

# National Hands-Up Survey Scotland

Report on Data Collected 2008  
May 2009

## Executive Summary

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### Active travel

- Over fifty percent of children surveyed travel to school in an active way, either by walking, cycling or using a scooter or skate board
- The most frequent form of active travel is walking, with 48.3% of children walking to school
- 2.8% of all pupils cycle to school
- The most frequent cyclists are primary school children. 3.4% of primary school children cycle, compared to 1.6% of secondary school pupils

### Motorised travel

- 21.5% of all children are driven to school
- The majority of children who are driven to school are from independent schools, 42.4% of these children are driven to school
- 18.7% of children take the bus to school
- Bus use is most common among secondary school pupils, with 37.2% of these children taking the bus to school

### Transition from primary school to secondary school

- The results clearly illustrate that travel behaviour changes when pupils move from primary school to secondary school
- Children travel to school less actively. 56% of primary school children travel using active modes, while 44.6% of secondary school pupils do so
- Bus use increases dramatically. 9.5% of primary school children travel to school by bus, which increases to 37.2% of secondary school children
- Car use decreases, with 12.7% of secondary school pupils being driven, compared to a quarter of primary school children

### Other points

- The most common travel mode for state school pupils is walking
- Only 29.7% of independent school children travel to school in an active way