



Translink Eco-Schools Travel Challenge

www.translink.co.uk/ecoschools

- Transport is one of the possible topics for study within the Eco-Schools programme.
- Translink is an Eco-Schools partner and we sponsor the topic of Transport within the scheme.
- Covering a particular topic assists schools in achieving an internationally – recognised Eco-Schools award including the prestigious Green Flag.
- Participating in the Translink Eco-Schools Travel Challenge is a means for schools to cover the general topic of ‘Transport’ which will then contribute to their overall Eco-Schools Award assessment.
- The Challenge involves school class commitment over a 4-week period to monitor individual pupil travel patterns to and from school.
- Children are encouraged to use more sustainable travel modes – mainly walk/cycle/bus/train – instead of car travel.
- In addition to Eco-Schools awards, classes and children who show the greatest change towards sustainable transport use will also be rewarded by Translink with a cash and travel prize.
- Translink holds a summer prize presentation at the end of Challenge to reward winners.



Challenge Aims

- Assist schools in achieving the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award;
- Raise awareness on the impact of transport on the environment;
- Demonstrate the benefits of choosing sustainable transport modes;
- Stimulate action in terms of more sustainable transport use including public transport;
- Decrease the negative impact of car congestion at school gates;
- Strengthens links between the local community and Translink–schools, teachers, pupils and parents as well as other local key stakeholders;
- Encourages people to use local public transport services.



Translink / Eco-Schools Support

- In 2011/12 Translink wants to grow school participation in the Travel Challenge across Northern Ireland.

Resource Development

- Translink has produced a large visual hard copy classroom wall chart and online excel version in which every morning pupils register how they travel to school during the 4 week challenge.



- On the chart, pupils are also able to mark their 'old' travel routine so they can compare it with their routine during the challenge and hopefully see improvement in terms of 'eco-miles' traveled.
- Chart completion instructions for teachers to follow.
- Dedicated Eco-schools online section on Translink website developed – www.translink.co.uk/ecoschools .
- Schools register online for the Challenge.
- Key Stage 1 and 2 Activity Sheets for teachers to download and print from the web.
- Posters for schools to display.
- Letters for schools to send to parents about the Challenge.
- Stickers for all participants.
- Winner & participant certificates.



Translink school & station visits

- Translink can arrange for a local bus or rail station representative to visit participating classes and talk about public transport – giving pupils an opportunity to meet the people who run Northern Ireland's bus and train services.
- Translink can also arrange for a participating class to visit a local bus or rail station to introduce pupils to public transport and let them see and climb aboard a bus or train.



We would like to hear from any primary schools interested in taking part in the Translink Eco-Schools Travel Challenge!

Contacts

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