements to pavements and laneways in vicinity could make active mobility safer and more attractive.
- There is support (70%) for a **School Street** (temporary closure of the road outside school gates to cars) with the school entrance bordering on to Manor Park cul-de-sac.
- There is strong support for School Zone treatments such as bollards to reduce parking on curb, improvements to pedestrian crossings, and traffic calming measures.
- Particular locations for crossing improvement were identified at Wheatfield Road at the Supervalu and at the intersection where the Oval meets the N4.
- The laneway behind the shops at Manor Road was identified as worthy of formalising as a cycle lane / walkway.

We asked what measures would help to promote active travel? These were the most popular:

- Park & Stride – leaving the car about 10 minutes' walk from the school gate, and making the last leg of the journey to school on foot
- Walking bus – pupils walking along a designated route with parents accompanying them
- Cycle bus – pupils cycling along a designated route with parents accompanying them
- Walk/cycle/scoot on Wednesdays
- Secure bike/scooter storage
- Cycle training for pupils

Our parents' survey showed widespread support for active travel and traffic calming improvements:

- 89% support better walking and cycle markings/paths – to make clearer and safer connections with the surrounding area
- 94% support better crossings – to make it easier and safer for pupils to cross the roads around the school
- 83% support bollards – outside/near school gates to stop illegal parking on footpaths or on double yellow lines and to make it safer to walk/cycle



"The school entrance at Manor Pk Road can be dangerous as people drive their cars right up to the school gate and then need to reverse out. This is happening as the children are exiting the school and trying to cross the road."

## Timeline: What's happening and when

