

# Draft School Travel Strategy






Our vision for school travel in Greater Manchester

Easy Read - November 2024



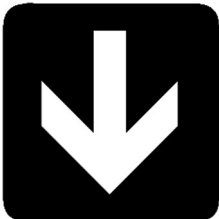










## Introduction

	<p>Transport for Greater Manchester is the organisation which plans and manages transport in Greater Manchester.</p>
	<p>This includes buses and trams as well as active travel options like cycling, scooting and walking and wheeling (wheelchair users, people using a mobility aid, and people pushing a buggy/pram).</p> <p>A mobility aid helps people walk or move around if they have a disability or injury.</p>
	<p>This is our School Travel Strategy. A strategy is something that explains what we want to achieve and how will we do it.</p>
	<p>Around 460,000 pupils travel to and from over 1,200 schools and colleges across Greater Manchester during the busiest hours in the morning and afternoon.</p>
	<p>The Bee Network is our transport system in Greater Manchester. It brings walking, wheeling, cycling and public transport together as part of one system. This will make it easier for children and young people to travel to school and college without using a car.</p>




## What we want to do

	<p>We want to make it easier for children and young people to get to school and college by public transport, walking, cycling and wheeling.</p>
	<p>We know that if more people choose these options, this can help reduce traffic, make the air cleaner, and keep us all healthier.</p>
	<p>Below we have explained some of the things we think can improve in Greater Manchester if more people are able to choose these ways of getting to school and college.</p>



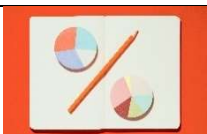
# Why we want to do it

	<b>Improve physical and mental health</b> → help children and young people have healthier lives. Walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling can improve physical and mental health, behaviour and concentration.
	<b>Reduce pollution in the air</b> → fewer car journeys taken to and from schools would help reduce air pollution and improve children's health.
	<b>Help with the cost-of-living crisis</b> → the cost of sending a child to school can be very expensive so we need to make sure there are other ways to travel that are cheaper and allow young people to travel by themselves.
	<b>Reduce traffic</b> → driving to school by car makes traffic much worse and takes up almost a third of the traffic at the busiest times in the morning and afternoon.
	<b>Help the environment</b> → transport is responsible for almost a third of Greater Manchester's air pollution.
	<b>Create safer and nicer streets</b> → fewer young people going to school in cars would help make our streets safer and our communities and neighbourhoods more pleasant and liveable places.












	<p><b>Help to make the school run easier</b> → taking children to school can create more challenges for parents, who may want to get their children to school quickly as part of their journey into work.</p>
	<p><b>Make it easier for young people to travel by themselves</b> → being able to travel by themselves helps young people to get to learning opportunities and high-quality jobs across Greater Manchester.</p>
	<p><b>Because it is what young people want</b> → three quarters of children asked, said they would travel to school by walking, wheeling, cycling or public transport if they had the chance to do so.</p>

## Our Ambitions

	Below we have explained our three ambitions.
	Ambitions are the things we say we want to achieve.
	We will use these ambitions to measure the success of this plan.

1	To help over two thirds of primary school children in Greater Manchester to walk, wheel, scoot or cycle to school by 2030.
2	To help over three quarters of secondary school students in Greater Manchester, walk, wheel, scoot, cycle or use public transport to travel to school by 2030.
3	To help over three quarters of young people in Greater Manchester, walk, wheel, scoot, cycle or use public transport to travel to college by 2030.

## Our Activities

	<p>Below we have explained our eight activities.</p> <p>Activities are all the things we say we will do.</p>
	<p>Create safer streets around schools.</p>
	<p>Continue to build paths and routes to make it easier to walk, wheel, cycle and scoot to school and college.</p>
	<p>Increase access to cycles and secure cycle storage.</p>
	<p>Help young people become travel champions.</p> <p>Travel champions are children and young people who help encourage other children and young people to walk, wheel, cycle, scoot or use public transport themselves</p>
	<p>Improve experiences of public transport.</p>
	<p>Make our transport network safer.</p>
	<p>Join up all the different types of transport.</p>
	<p>Listen to schools, colleges and local communities.</p>

Transport for Greater Manchester provides two kinds of buses.

**General buses** – these are the buses that everyone can use.







**School buses** – these are buses that only students use to take them to school or college at the beginning and end of the day.

In Greater Manchester, we now have control of all of our buses and can make changes to where they go and how often.

Sometimes, it might be better to make changes to general buses or have children and young people use the buses we already have instead of special school buses. This could make bus services better for everyone and help students get to school and college.



## **Measuring our progress**

	We will work with our key partners to help make our eight activities happen.
	Partners are the organisations we work with a lot. They might include schools, charities, the police and others.
	It will take time, but we hope to see more children and young people travelling using public transport or walking, cycling, wheeling or scooting to school and college each year.
	We will show how we are doing by sharing a report every year. The report will show our progress against our activities.