

TRANSPORT AND ROAD ASSESSMENT CENTRE (TRAC)

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER AT JORDANSTOWN

**YOUR RIGHT
TO HAVE
A SAY ABOUT
SAFER JOURNEYS
TO SCHOOL**

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	<input type="checkbox"/>	8	<input type="checkbox"/>	9	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	<input type="checkbox"/>	12	<input type="checkbox"/>	13	<input type="checkbox"/>	14	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	<input type="checkbox"/>	16	<input type="checkbox"/>	17	<input type="checkbox"/>	18	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

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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

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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

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

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

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

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

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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



Other – please state:

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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

It takes too long

Other

Other – please state

If you never walk to school, go straight to section G

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

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Crossing roads

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Busy traffic

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Number of footpaths

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Traffic noise

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Traffic speeds

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Trucks loading/unloading

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Behaviour of other school pupils

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



happy



ok



unhappy

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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

2 or 3 days a week

Once a week

Less than once 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?

happy

ok

unhappy

Parked cars

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Crossing roads

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Busy traffic

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Number of footpaths/cycle lanes

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Traffic noise

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Traffic speeds

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Trucks loading/unloading

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Behaviour of other school pupils

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



happy



ok



unhappy

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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

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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

Other – please state:

**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)