

Cycling in Ireland



By Reine Campion

- According to the Central Statistics Office 49.5% of primary school students in 1986 got to school by self propelled methods (walking/cycling) compared to 25% in 2016.
- In 2018 there were 15,254 kilo tonnes of CO_2 released into the atmosphere from transport in Ireland.
- The average distance from residential dwellings to secondary schools in urban areas is 4km

- If everyone who could cycle to school, did, imagine the reduction of emissions Ireland would have.



So why don't people cycle to school?

There are multiple reasons for this of course but here are the main ones

- The weather
- No cycle paths/ dangerous roads
- Don't know how to ride a bike or aren't confident.

Now some solutions

- Cycling in the rain is very possible if you have the right gear but as for strong wind and ice these are mostly unavoidable.
- Most roads in Dublin have cycle paths but many are damaged or are ignored and parked in by cars, this is a problem that severely needs to be dealt with by county councils and is happening around Ireland before our eyes.
- As for not knowing how to ride a bike or not having enough confidence, this needs to be learned by every individual, it is a life skill that everyone should have and a great way to start is to learn on quiet roads or places like UCD.



The Benefits of people cycling



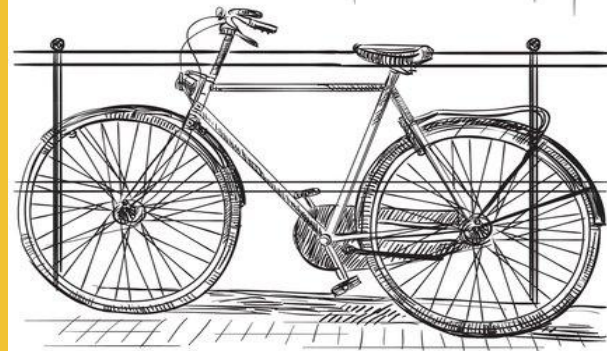
- Reduced carbon emissions and reduced use of fossil fuels.
 - Help tackle Ireland's obesity problems if children were encouraged to cycle to school.
 - People being physically and mentally healthier
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The prompts for people to cycle



- The bike to work scheme, a tax incentive, to encourage employees to cycle to work
 - New cycle paths, expanded cycle paths and barriers beside cycle paths to stop cars driving in them.
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**Cycling, an easy step
towards a greener future.**



Sources

The Irish times

Central Statistics Office

citizensinformation.ie

Pictures

irishcycle.com

newstalk.com

behance.net

colorbox.com

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