

Christchurch City Council

Governors Bay School

School Travel Plan – Data Collection & Analysis 2022

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Summary

This was an online travel survey for Governors Bay School, to help establish key travel modes and travel issues for the school. Responses for the survey included 54 parent, 4 staff and 1 student responses.

The main barriers to more students not walking, cycling and scooting have been identified as the distance between home and school is too far, the speed of traffic on the roads and that crossings are unsafe for my child to manage. The main factors that would encourage them to use active transport more often was if there was safer places to cross the road, the traffic was slower and if there was a walking school bus.

Congestion and safety issues feature highly as concern for respondents. The main safety issues include too many vehicles trying to find a park and unsafe parking behaviours. The main locations of concern that were identified are Main road, the bottom of Zephyr terrace and outside the school gate.

Introduction

School Travel Plan Purpose

School Travel Planning is an internationally recognised process whereby a school, working in conjunction with its local city council, determines how it can promote safer and more sustainable travel options for its pupils.

School travel plans equip young road users with the skills to become safe and competent on the road. If more children walk and cycle and appreciate the importance of the road rules then they are likely to have a better understanding of how they should behave around pedestrians and cyclists if they chose to drive later in life.

Road to Zero

The New Zealand Government has a long-term goal for road safety in New Zealand under its Road to Zero Strategy and has set out in its vision: *"We all make mistakes from time to time. We need to stop simple mistakes turning into tragedies."* To support the vision, Road to Zero takes a Safe System approach to road safety. This approach means instead of focussing on a single safety intervention, such as improving driver behaviour, the safe system looks at all elements of road safety working together.

Document Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide data and analysis of the current trends and concerns around school travel at Governors Bay School so that an effective school travel plan can be developed and implemented.

Methods

Data Collection and Consultation

In March 2022 students, parents and staff were asked to partake in an online travel survey.

Data Source	Date(s) Collected	Method	Sample Size
Years 0 – 8 Student Survey	March	Online	1
Parent Survey	March	Online	54
Staff Survey	March	Online	4

School Travel Planning Data Collection Results & Discussion

Modes of Transport

Parent Survey Data – How does your child usually travel to school?

	Years 0 to 2	Years 3 to 4	Years 5 to 6	Years 7 to 8	Total
Car	68%	75%	50%	46%	63%
Walk	28%	25%	50%	54%	36%
Bike	4%	0%	0%	0%	1%

The predominant transport mode to School for all year groups is travelling by car. As children age a higher percentage of travel by active modes can be seen, this is typically due to parents being more comfortable with children travelling to school alone when they are older. Active modes are considered as walking, scooting, cycling, and bussing.

