

Bayswater Primary School – School Travel Plan

Introduction

The TravelWise to School Project began in February 2002 and is the first of its kind in New Zealand. The aim of the project is to develop a school travel plan that addresses congestion at the school gate and encourages alternative systems of transport. The project has involved extensive consultation with the school and community to identify the key concerns of the safety of the local roads. This has included a strong emphasis on community ownership and participation, which has been fundamental to the success of TravelWise to School.

Bayswater Primary School

Bayswater Primary School is a contributing primary school situated in beautiful, spacious grounds in North Shore City. The school occupies a large section between Bayswater Avenue and Roberts Rd. Both are busy and at times, fast roadways with flows averaging approximately 6,000 and 1,100 per day respectively.

Within the roll of 155 students, 79% are of European descent, 25% Maori and 7% Korean students. The remaining 16% is made up of 13 other nationalities.

The school enjoys strong community support through its parent community, a committed and hardworking Board of Trustees and a very active Parent Group. All groups including students and staff have contributed to the Travel Plan.

Consultation

This involved a series of steps, which are described below.

Step one: Defining current transport patterns

- ◆ Completion of a questionnaire by the children to find out how they travel to and from school and how they would prefer to travel
- ◆ Parent questionnaire to find out how children travel to and from school and if alternative systems of transport would be considered

Step two: Inviting views on local road safety issues

The next stage involved asking children and parents to identify their issues of concern with regard to local road safety. A key focus to this stage was a three dimensional map of the area which was developed by children and included:

- ◆ Classroom exercises
- ◆ An open day where parents and local residents were invited to express their views by placing issue cards on the map. This was also supplemented by a questionnaire to the residents and an invitation to participate in the open day

Step three: Developing the School Travel Plan

The School Travel Plan was developed by a monitoring group consisting of staff, Board of Trustees, Parents, the Chair of Devonport Community Board and staff from North Shore City Council. The following people all contributed to the plan:

Bayswater Primary School

Chris Heney, Principal
Trevor Snookes, Former Principal
Ruth Ell, Teacher
Lucy Plumb, Teacher
Merilyn Strickland, Teacher
Geoff Chapman, Board of Trustees
Megan Fiddess, Parent
Carole Harkness, Parent

Devonport Community Board

Mike Cohen, Chair

North Shore City Council

Tom Morton, Traffic Services Manager
Phil Consedine, Transport Infrastructure Manager
Quamruddin Haider, Traffic Engineer
Matthew Blackmore, Transport Planner
Caroline Coleman, Transport Planner
Gill Weyman, Road Safety Co-ordinator
Sally Peake, Road Safety Co-ordinator
Esther Sassenburg, Transport Planner
Bernie Walsh, Corporate Affairs Adviser

Step four: Consultation

Results of the Consultation

The response rate to the parents survey was 44% (80 responses). Conclusions from the survey found that:

How children usually travel to school	
	%
Driven to school	40
Walked to school	30
More than one answer – the results of which were difficult to define	19

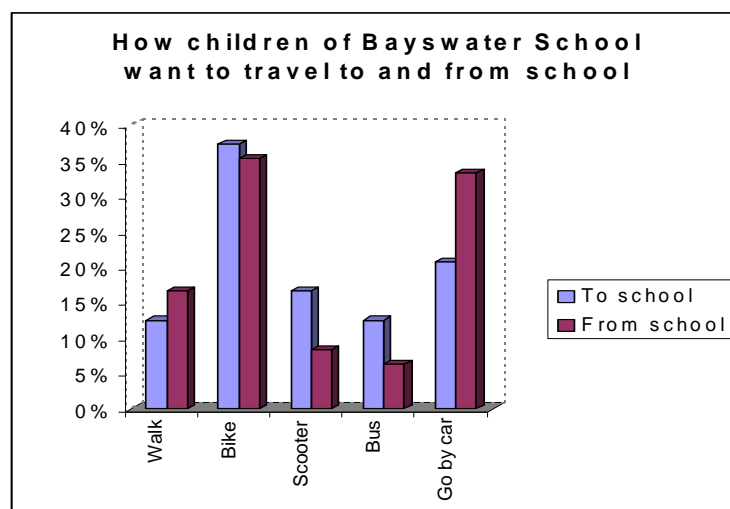
Reasons given for driving to school included:

- 32% on way to somewhere else
- 24% concerns on safety
- 18% distance

When asked if they would consider alternative modes of transport:

- 70% would not consider carpooling
- 59% said that their children would use the Walking School Bus
- 36% said that if a school bus service was available then they would use it
- 73% would not allow their children to ride to school on a scooter by themselves
- 58% would not allow their children to ride their bicycle to school by themselves

When children of Bayswater Primary School were asked how they would like to travel to and from school. They gave the following responses:



Consultation also identified that in Bayswater Avenue there was a need for a safe crossing by the park and more cyclepaths. There were also requests for an improved

bus service to Bayswater Marina, better controlled traffic light phasing for pedestrians and reduction of speed in Bayswater Avenue and Roberts Avenue.

