



# SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

## The programme will give your school the opportunity to:

- 😊 Improve safety at the school gate by providing 'front of school' treatments to alleviate congestion and improve access;
- 😊 Improve access routes to school by improving walking and cycling infrastructure; and
- 😊 Increase the number of students who cycle to school by expanding the provision of cycle parking.

The Safe Routes to School programme aims to improve ongoing issues of safety and congestion at the school gate and on routes to school. The programme will support active travel to school.

The programme is funded by the Department of Transport through the National Transport Authority (NTA).

Green-Schools will co-ordinate the programme and dedicated infrastructure officers will work with schools during the process. Local authorities will play a key part in delivering the infrastructure along access routes and at the school gate. Funding will be made available to the local authorities for infrastructure related to the programme.



# KEY STAGES OF THE PROGRAMME



Green-Schools will have a dedicated infrastructure officer who will work with selected schools during the programme. The programme will have a set number of stages and these can be summarised as follows:

## **Stage 1: Dissemination**

An invitation for participation in the programme will be sent to principals by the Department of Education and Department of Transport.

## **Stage 2: Expression of Interest**

Schools will be asked to complete and submit the Expression of Interest (EOI) to Green-Schools.

## **Stage 3: Selection**

A selection process will take place based on a number of agreed criteria.

## **Stage 4: Communication & Liaison**

Selected schools will be informed by Green-Schools. Green-Schools will then liaise with selected schools and the relevant local authorities on infrastructural interventions for their schools.

## **Stage 5: Interventions**

Green-Schools will produce an outline delivery plan for each school showing interventions at concept design stage.

## **Stage 6: Submission**

This delivery plan will be submitted by Green-Schools to local authorities to take forward for further design and implementation. Local authorities can then access dedicated funding from the NTA for the projects.

## **Stage 7: Community Support**

The school involved will act as a local champion of the proposed measures to ensure community buy-in for the proposals.

## **Stage 8: Delivery**

Local authorities will undertake proposed interventions in relation to the front of school environs and walking & cycling infrastructure around schools to be funded by the NTA. Green-Schools will deliver cycle parking.



# SELECTING SCHOOLS



The programme is open to all schools and various criteria is used to select schools for participation in the programme for 2021, including:

- **Mix of school type:**  
Primary, post-primary, other
- **Mix of location:**  
Urban (village, town, city), suburban, rural
- **Socio-economic mix:**  
Non-DEIS, DEIS schools
- **School's commitment to sustainable travel:**  
(a) the school is interested in promoting walking and cycling to school or (b) the school has already demonstrated a commitment to walking, cycling and other active modes by running initiatives such as Walk on Wednesday, Scoot on Wednesday, Cycle on Wednesday, Cycle Bus, Park 'n' Stride etc
- **Cluster of schools :**  
If schools are located on the same campus or street / section of road.

Safe Routes to School will then develop a list of schools, and a suggested sequencing or grouping of schools.

This is because all schools cannot be progressed simultaneously and a programme of implementation will need to be developed. Schools selected may be suitable for one or more of the infrastructure elements (front of school/cycle parking or upgrade walking/cycling routes).

The programme will initially select a limited number of schools for participation in 2021. However, the programme will also operate in 2022 so if your school isn't selected in 2021 you will be able to reapply for selection then. The extension of the programme beyond 2022 is subject to funding.

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT  
MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAMME?



If you wish to find out more information about the programme please contact Green-Schools on:

[WWW.GREENSCHOOLSIRELAND.ORG/SAFEROUTESTOSCHOOL](http://WWW.GREENSCHOOLSIRELAND.ORG/SAFEROUTESTOSCHOOL)  
[SAFEROUTESTOSCHOOL@GREENSCHOOLSIRELAND.ORG](mailto:SAFEROUTESTOSCHOOL@GREENSCHOOLSIRELAND.ORG)