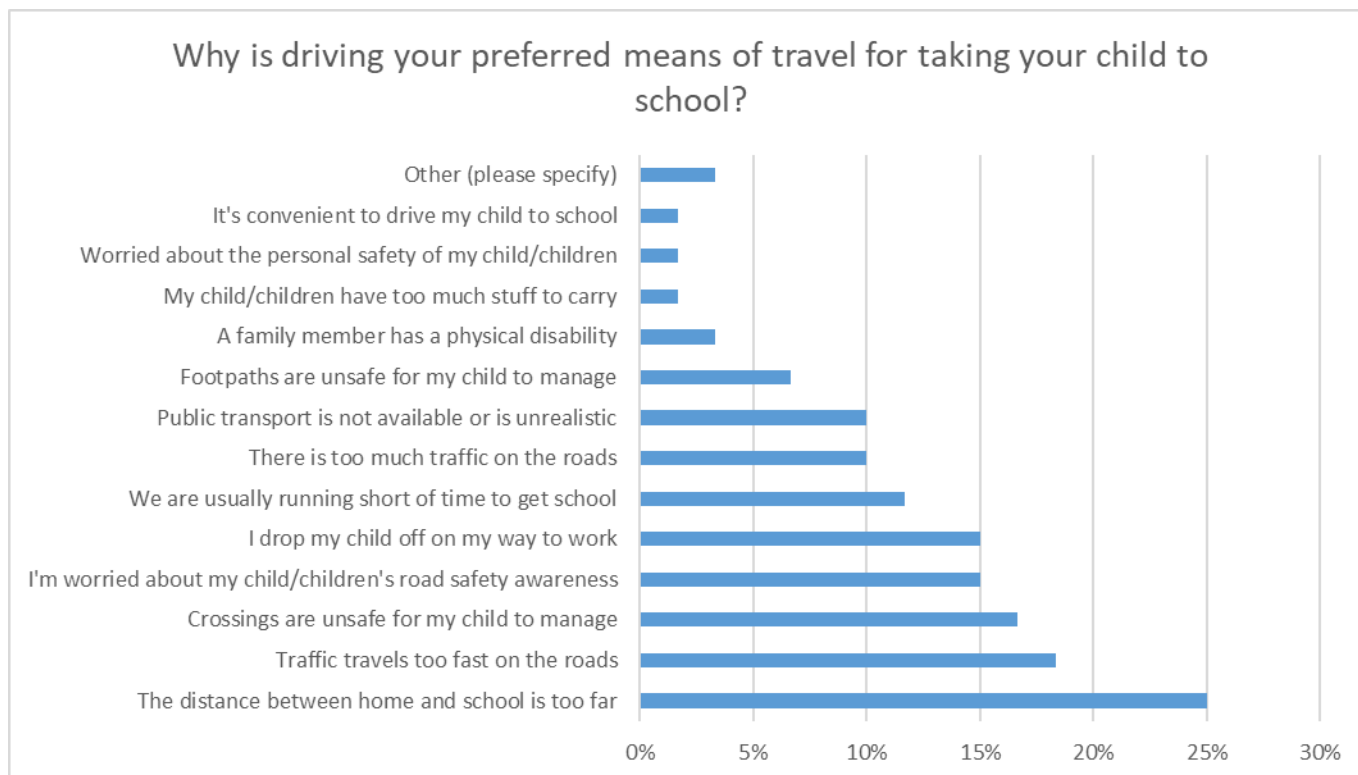
How far do you travel to school?

	Total
Between 0 – 2km	68%
Between 2 – 5km	9%
Between 5 – 10km	8%
Greater than 10km	15%

Majority of students travel less than 2km to school. These children are a good candidates to look into active modes for getting to school. Driving to meet walking school buses or similar can be options for children who live further away.

Student barriers to active mode choice

Why is being driven in the family car or carpooling your preferred means of travel for your child to get to school?



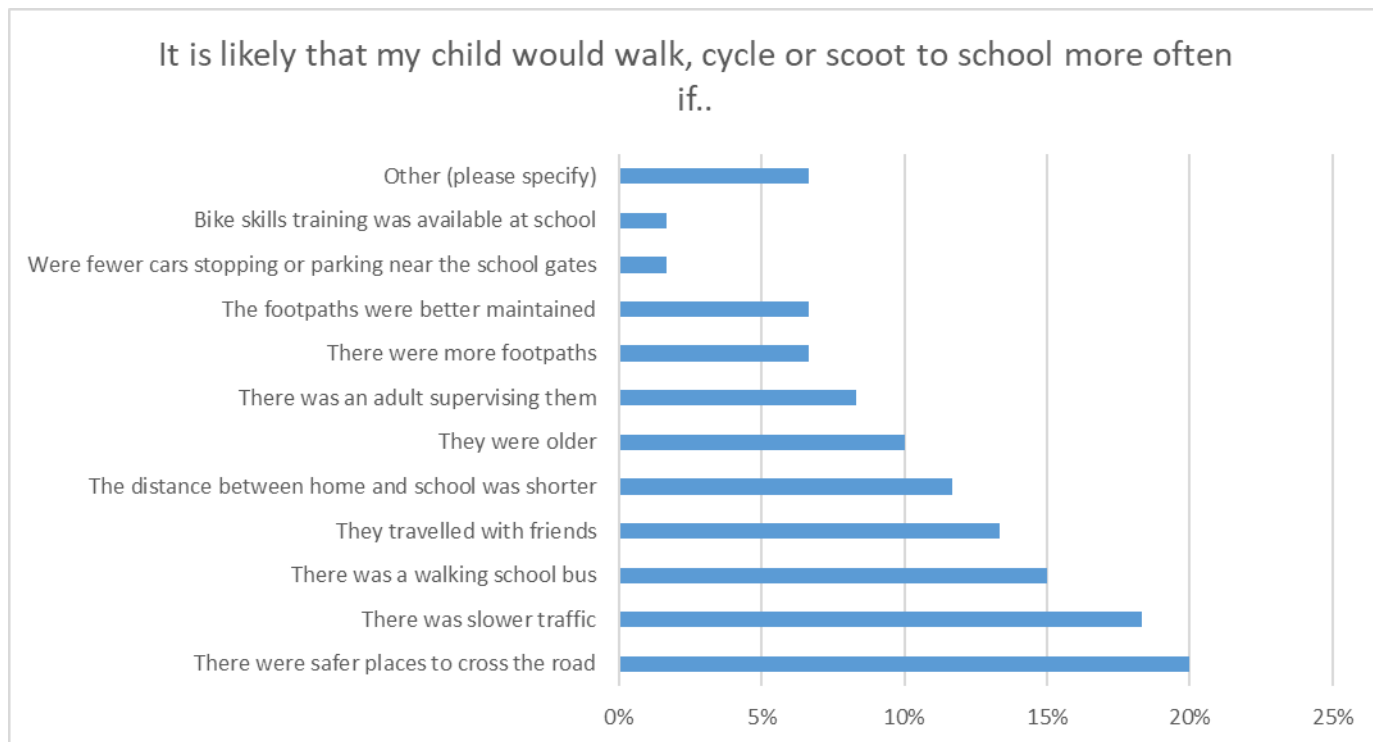
The three main reasons people preferred to drive their child to school was due to the distance between home and school being too far, the speed of traffic on the roads and that crossings are unsafe for my child to manage.

