

Resource 1:

Letter to parents/caregivers

Note: These documents should be read with the Walking School Bus coordinator's guide (available at education.nzta.govt.nz/teacher-resources/school-community-partnerships/walking-school-bus/).

Dear parents/caregivers

Walking school buses

A fun, safe and active way for children to travel to school.

In an effort to ease traffic congestion and improve safety around our school, we would like to establish several walking school bus routes. The walking bus provides a regular way for your children to enjoy walking and being outside.

About the walking school bus

A walking school bus usually has at least one adult 'driver' who walks along an agreed route, collecting all children waiting at designated 'bus stops' and walking them to school. After school, they walk back along the same route.

Are you interested?

We would like to gauge support for setting up a walking school bus for our school. We would be grateful if you would complete the survey form attached and return it to school by _____.

If we have enough interest, we would like to start the walking school buses most or every school day from _____. The service will be free and a coordinator will organise parent volunteers to act as leaders. There will be a maximum of eight children per adult and, while it's a great thing to do, you don't have to volunteer if you're unable to.

Children can use the bus every day or on whatever days suit the family. Routes will be established along the roads most used by our students, depending on the level of interest shown by parents and their willingness to volunteer as leaders.

Meeting

We will hold a meeting at the school in the next few weeks to discuss parents' responses to the survey and our proposed walking school bus scheme. You will be notified of the date via the school newsletter, and your attendance and input would be welcome.

Your local coordinator will contact you with more details if you can't make the meeting but express an interest in the walking school bus through the survey.

Yours sincerely

