



Travel Group - Elgin, Moray

Project overview

Elgin Academy has a very dynamic and influential pupil led Travel Group who have extended their influence over the design and planning of their new school.

Project aims

The Elgin Academy Travel Group aims to encourage more students to walk and cycle to school. They have undertaken various activities that promote these active modes to school. These activities have been very successful at enabling a large number of the pupils at Elgin Academy to walk and cycle to school. The Travel Group's latest efforts have centred around the design of the new PPP school and improving facilities for active travel. Here they are aiming for the final design to include practical measures that encourage and enable easy and safe walking and cycling access to the new school.

Project name

Travel Group Elgin Academy

Location

Elgin, Moray

Target group

Secondary schools

Headline results

Significant numbers of pupils travelling to school by active modes

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Activities/ how it works

The Elgin Academy Travel Group is a small group consisting of about 15 students ranging from 12 years old (S1) to 18 (S6) they are responsible for the overall travel planning and implementation of safe travel within and outwith the school. Each year several S1/S2 pupils go out to primary schools and engage the P7 classes in how to travel safely to the Academy. They plan routes, give presentations and try to encourage the P7s to travel safely and in an environmentally friendly way when they start at the Academy.

The students do this with the minimum supervision of staff which means that they are responsible for almost everything to do with school travel plans and active parking measures.



The benefits/ outcomes

More pupils establish active travel habits when they start school.

The Travel Group at Elgin Academy made a film to highlight the issues with active travel to the wider community.

They were also successful in getting bike sheds and lockers for pupils and staff, the pupils publicised the opening of the bike lockers by engaging a local tv personality and running a How Clean is Your Bike Locker.

Another year the Travel Group produced a radio commercial about travelling actively to school and this was recorded professionally and aired on the local radio station.

The new PPP Elgin Academy has various active travel features as a result of lobbying of Moray Council by the Travel Group.

The Elgin Academy Travel Group have built up momentum and influence gradually over a number of years.



So what happens next?

Current projects include arranging "girl only" cycling days to encourage more girls to cycle. Trial bike days for boys and preparing for the next series of Primary School visits and the Transition Days. Each year they also arrange and run a visit by the Company of Cyclists, a charity that provides safety lectures and fun cycling activities for the S1 classes

Our partners

Moray Council

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