



# School Bicycle Loan Scheme -Glasgow

## Project overview

Secondary schools with low bike ownership were given a fleet of 30 mountain bikes and ran a scheme where pupils could apply to borrow a bike for a period.

## Project aims

Secondary schools in Glasgow where there was low bike ownership were given the opportunity to host a bike loan scheme to give pupils the chance to travel actively to and from school. 30 mountain bikes were purchased and the school runs a scheme where the pupils apply to borrow and look after a bike for a period of time. Lock and helmets were included and both school and pupils have to ensure a safe location for storage. The aim is for the pupils to use the loan bike to get to school actively.

In addition the project aims to provide the young people involved with additional skills such as bike maintenance and route-planning.

The scheme aims to engage secondary school pupils with cycling for both school travel and recreation, providing an opportunity to participate in a healthier, more active lifestyle and develop independent travel habits which are key life skills.

Bikes can be used as part of PE lessons. Cycling has curriculum links to Health and Wellbeing, Technologies, Sciences, Social Studies and Mathematics.

## Project name

School Bicycle Loan Scheme

## Location

Glasgow

## Target group

Secondary schools with low bike ownership

## Headline results

Significant numbers of pupils travelling to school by bike

## Contact

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## Activities/ how it works

Pupils apply in writing for loan of a bike and as part of the agreement the pupils commit to looking after the bike and attending the regular bike club. At bike club basic bicycle maintenance skills are covered for example; mending a puncture.

The bike loan scheme needs significant staff input and commitment. To manage the loan of the bikes and run the regular bike club.

Ideally you will need a fleet of 15 bikes per school to start the loan scheme (cost £4,500). Training for staff on leading rides and bicycle maintenance can be provided (cost £1,200 for training and £2,000 for tools).



## The benefits/ outcomes

The initial pilot showed a good uptake (136 pupils applied to take part) and other pupils started using their own bikes.

- young people who do not have access to a bike can start being active on their journey to school
- encourages other young people with bikes to use them to cycle to school
- young people learn new skills for example bike maintenance
- young people experience a greater sense of freedom being able to travel round their local area



## So what happens next?

Establish whether your school has the capability to run a School Bicycle Loan Scheme. Does it have the necessary enthusiasm from staff? See the infosheet on Setting up and running a School Bicycle Loan Scheme. Does the school have; adequate cycle parking and storage for bikes when they are not on loan.

Funding is required to get a School Bicycle Loan Scheme up and running at your school.

See Sustrans infosheet on finding funding.

## Our partners

Glasgow City Council

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