

# Walkability Audit

18<sup>th</sup> November 2016



**St Bodens NS**

**Culdaff**

**Co. Donegal**

**Roll Number: 19614Q**

St Bodens NS is located in the village of Culdaff, Co. Donegal. The school is situated within a relatively good pavement network. The school has quite a large catchment area. Of 51 students surveyed, 60% travel to school by car, while 25% come by bus. There is good scope at the school to increase walking numbers and a number of park 'n' stride areas were identified during this audit.



A **Walkability Audit** is a methodical examination of how pedestrian-friendly a route may or may not be.

The word **Walkability** means the “**ability to walk**”.

Members of the school population identified a possible walking route to school to audit.



## Objectives:

1. We wanted to see if the roads to the school are safe to walk
2. We wanted to identify park n'stride locations and/or drop n'hop locations
3. We wanted to encourage more people to walk to school
4. We wanted to identify any issues and identify possible solutions

We used a number of tools on the audit to record our findings:

- Maps of the routes
- Recording sheets
- Recording devices (timer, trundle wheel)
- Hi-visibility vests
- Camera
- Pencils/Clipboards
- Analysis sheets



## Description of the route audited:

The audit took into account all the main estates from which the children currently walk to school or potentially could walk to school. The first estate we audited is Dun Ailainn, 4627m from the school which a number of children walk from. The next estate viewed was Clara Bay estate, 9364m from the school, this is a good potential park 'n' stride area. The main town of Culdaff is located 5606m from the school. Past the shore road is a further estate where children walk from, St Bodens Terrace. A further potential park 'n' stride area for the younger children is McGroartys car park, **x m** from the school.



We noted the following findings from our Walkability Audit:

#### Positive results

- 1 Most of the areas examined in the audit has suitable pavements
- 2 A number of school traffic signs are present
- 3 There is good potential to increase walking and cycling to the school

#### Negative results

- 1 Pavement runs out going to some estates, most notably past Clara Bay and Dun Alainn estates
- 2 Pedestrian crossing is required at the cross roads between Mill Lane and Merville road
- 3 Traffic surveys showed a busy traffic level
- 4 Narrow footpaths in some areas
- 5 Parking spaces need to be re-painted outside the school

More details and photos of these findings can be viewed in the pages following.

A summary of our recommendations is below:

1. Pavement should be extended past Dun Alainn estate to allow more children to walk safely to school
2. Pavement should be extended past Clara Bay estate to allow more children to walk safely to school
3. Pavement should be widened on Gleneely Road
4. A pedestrian crossing is required at the cross roads between Mill Lane and Merville road
5. Walk on footpath at all times if present
6. If no footpath present, then walk on the right side of the road
7. Wear high visibility vests
8. Be careful of traffic moving (particularly reversing)



School signs keep us safe



Parking markings should be re-painted outside the school



Caution required on narrow pavements



Some pavements cracked





Pavements should be extended past the Dun Alainn estate



Pavements should be extended past the Clara Bay estate



Thank you for reading our report.

Please contact us with your feedback using the details below.

**Green-Schools Travel Education Officer**

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