Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has launched the Active School Travel initiative, aimed at encouraging increased walking and cycling in the upcoming back to school period.

All schools across Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown are preparing to return to the classroom. Active travel will reduce the impact of schools reopening on the public transport system, avoid traffic congestion at school gates and encourage a continued shift away from the use of the private car. This initiative is also aligned to the Council’s wider climate action agenda.

We still want to hear from you! In partnership with your School Principal, you are invited to identify local travel and transport issues, where Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council can provide assistance and support in overcoming these issues. Hazards can include, things such as the need for cycle parking, deteriorated footpaths, traffic pinch points, and pedestrian crossing issues. Please use the Council’s ‘Report It’ tool, through which your school can make a submission, quoting #ActiveSchoolTravel.

In launching its Active School Travel initiative, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council recognises that families have been keeping active during the COVID-19 pandemic, and wish to continue walking and cycling. The Council is continuing to develop and implement measures for active mobility. Keep an eye on the #ActiveSchoolTravel page to find out more in the coming weeks!

Some tips and resources to get you and your child feeling safe, comfortable and confident to cycle or walk to school and beyond.

1. Get planning! The Council has launched an interactive web map which shows walking, cycling, and other sustainable transport routes across the county. This tool can be used to inform back to school travel plans and help inform local choices, in walking and cycling to school. Use the councils online map here to help plan your child’s journey.

2. Get ready! Are your child’s tyres pumped? Is your child’s seat adjusted? Do your child’s lights work? Does your child’s helmet fit? Make sure your child’s bike is safe and ready to go. Speak to your local cycle shop for assistance. Find out where they are located here.

3. Stay safe! Help your child get ready and learn the rules of the road. You can both learn more about cycling safety here and learn more about getting to school safely here. The new measures being developed will also help you and your child’s safety in active travel across the county.