Other (please specify)

We also do ride him to school on a cargo bike, but often it works best to use the car as we're then going on over the hill to work and need it to run errands. Often we'll also use the bike to get to work and back.

My cannot fly

Is it likely that your child would walk, cycle or scoot to school more often if...



To lead on from the main reasons people preferred to drive their child to school they were then asked what would make them walk, cycle or scoot more often. The main factors that would encourage them to use active transport more often was if there was safer places to cross the road, the traffic was slower and if there was a walking school bus.

Other (please specify)

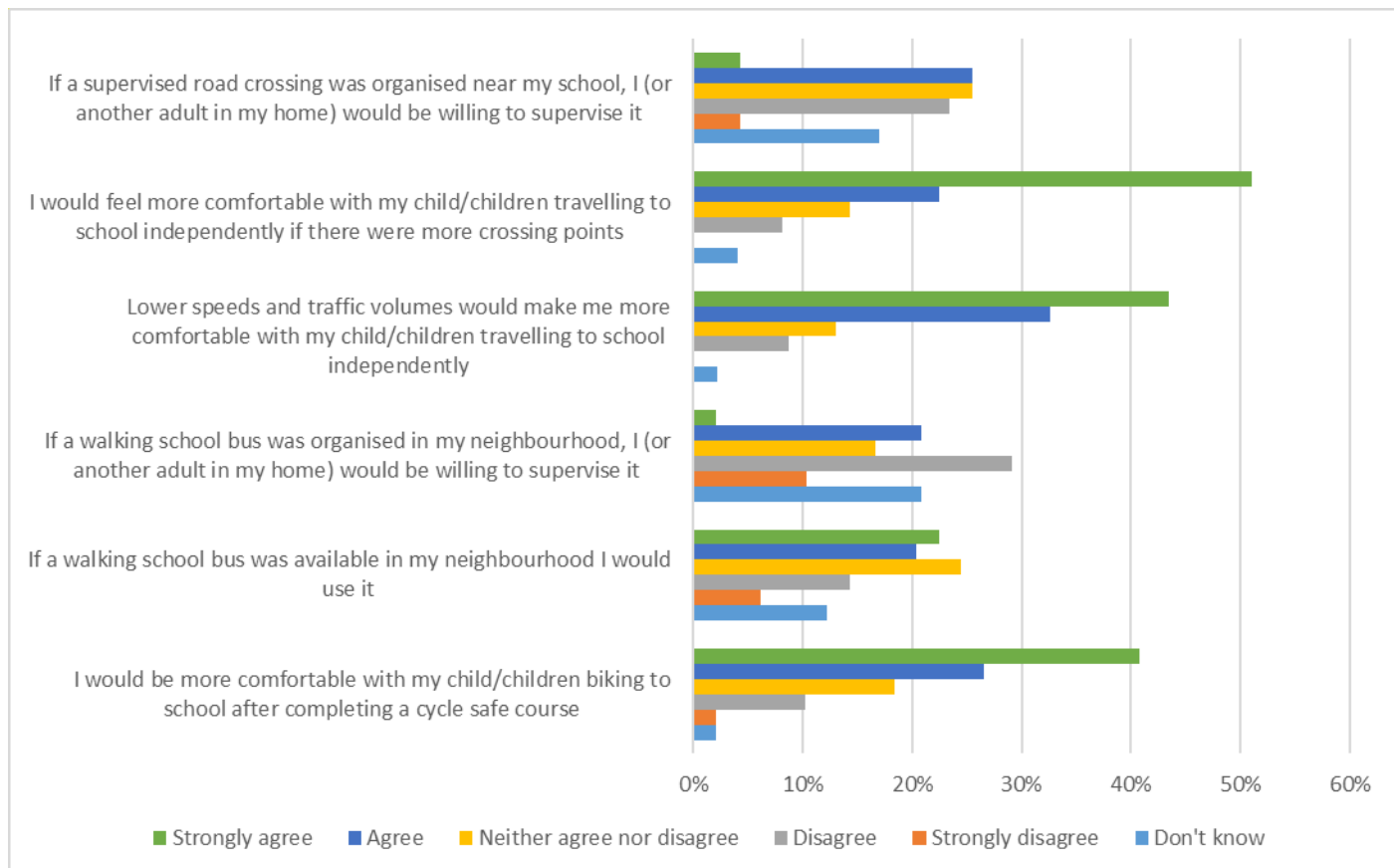
He could get up earlier in the morning!

