

School Travel Survey: Gaelscoil Chluain Dolcáin

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 Gaelscoil Chluain Dolcáin. 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

458 pupils enrolled in Gaelscoil Chluain Dolcáin

Pupils' Hands-up Survey: 385

Parents Survey: 132



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

- 66% travel by car
- 21% walk to school
- 52% of pupils live under 1km from the school
- 65% of parents think that traffic is a problem
- 50% of teachers think that traffic is a problem
- 20% of respondents believe it is too unsafe to walk or cycle to school

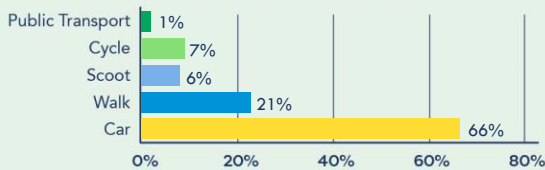
"I would prefer my eldest to cycle and I would prefer to walk with my younger 3. I have a double buggy and I find the narrow footpaths and road crossings very unsafe and I feel my children are safer in the car than walking."

"...the path here is very narrow in places and it feels very unsafe with the speed of the cars on this road. There are no ramps and there should be some sort of barrier between the road and the footpath especially along the narrow areas."

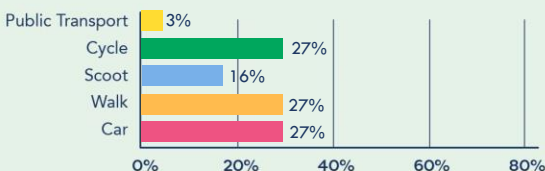
How are people travelling to school?

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

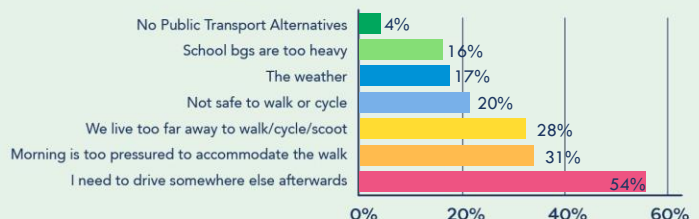
How we travel now



How we'd like to travel



Reasons given why pupils are not walking or cycling



Gaelscoil Chluain Dolcáin

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General Feedback

- **Traffic:** It is a busy road with bad rush hour traffic.
- **Driving:** A high number of pupils driven to school (66%).
- **Active mobility:** 7% of pupils cycle. Respondents highlighted opportunities for connective active mobility infrastructure in the laneways near the school and along Old Nangor road in particular. Championing of active mobility in the school – walking school bus, and environmental education is key theme.
- **Catchment area:** 51% of pupils live under 1km, and of those who do, 36% are driven to school.
- Parents and others in the wider school community reported that the site has both a senior and junior school on the same campus with same entrance and they operate at different opening/ closing times. Respondents highlighted that mornings are particularly busy with traffic.
- There is strong support for School Zone treatments such as bollards to reduce parking on curb, improvements to pedestrian crossings, and traffic calming measures.

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
- **Secure bike/scooter storage** and cycle training for pupils
- **Walking bus** – pupils walking along a designated route with parents accompanying them
- **Walk/cycle/scoot on Wednesdays**
- **Cycle bus** – pupils cycling along a designated route with parents accompanying them.

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

- **84%** support better walking and cycle markings/paths – to make clearer and safer connections with the surrounding area
- **90%** support better crossings – to make it easier and safer for pupils to cross the roads around the school
- **79%** 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



"Improve safety in Clondalkin Village to ensure safe crossing points for the children and dedicated cycle paths would really help"

Timeline: What's happening and when

