The main elements of the proposed design are:

Traffic Calming

Parts of the existing carriageway on Maplewood Road are as wide as 9.8 m and on Fernwood Way are as wide as 7.5m which allows for on road parking and encourages excessive speeding and congestion in front of the schools. The proposals will narrow the carriageway to 6 m on Maplewood Road and remove the possibility for cars to park on the road. This will prioritise walking, cycling and scooting alongside additional landscaping and trees. The radii at junctions and access roads will be tightened to reduce car turning speeds. Narrower roadways, tightened junction radii, removal of parkin g, distinctive colours/surface textures will increase driver awareness, reduce vehicle speeds and provide a visible, safe 'front of school' environment for everyone.

Active Travel Priority

The design will retain as many existing trees as possible and identify areas for potential tree planting and landscaping between the footpath and the carriageway to segregate the footpath from motorised traffic. The tightening of radii at junction and access roads will shorten crossing widths, providing safer crossing for pedestrians.

More and better pedestrian crossings will be provided Footpaths will be widened and pedestrian crossing widths will be reduced and upgraded to zebra crossings where appropriate. These crossings are to be placed on raised tables which will reduce vehicle speeds, improve driver awareness and reduce pedestrian concerns about crossing the road.

Construction

As much as possible of the disruptive construction work will take place during the summer holidays. The construction methodology will be carefully examined to include appropriate restrictions during school opening hours and will manage the impact of construction work, paying particular attention to protecting the safety of school children.

How to give feedback:

Please visit the St Mark's Active Travel School Zones on the South Dublin County Council consultation portal at https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en to submit any comments or queries on this scheme. The Section 38 consultation will run from Friday 22nd April to Friday 20th May 2022.

If unable to access the consultation portal, please contact following ema address

<u>activetravel@SDUBLINCOCO.ie</u> and request a submission form.

You can send an email to the following email address with your comments/feedback on the measures to: activetravel@SDUBLINCOCO.ie

Active Travel School Zones:

St Mark's Senior National School and Junior National School, Maplewood Road, Tallaght

Improving safety outside the school gate to better support active travel on the journey to, and from, school

South Dublin County Council has funding from the National Transport Authority for measures to create safer, calmer, more attractive routes to school and front of school environments for St Mark's Senior National School and St Mark's Junior National School along Maplewood Road in Springfield, Tallaght. In November 2020 Elected Members of the Council supported the initiation of this project to improve safety measures outside school to better support active travel modes for children and families. The project is supported by the National Transport Authority and seeks to apply traffic calming measures in front of St Mark's Senior National School and St Mark's Junior National School along Maplewood Road and reduction of road width on Fernwood Way and Fernwood Close.

The aim of the project is to create a safer environment in which children can feel encouraged to walk, cycle or scoot to school. The objectives of the project are:

- Increase the number the people arriving at school by **active travel** modes and thereby promote better physical health and wellbeing
- Enhance **safety** for children cycling, walking and scooting to school
- Provide an **accessible** environment in the vicinity of the school
- Create a pleasant, playful and more welcoming **public realm** in the vicinity of the school
- Enhance **biodiversity** in in the vicinity of the school
- Reduce CO2 emissions in the vicinity of the school
- Improve **noise and air quality** in the vicinity of the school
- Be deliverable in a **timely** manner

This scheme will be progressed under **Section 38** of the Road Traffic Act, 1994 This section of the Act contains the legislation under which new traffic calming is developed. Typical works carried out under S 38 powers include road narrowing, road markings, bollards, chicanes, modified road surfaces, speed cushions, footpath build outs, modified junctions, landscaping, planting and other similar works.





The proposed measures are informed by a school survey in 2021 that sought to understand how people are getting to school now, how they'd like to travel to school and to provide feedback on actions that could be taken to improve safety and promote walking / cycling.

- 53% of pupils travel by car
- 36% of pupils walk to school
- 2% of pupils cycle to school
- 57% of pupils live under 1km from the school
- 66% of parents think that traffic is a problem





