when we move in the new build house in the area

although we are too far for him to walk the whole way, I would be happy t drop him near ernest adams drive if it was safer

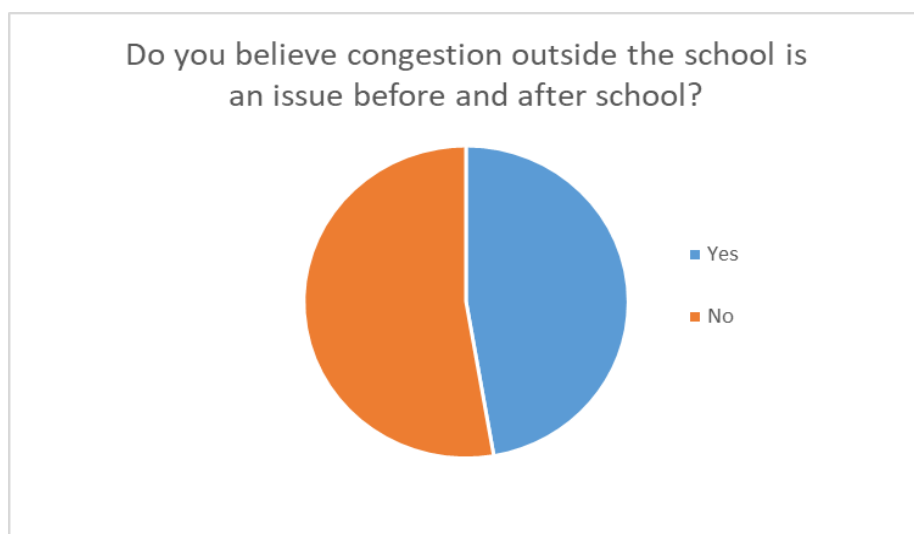
He was an IronMan champion

Interest in initiatives



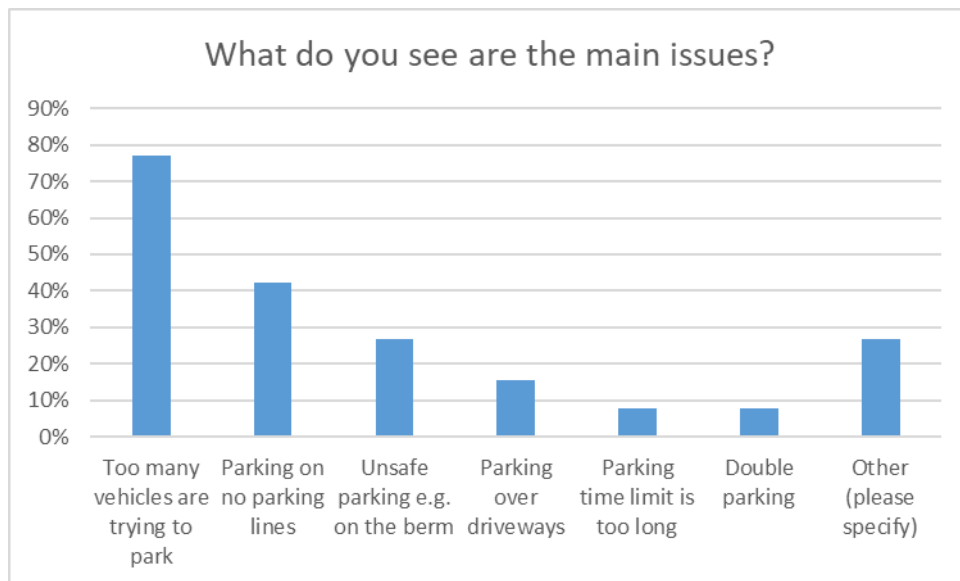
73% of respondents would feel more comfortable with their child/ren travelling to school independently if there were more crossing points and 76% more comfortable if there was lower traffic volumes/speeds. 68% of respondents indicated they would be more comfortable with their child/ren biking to school after completing a cycle safe course. Council does offer Cycle safe skills training to year 6 students. If a walking school bus was available 42% of people would use it and 23% of people would be willing to supervise it. If a supervised crossing was installed near the school 30% of people would be willing to supervise it.

Congestion issues outside the School



Approximately 47% of respondents felt as though there was congestion outside of Governors Bay School.

What do you see as the main issues?



