The aim of the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People (NICCY) is to promote and safeguard the rights and best interests of children and young people. School transport is a priority issue for NICCY. We are keen to hear what children and young people have to say about this.

In partnership with the General Consumer Council (GCCNI) and the Department for Regional Development (DRDNI), NICCY has commissioned research into children and young people’s views on the key issues affecting their journeys to school and how, if necessary, their journeys might be improved.
SECTION A – ABOUT YOU

1. What school do you go to?

2. How old are you?  7  8  9  10  11  12  13  14  15  16  17  18

3. Are you a girl or boy?  Girl  Boy

4. Do you get free school transport (bus pass etc)?  Yes  No

5. Do you have any disabilities?  Yes  No

6. If YES in Q5, please tell us more

7. Does this affect your journey to and from school?  Yes  No

8. If yes, how?
SECTION B - USING A CAR

1. When do you go to and/or from school by car? Tick one box
   - TO school only
   - FROM school only
   - TO and FROM school
   - I never travel to/ from school by car

2. If you never go to/ from school by car, why is this? Tick the boxes that apply
   - I don't want to
   - I don't like it
   - I feel unsafe
   - My parents don't want me to
   - Other
   Other - please state:
   __________________________________________________________________________

   If you never travel to school by car, go straight to section C

3. How often do you go to and/or from school by car? Tick one box
   - Every school day
   - 4 days a week
   - 2 or 3 days a week
   - Once a week
   - Less than once a week

4. I go to and/or from school by car because…… Tick the boxes that apply
   - I want to
   - It is fast
   - Bad weather
   - My parents want me to
   - It is the safest way
   - It is the most comfortable way
   - There is no alternative
   - Public transport services are not suitable
   - Other
   Other - please state:
   __________________________________________________________________________
5. How do you feel about the amount of traffic on the roads, on your way to and/or from school?

😊 happy 😐 ok ☹ unhappy

6. Why do you feel this way?

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

7. How do you feel about travelling by car on your way to and/or from school?

😊 happy 😐 ok ☹ unhappy

8. Why do you feel this way?

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

SECTION C - USING THE BUS

1. When do you go to and/ or from school by bus? Tick one box

   TO school only
   FROM school only
   TO and FROM school
   I never travel to/from school by bus

2. If you never go to and/ or from school by bus, why is this? Tick the boxes that apply

   I don't want to
   I don't like it
   It is not reliable
   It is too expensive
   Behaviour of other pupils
   It is overcrowded
   It is slow
   There is no bus stop near where I live

Other - please state

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

If you never travel to school by bus, go straight to section D
3. How often do you use the bus to go to and/or from school? Tick one box
   - Every school day
   - 4 days a week
   - 2 or 3 days a week
   - Once a week
   - Less than once a week

4. I go to and/or from school by bus because...... Tick the boxes that apply
   - I want to
   - My parents want me to
   - It is affordable
   - It is free
   - It is the safest way
   - It is the most comfortable way
   - There is a bus stop close to our house
   - It is reliable
   - There is no other option
   Other - please state:

5. How do you feel about travelling by bus on your way to and from school?
   - 😊 happy
   - 😒 ok
   - 🙁 unhappy

6. Why do you feel this way?
   - ...

7. When you travel by bus to and/or from school, what service do you use? Tick the boxes that apply
   - Ulsterbus (public service)
   - Metro - Belfast (public service)
   - Ulsterbus (school service)
   - Metro - Belfast (school service)
   - Yellow ELB bus
   - Other operator
   - A mix of these
8. When you are travelling to and from school by bus do you usually... Tick one box
   - Get a seat on your own
   - Have to share a seat
   - Have to stand

9. Where do you usually sit on the bus? Tick one box
   - At the front on my own
   - Near the front with friends
   - On my own near the back
   - Near the back with friends
   - Wherever I can get a seat
   - I don’t know

10. Why do you sit here?
   
   

11. What, if anything, would you like to see to make buses safer? Tick the boxes that apply
   - Supervision (adults)
   - More buses
   - More seats
   - Better seats
   - No standing
   - Seatbelts for everyone
   - One child per seat
   - Newer buses
   - No changes needed
   - Other (write below)

   Other - please state:
   
   

12. What are your reasons for your answers in question 11?
   
   
   
   
   
   

SECTION D - USING THE TRAIN

1. When do you go to and/or from school by train? Tick one box
   - TO school only
   - FROM school only
   - TO and FROM school
   - I never travel to/from school by train

2. If you never go to school by train, why is this? Tick the boxes that apply
   - I don’t want to
   - I don’t like it
   - It is not reliable
   - It is too expensive
   - Behaviour of other pupils
   - It is overcrowded
   - It is slow
   - There is no train station near where I live

Other - please state

If you never travel to school by train, go straight to section E

3. How often do you use the train to go to and/or from school? Tick one box
   - Every school day
   - 4 days a week
   - 2 or 3 days a week
   - Once a week
   - Less than once a week

4. I go to and/or from school by train because...... Tick the boxes that apply
   - I want to
   - My parents want me to
   - It is affordable
   - It is free
   - It is the safest way
   - It is the most comfortable way
   - There is a train station close to home/school
   - It is reliable
5. How do you feel about travelling by train on your way to and from school?