THE PLAN

Aim 1. Improve health of school children through fitness and walking programmes

Objective	Action	Time frame	Stakeholders
Increase number of children walking to and from school	To initiate the WSB scheme	February 2003	Community Co-ordinator, Road Safety Co-ordinator, Police Education Officer
To encourage the uptake of fitness and walking programmes	Promote annual events e.g. Walk me Home Day	2 per year	Road Safety Co-ordinator and RoadSense Teachers
Encourage Road Safety education within the school curriculum	To continue the RoadSense Programme	Ongoing	RoadSense Teachers
	Police Education Programmes for pedestrian safety	2 per year	RoadSense Teacher/Police Education Officer
	Picnics with Road Safety theme	Annually	RoadSense Teacher
	Road Safety Awards	2 per year	RoadSense Teacher

Aim 2. Improving safety in Bayswater Avenue and Roberts Avenue

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Stakeholders
To reduce the speed and improve the safety in Bayswater Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the traffic lane width by Bayswater and Rosyth intersection ▪ Improve visibility of the pedestrian crossing e.g. extension yellow lines, relocating school patrol sign, fluorescent signs ▪ Review current signage 	6-12 months	NSCC – Traffic Services Manager Infrastructure Manager Devonport Community Board
To reduce the speed and improve the safety in Roberts Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Speed management investigation e.g. chicanes ▪ Investigate relocation of pedestrian crossing ▪ Review visibility and number of carparks near to the pedestrian crossing ▪ Review amount of current signage 	6-12 months	NSCC – Traffic Services Manager Infrastructure Manager Devonport Community Board
Improve safety of pedestrians crossing Bayswater Avenue	Reduce sun strike	Report back to evaluation meeting	School and Community Board
	Develop pedestrian safety awareness campaigns to drivers	2 per year	RoadSense Co-ordinator/Road Safety Co-ordinator
	Provide regular information on pedestrian safety to the local community e.g. Kindergarten Newsletter, media	2 per year	RoadSense Co-ordinator

Aim 3. To improve and increase the amount of road safety information which is available to parents, children and the community

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Stakeholders
Develop school travel policy	To develop a school travel policy to include: cycling, walking, scooters/skateboards and rollerblades	2003	Board of Trustees
To provide information on road safety and the importance of alternative modes of travel to and from school	Develop a website	Annually	Principal
	Present information at events e.g. parents evening, kindy visits, newsletter, media	Annually as requested	RoadSense Teacher
To maintain links with the community and encourage a broader responsibility for safer roads	Invite a representative from Bayswater Community Council to the school once a term e.g. assembly, kindy visits etc.	Annually	RoadSense Teacher

Aim 4. To reduce car travel to school through alternative modes of transport

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Stakeholder
Encourage walking	Improve safety of routes to and from school	6-12 months	NSCC Traffic Planner and Infrastructure Manager, Devonport Community Board
Encourage car pooling	Promotion at events e.g. PTA morning tea beginning of year , newsletter	1-3 times per year	RoadSense Teacher
	To provide bike licence training	Once a year	RoadSense Teacher/Police Education Officer
Develop an innovative cycle networks for children coming to and from school	Develop a cycle path adjacent to the footpath on the south side of Bayswater	1 year	NSCC Traffic Planner and Infrastructure Manager Devonport Community Board
	Footpath widened across bridge from Eversleigh Rd/O'Neils Cemetery/Bayswater Avenue	Longterm in accordance with cycle strategy	
	Linking up of safe pedestrian/cycle crossing from O'Neils Cemetery to Bayswater Park	6 months	
	Cycle path on Lake Road/Roberts Avenue	Longterm in accordance with cycle strategy	
	Path to link up from Plymouth Crescent to a cyclepath on Bayswater Park	Longterm in accordance with cycle strategy Signage upgrade (3 months)	

Implementing the plan

Bayswater Primary School, Devonport Community Board and North Shore City Council will jointly implement this plan.

Monitoring the plan

The plan will be monitored on an annual basis, where the monitoring committee will meet to discuss the aims, objectives and targets. Where required new targets will be set.

Criteria for success include:

1. That the number of children travelling to and from school by car are reduced by 10% per annum
2. That numbers of children cycling or walking to school is increased by a total of 10% for the first year and 5% for the following five years
3. That there is a low accident rate for school children in the local vicinity of the school
4. That awareness raising of road safety issues is increased amongst parents
5. That there is an increase in number of road safety programmes in schools
6. That awareness of the local community on the TravelWise to School Project is increased

Conclusions

The Bayswater Primary School Travel Plan has been developed over a period of eleven months. It has included a wide range of consultation techniques with the school community to identify the concerns of the local community with regards to traffic safety and promoting alternative modes of transport.

The success of this project can be attributed to work undertaken by staff, pupils, families and Board of Trustees in partnership with North Shore City Council and the Devonport Community Board.

Agreement on the travel plan

We support the Bayswater Primary School Travel Plan

Name	For School Staff
Date	Date
Name	For Board of Trustees
Date	Date
Name	For Parents
Date	Date
Name	For the pupils
Date	Date
Name	For Devonport Community Board
Date	Date
Name	For North Shore City Council
Date	Date