From the 47% who felt there was a congestion issue, around 77% of them felt as though there is too many vehicles trying to find a park. Parking on no parking lines and unsafe parking were also identified as issues in the area.

Other (please specify)

People parking on the wrong side of the road

The road surface berm is in very poor condition. I believe one way dire took traffic would greatly aid congestion and safety

U-Turning vehicles, traffic flows on wrong side of road, parking on wrong side of the road.

No footpath down hill from the school crossing - a big ditch that cars have to navigate when other cars are parked... barely enough room for one-way traffic, let alone children walking.

reversing in the immediate vicinity of the school gate. also turning above the school gate...I only turn there if I am dropping off prior to 8.30

Parking in others' driveway

Students having to step directly on to the road when coming out of the gate. No footpath at the entrance /exit point to the school

Locations and Safety Issues Identified

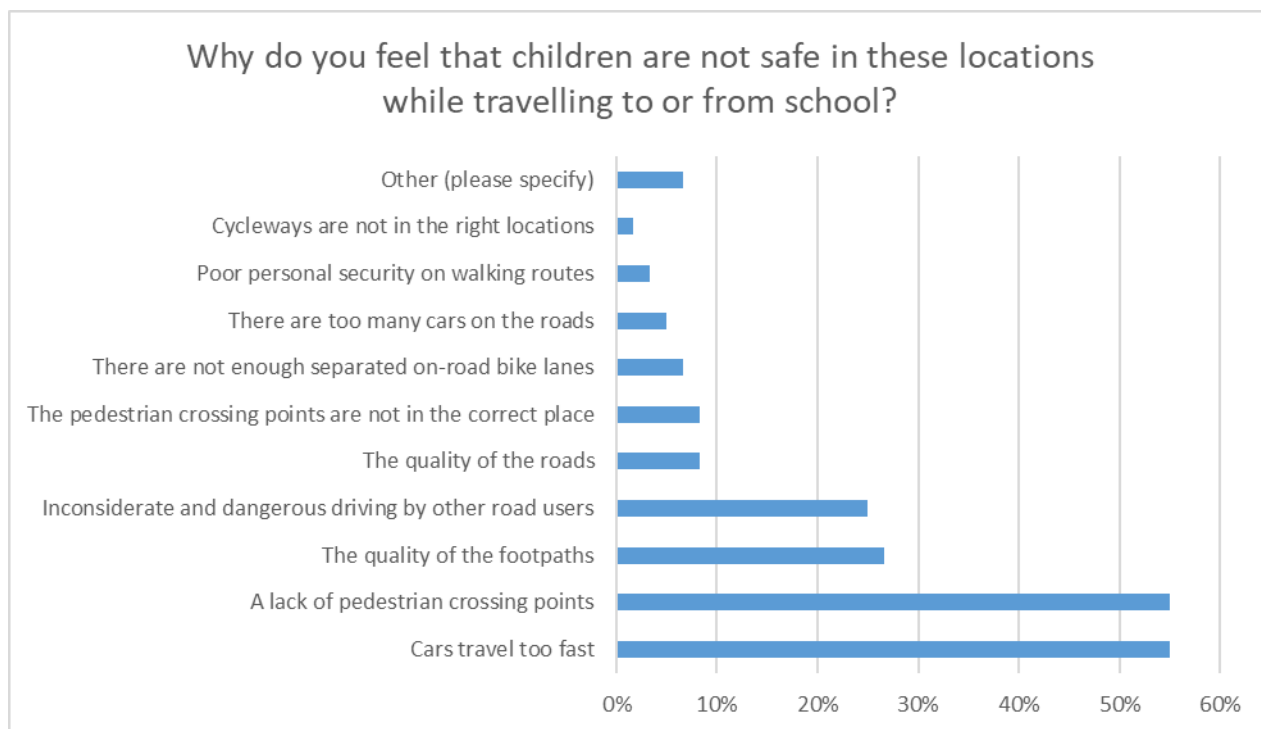
Why do you feel that children are not safe in these locations while travelling to or from school?

