

**Sustrans School Travel Case Study**  
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## **Cycle Trains in Germany**

**Title of project:** Cycle Trains

**Local Authority:** Stadt Marl

**Partners:** Local Government

**Key Features:** Cycling

### **Summary:**

A cycle train for pupils to help pupils learn how to cycle safely to their new secondary school. The project has been running for 5 years.

### **Initiative:**

The “Gymnasium im Loekamp” is situated in Marl, a medium-sized city in an area with a rural character on the outskirts of the “Ruhrgebiet”. The actions are concentrated on the first two grades (lower grade, grades 5-6). They are mostly 10 or 11 years old.

Grade 5 is the first year in secondary school. With the change of the school, children have to find a new route and use another mode of transport than before.

The five week project starts in the second week of the new school year. Parents and crossing patrol officers take pupils from the fifth year and accompany them on their bikes to and from school. There are meeting points along the way for pupils to join the bike train.

### **Outcomes:**

As part of this project, energy savings of about 60% were made. Although most of the pupils already travelled to school by bike, some car-trips were replaced by bike.

However, one of the key outcomes was that pupils learnt how to ride safely to school soon after they started secondary school. This gave parents the parents confidence.

### **Costs and Funding:**

**No funding available**

**Problems and solutions:**

n/a

**Case study contact details:**

[www.ecodallecitta.it/educamb/conferoma/Final\\_Report\\_SUN.htm](http://www.ecodallecitta.it/educamb/conferoma/Final_Report_SUN.htm)