

Hands Up Scotland Survey 2023

Instructions and guidance for schools

August 2023



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Welcome to Hands Up Scotland Survey 2023

The Hands Up Scotland Survey (HUSS) is the largest national dataset to look at how children travel to school across Scotland.

Following the passing of a Parliamentary Order on 1st June 2012, HUSS has been published as an Official Statistic in Scotland. This is a great achievement as the Official Statistic status acknowledges HUSS as a robust and accurate source of data, important for policy making on transport issues within Scotland.

These achievements have only been possible as a result of your continued support over the years and so **we thank you for all your hard work!** We are looking forward to working with you again this year.

HUSS 2023 key dates

Action	Date
Hands Up Scotland Survey 2023: Data collection week Schools must conduct the survey between these dates.	11th – 15th September 2023*
Schools to return all survey results to their local authority contact	Before 29th September 2023

Survey timing

Schools must conduct the survey between **Monday 11th and Friday 15th of September 2023.**

* The survey should ideally be conducted on one day within this week. We set aside a week for the survey so that schools can have the option of selecting the best day for them to conduct the survey given weather conditions or events.

It is important that the survey is not conducted during part of a Bike or Walk to School Week or any other special cycling or walking promotional activity. If you have any such activities planned, please notify the Sustrans HUSS team: HandsUpScotland@sustrans.org.uk.

We are looking to increase participation in the survey only, not using the survey to increase walking and cycling levels.

Please note: School-level data for each local authority will not be published as part of the main report, but will be made available to the relevant local authority contact. In some instances, this will also be made available to third parties for research purposes on completion of a Hands Up Scotland Data Request pro forma, as agreed with Sustrans' Research & Monitoring Unit and the relevant local authority.

Instructions

The necessary survey materials may be found enclosed in the email which included this guidance or alternatively can be found on the Sustrans website:

www.sustrans.org.uk/hands-up/survey-packs

Preparing for the Hands Up Scotland Survey 2023

You've received your survey pack from your local authority or you've obtained this online. What should you do now to prepare to undertake the survey in your school or nursery?

Step 1: Nominate a HUSS leader within your school to co-ordinate the survey.

Your HUSS leader could be your school's head teacher, school secretary or a teacher with an interest in the survey such as your school's Eco Club leader.

Step 2: Decide on which day your school will conduct the survey.

The survey must be conducted during the specified survey week (**11th to 15th September**).

Each class in your school should conduct the survey on one day only.

- ✓ **Top Tip:** Try to plan for a day when all classes can take part - be aware of school trips!
- ✓ **Top Tip for Nursery schools:** If you are a nursery school with a morning and afternoon session, you may conduct the survey twice during the same day in order to capture responses from both your morning and afternoon sessions. Please remember to add up the responses before submitting your results.

Step 3: Decide where the survey will take place.

Usually, schools find it easiest to conduct the survey during the morning registration period.

Some smaller schools prefer to conduct the survey during a school assembly.

Some schools opt to conduct the survey during lesson time.

Step 4: Decide who will conduct the survey.

Most schools ask individual class teachers to conduct the survey with their class. However, in some schools, the nominated HUSS leader will visit each class in turn to conduct the survey.

Step 5: Prepare your survey forms, distribute them to all classes, and brief class teachers.

If your individual class teachers will be conducting the survey, please ensure all class teachers have a survey form and are aware of when and how to conduct the survey. Select the correct survey forms for your school – there are forms for nursery, primary and secondary.

- ✓ **Top Tip:** Fill in the class names on the survey forms before you hand the forms out to teachers.

Survey Day: Conducting the Survey

The chosen date for the survey in your school has arrived. How should teachers / the HUSS leader conduct the survey?

Step 1: Count the number of pupils present and note this on the survey form.

Step 2: Tell pupils you will read the question and answer options through twice – during the first reading, pupils should listen only, and on the second reading, they should answer the question by putting their hand up. Read the question and answer options in the order they appear.

Step 3: Ask pupils the survey question: **“How do you normally travel to school?”**

As you read through the answer options for the second time, count the number of hands and note this on the survey form.

- ‘Walk’ also covers those that use a manual or electric wheelchair on a pavement (wheeling). However, if the child and wheelchair are normally transported in a motorised vehicle, please record them against the appropriate motorised vehicle category (e.g. if the child and the wheelchair is transported on a bus, record them against ‘Bus’)
- ‘Other’ covers (but is not restricted to) children who say they normally travel by train, subway or ferry
- If a child says that they use a mix of modes to get to school, tell them they should put their hand up for the mode that makes up the largest amount of their journey time.

If a pupil is absent during the survey, they should not be included in the survey results at a later date.

- ✓ **Top Tip:** Asking pupils to put their hand down once you have pointed at them to show you have counted them can make tallying up the responses easier.

Step 4: Add up the total number of pupils that responded and note this in the total box.

Step 5: Email the survey forms to the school office or the nominated HUSS leader.

Submitting your schools results

You’ve now conducted the survey with all classes in your school. What’s next?

Step 1: Check survey forms have been received from all teachers.

- ✓ **Top Tip:** It can help to create a checklist and mark each class off as you receive the forms.

Step 2: Collate your results

If you have multiple classes in each year group, you will need to add up the results for each year group. You can use a separate survey form to make note of the totals for each year group. If you only have 1 class per year group, you can skip this step.

Step 3: Submit your results

The nominated HUSS leader should return all forms to your local authority contact along with a completed cover sheet (also included in your survey pack) by **Friday 29th September 2023**.

Step 4: You’re all done!

Please retain a copy of your schools' results in case we have any questions about your submission.

Thank you once again for taking part in the **Hands Up Scotland Survey 2023!**

General assistance and support

If you have any queries regarding the information in this document please do not hesitate to contact your local authority representative or the HUSS team:

Email: HandsUpScotland@sustrans.org.uk

Tel: 0131 346 1384.