Top locations

- Main road
- Bottom of Zephyr Terrace
- Outside school gate

The main road was mentioned due the speed cars travelled, the lack of crossing points and inconsiderate driving by other road users. Lack of crossing points was also the reason the bottom of Zephyr terrace was

mentioned where it meets main road. Outside the school gate was mentioned due to the quality of footpaths.



Why do you feel that children are not safe in these locations while travelling to or from school? - Other (please specify)

Poor visibility of oncoming traffic due to bends in road

Narrow footpath on high speed main road, no pedestrian crossing anywhere across main road

Traffic flow by the school ignores basic road rules and good sense, current entry to school is currently 'on the road' where there is zero footpath of appropriate pedestrian entry. People with accessibility issues would struggle to get into the school. .

See above all my notes!

Staff Travel Survey Results

How do you currently travel to work?

	Total
Car	75%
Bike	25%

How far do you travel to work?

	Total
Between 0 – 2km	25%
Between 2 – 5km	25%
Between 5 – 10km	0%
Greater than 10km	50%

The predominant transport mode for staff is travelling via car. Due to low responses overall assumptions can't be made

School Travel Planning - Next Steps

1. Establish membership of Governors Bay School Working Group and assign responsibilities to those contributing to the development of the school travel plan.
2. Governors Bay School Working Group meet to consider the data content of this report to inform their decision making and the further development of the school travel plan.
3. Actions to be decided upon by Working Group and an action plan developed.
4. School Student Travel Policy developed.
5. A signed agreement between the school and the Christchurch City Council to implement the actions in the school travel plan

Appendix A: Parent Survey Answers

Q51 - Comments (optional)

we sometimes ride, sometimes drive from Lyttelton.

The main issue in Governor's Bay is that there is no safe crossing point on the main road. Traffic speeds through round blind bends making it very dangerous for children and adults to cross. If there was traffic lights or some other kind of crossing I would be happy for my children to walk independently to school.

There needs to be a pedestrian crossing directly outside the school gates.

Just depends on work commitments

The vegetation alongside the footpath is very overgrown, making it hard for children to stay away from fast moving cars. I wonder whether this could be addressed?

It's a bit tricky as my two children are different levels of being able to manage themselves to get to school. My eldest could manage fine, but my youngest would need a lot of support to achieve walking to school .

As we live in Alandale there is actually a route that avoids all roads (the walking track around the foreshore). So traffic is not a concern for us but the time it takes to walk that track is an issues because our son is not a morning person. In the winter this could also be challenging due to weather.

One way road system around the school would be great- far easier to navigate traffic

A road crossing on main road is needed

Due to having to drive to school due to the distance, above questions not applicable

The most important thing for my family is crossing the Main Road, as our new home is on the "wrong" side of the road. Desperately need a safe place to cross, hopefully with 'lollipops'... but WHERE!?!?!