😊 happy ☹ ok ☹ unhappy

6. Why do you feel this way?

________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

7. When you are travelling to and from school by train do you usually... Tick one box

Get a seat on your own    ☐
Have to share a seat    ☐
Have to stand    ☐

8. What, if anything, would you like to see to make trains safer? Tick the boxes that apply

Supervision (adults)    ☐
More trains    ☐
More seats    ☐
Better seats    ☐
No standing    ☐
Seatbelts for everyone    ☐
One child per seat    ☐
Newer trains    ☐
No changes needed    ☐
Other (write below)    ☐

Other - please state:

________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

9. What are your reasons for your answers in question 8?

________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
SECTION E - USING A TAXI

1. When do you go to and/or from school by taxi? Tick one box
   - TO school only
   - FROM school only
   - TO and FROM school
   - I never travel to/from school by taxi

2. If you never go to school by taxi, why is this? Tick the boxes that apply
   - I don’t want to
   - I don’t like it
   - It is not reliable
   - It is too expensive
   - It is slow
   - There is no service near where I live
   
   Other - please state
   
   ____________________________________________________________

   If you never travel to school by taxi, go straight to section F

3. How often do you use a taxi to go to and/or from school? Tick one box
   - Every school day
   - 4 days a week
   - 2 or 3 days a week
   - Once a week
   - Less than once a week

4. I go to and/or from school by taxi because...... Tick the boxes that apply
   - I want to
   - My parents want me to
   - It is affordable
   - It is free
   - It is the safest way
   - It is the most comfortable way
   - There is a service close to our house
It is reliable
There is no other option

Other - please state:

5. How do you feel about travelling by taxi on your way to and from school?
   ☺ happy ☺ ok ☹ unhappy

6. Why do you feel this way?

   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

7. What, if anything, would you like to see to make taxis safer? Tick the boxes that apply
   Supervision (adults) ☐
   Newer taxis ☐
   No changes needed ☐
   Other (write below) ☐

Other - please state:

   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

8. What are your reasons for your answers in question 7?

   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

SECTION F - WALKING

1. When do you walk to and/ or from school? Tick one box
   TO SCHOOL only ☐
   FROM SCHOOL only ☐
   TO and FROM school ☐
   I never walk to/ from school ☐

2. If you never walk to school, why is this? Tick the boxes that apply
   I have to cross busy roads ☐
   I don’t like it ☐
3. How often do you walk to and/or from school? Tick one box
   - Every school day
   - 4 days a week
   - 2 or 3 days a week
   - Once a week
   - Less than once a week

4. Why do you walk to and/or from school? Tick all the boxes that apply
   - I want to
   - My parents want me to
   - I feel safe
   - I have no choice
   - To be healthy
   - My friends walk with me
   - Other

   Other - please state:

5. How do you feel about the following as you walk to/from school?  ☻ happy ☻ ok ☻ unhappy
   - Parked cars
   - Crossing roads
   - Busy traffic
   - Number of footpaths
   - Traffic noise
   - Traffic speeds
   - Trucks loading/unloading
   - Behaviour of other school pupils

6. How do you feel about walking on your way to and from school?  ☻ happy ☻ ok ☻ unhappy

7. Why do you feel this way?
8. What, if anything, would you like to see to make walking safer? Tick all the boxes that apply

- Guard rails on kerbs
- Extra crossings
- Slower traffic
- Less traffic and parking
- Wider footpaths
- Nothing
- Other

Other - please state:

SECTION G - CYCLING

1. When do you cycle to and/or from school? Tick one box

- TO SCHOOL only
- FROM SCHOOL only
- TO and FROM school
- I never cycle to/from school

2. If you never cycle to school, why is this? Tick the boxes that apply

- I have to cycle on busy roads
- I don't like it
- It takes too long
- Other

Other - please state:

If you never cycle to school, go straight to section H

3. How often do you cycle to and/or from school? Tick one box

- Every school day
- 4 days a week
4. Why do you cycle to and/or from school? Tick the boxes that apply

- I want to
- My parents want me to
- I feel safe
- I have no choice
- To be healthy
- My friends cycle with me
- Other

Other - please state:

5. How do you feel about the following as you cycle to/from school?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>happy</th>
<th>ok</th>
<th>unhappy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parked cars</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossing roads</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Busy traffic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of footpaths/cycle lanes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic noise</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic speeds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trucks loading/unloading</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behaviour of other school pupils</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. How do you feel about cycling on your way to and from school?

😊 happy    😕 ok    😞 unhappy

7. Why do you feel this way?

__________________________________________________________

8. What, if anything, would you like to see to make cycling safer? Tick all the boxes that apply

- Guard rails on kerbs
- Extra crossings
- Slower traffic
- Less traffic and parking
- Wider footpaths
Cycle lanes  
Nothing  
Other

Other - please state:

9. Are there cycle lanes to and from your school?

YES       NO       DON'T KNOW

10. Are there bike sheds or secure stands for bikes at your school?

YES       NO       DON'T KNOW

SECTION H - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Do you have any other ideas or thoughts about your journey to and from school?

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Please use extra pages if necessary

2. If you have worries about your journey to and from school, what are they?
Tick all the boxes that apply

Road Safety  
Behaviour of other young people  
Fear of strangers  
Safety in some areas  
The time it takes  
The distance I have to go  
Safety on public transport  
Other  
Nothing
Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this questionnaire

If you need to talk to anyone or are worried about anything in your school
You can talk to your class teacher or your Head teacher privately
You can also phone the following numbers:
Childline - 0800 1111
Or text someone at www.textsomeone.com

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact;
Dr. Scott Mackey,
Telephone: (028) 9036 8279 or email S.Mackey@ulster.ac.uk

This survey is carried out by the Transport and Road Assessment Centre in the University of Ulster on behalf of the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People (NICCY) in association with the General Consumer Council for Northern Ireland (GCCNI) and the Department for Regional Development (DRD)