

School Active Travel: Create your own safe active travel routes

Take the journey together

Schools will have different approaches, but ideally your working group will involve a range of people to plan and share active travel tasks. It may be a group of staff or parents, a class within your school, or a mix of students, parents, staff and local organisations! Consider using existing structures or groups rather than create a new or separate working group.

Where are your families travelling to school from?

Knowing where families are travelling from will help to identify accessible active travel routes. You could do this by printing a map of your schools local area and marking each family's residence on the map. This will provide a visualisation of where people will be travelling from and routes that may be suitable.

active travel routes can address barriers to physical activity by calming traffic around schools, improving safety features and raising safety awareness.

Create your active travel routes

Identify active travel routes (around 500m to 1km in length) that families and children can use to travel to and from the school. Keep in mind that the routes should be accessible, safe and enjoyable to travel along by foot, bike or scooter. Check if there is suitable parking along the routes so parents can safely drop or pick up children along the routes.

DID YOU KNOW

children aged 12
years and under can
ride on the
footpath, and so
can adults riding
with them.

Enjoy safe active travel!

There are resources available that can help you check the routes are accessible, safe and enjoyable www.victoriawalks.com.au/smartsteps.

You may find through checking the safety of your active travel routes that you identify hazards that may make active travel difficult. Contact your local council, they may be able to improve or remove the hazards you have identified or provide you with solutions.

Create your own map

A map showing your safe active travel routes is a great tool for promoting and encouraging active travel within your school. Be as creative as you like! You could draw the map using a drawing program on your computer, draw it online at www.walkingmaps.com.au, or ask a class to hand draw the map.



Promote and encourage use of your safe active travel routes

Promote your new safe routes and the benefits of walking, riding, scooting and skating to and from school! You could promote your safe active travel routes through your school newsletter, Facebook page, placing posters around the school, sending out your map or having your map available to pick up.

Portarlington Primary School 'active travel map' Coco Bullock - Year 6 Student