Could help but more info required

Independent travel to school is not really an option for us due to the distance we have to travel, and the fact that the road we travel is busy and cars often travel faster than the speed limit. Our only solution would be a shared use track which was completely separated from the road between Lyttelton and Gov Bay - similar to the track from the jetty, although I realise that this is a pipe dream. I'm fully supportive of cycle skills training and walking buses, but they're not applicable to us.

my child is too old to want a walking school bus. road just needs to be safer, and footpaths maintained and cleared more regularly

Depends on the time commitment. I have to be at work myself.

I live across the street from the school. Drivers (including parents) speed past the school. A proper cross walk would be useful.

Q53 - Please tell us more about the location of most concern (street names, intersections, etc)...

The main road, there is no safe crossing point.

Main road by the pub

Cars and children mixing around the school gates.

Crossing road at bottom of zephyr tce (zephyr tce foot parth runs out at bottom of street) and crossing Main Road at the bus stop by Zephyr tce

The main road crossing at Zephyr terrace near the bus stop. The footpath disappears and children crossing

is haphazard

Crossing main road near firestation

The pavements heading towards school from the Allandale end of the village, where vegetation has taken over the path.

Children crossing the road near the cafe/pub

Main Road, Governors Bay

Crossing the main road (ie from pub side to cafe side)

on the main road, and, current crossing by the school gate isn't visible enough, this needs to be a formal crossing

Bottom of Zephyr Tce

Outside school gate, crossing Gov Bay road.

Main Road, near the pub by Glas Brae

Main Road at bottom of Zephyr Tce needs a pedestrian crossing

The intersection of Merlincote Crescent and Jetty Road is dangerous for all road users because there is no "Give Way" sign. There is a white continuous centre line on Jetty Road which most people assume gives priority to traffic on Jetty Road, but in absence of a "Give Way" sign some motorists approaching the intersection from Merlincote Crescent assume that as they are going straight they have priority.

Crossing the Main Road at or near the bottom of Zephyr Tce is very tricky - my kids do quite often walk to school but I usually walk with them or at least walk to the bottom of our drive and watch them crossing Main Road because it's a multi-road intersection with poor visibility and people come down off Dyers Pass Road going way faster than 50km. I'd like to see something installed at the bottom of Dyers Pass to slow traffic - speed bumps?- and it would deter boy racers too (a whole other issue!!... but a huge problem in Gov Bay)

Main road

Crossing the Main Road.

Crossing from Zephyr Terrace across Main Road

Crossing the Main Rd

Crossing the main road is dangerous at the moment, a crossing would be great

No option to safely cross main road near the pub

Main road pavements narrow and hedges often over grown

The corner of the main road that the Otoromiro Hotel sits on is a blind corner, and cars come round it fast. It's dangerous when crossing from above the Hotel to the Harbour House. The left hand turn off Main Road into Jetty Road is also at a very steep angle ,therefore it is very difficult to see anyone who might be crossing Jetty Road at this point when driving.

1. Ernest Adams Drive corner with main road. This is my priority as this is where I would turn in to drop a walking child. The footpath is delineated by a painted line. I watched a contractor take that corner too fast and cut over the pedestrian space. Right where often there is a child waiting to cross. This needs to be turned into a proper footpath with a space that's curbed to allow a child a safe place to stop and look for traffic. Also an immediate improvement would be to trim the bushes there as visibility is obstructed.
2. Across from this point at approx 119 Main Road the footpath doesn't exist and it's a lay-by... needs a clear

walk space for children and a clear pullover parking space for cars.

Crossing Main Road. We live off Zephyr Terrace and the children who walk from this side of town have to cross the busy main road. A pedestrian crossing somewhere between the bottom of Zephyr Terrace and the car park area just before the Otoromiro Hotel (opposite the Reserve/skate bowl) would be helpful for children AND adults.

Crossing Main Road near the hotel - cars often travel fast around the corners and visibility can be limited

Crossing main road is not safe anywhere in Gov. Bay.

Glas brae intersection with main rd

Crossing main road

The roads directly around the school are by far the least safe

Crossing the main road near Zephyr Terrace

Dyers pass road

Crossing Jetty Road - cars speed around the corner. A cross walk would be useful all times of the day. Also across Cresswell Ave. This is mostly parking congestion and parking on yellow lines by parents.

Bottom of Dyers pass Road. Excess speeding and burnouts even during school periods. Need speed ramp to slow and deter cars

Crossing Governors Bay Road