



# CASE STUDY

## Walking Bus Project in Cahir

**Summary:** The Walking Bus was set up in Cahir National School to teach young students (4-12 year olds) the importance of sustainable transport, road safety and to try and instil a change in behaviour towards transport in this young age group. Two walking buses were set up with approximately 15 students. Two different routes were formed. 5 parents were involved. The students that took part in the Walking Bus really enjoyed the new journey to school except when “the weather was bad”. 2 years later, the Walking Bus is still going strong with one Walking Bus and one route still active in the area. In total approximately 830 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> is saved by these students every year by walking to school. It is hoped that this behaviour will continue long into the lives of these children.

Tick the relevant boxes.

Target Audience				Actions			
X	Children		Transport companies		Clean and Energy Efficient Vehicles		Traffic Management
	Teenagers		Car sales people		Cycling		Car Pooling
	Students		Private companies		Transport Demand Management		Transport for People with reduced mobility
X	Adults		Other		Flexible mobility services		Eco Driving
	Old Age Pensioners			X	Travel Awareness Event(s)	X	Walking
	Decision makers				Mobility management		Other
	Local and regional authorities				Public Passenger Transport		

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## Implementation Process

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Fill out this step by step process of implementation for your project:

1. Carry out a survey in the school to assess the current situation
2. Analyse the results of this survey
3. Start promoting the Walking Bus project through newspaper, flyer, etc
4. Organise an information evening for parents and teachers
5. Motivate and encourage volunteers who will drive the Walking Bus
6. Establish who wants to be part of the Walking Bus, where they live etc.
7. Establish Walking Bus routes with designated stops along the way
8. Organise road safety training for children and volunteers.
9. Start the Walking Bus and keep regular contact to keep spirits high
10. Evaluate the project and examine any pitfalls / successes etc.

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## Barriers, Pitfalls or Unexpected Successes

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*Barrier: The school staff did not want to get involved in the project because they felt like they would be left "picking up" children from their homes and dropping them home after school. It would add to their days work.*

*Barrier: Not enough parents wanted to get involved when it came to the actual practical elements of the project, i.e. very few volunteered to be the "Driver"*

*Pitfall: There was no parent / teacher association in this school which would have been of huge benefit when looking for volunteers.*

*Success: There was one parent who was extremely dedicated to the project and has maintained the Walking Bus for 2 full school years.*

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## Impact of the Results of the Project

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*List clearly the results of your project in terms of the results achieved versus the initial targets*

<i>1</i>	<i>Target number of 20 students</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Actual number of 15 students</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>Target number of 15 volunteers</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Actual number of 5 volunteers</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>Original 2 buses still existing</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Only 1 bus still in existence</i>
<i>4</i>	<i>2.3 Tonne CO2 avoidance</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>831kg CO2 avoidance</i>