



SCHOOL TRAVEL PLANS

ViaStrada is a transport planning and design consultancy based in Ōtautahi Christchurch, New Zealand. We provide professional services for national, regional and local authorities as well as for private clients throughout New Zealand and Australia.

WHY HAVE A TRAVEL PLAN?

Travel plans help students, parents and staff make choices about their journey to school. They're a collaboration between the council, a school (administrators, BoT, parents and students), active travel professionals, and partners in road safety, health and physical activity.

A school travel plan provides an opportunity for everyone to work together to **improve the wellbeing, safety and educational outcomes of students.**

THE PROCESS



Student & parent online surveys



Campus accessibility & road safety audits



Staff & BoT interviews



Web maps, stylised maps & brochures



5 E's Action Plan: engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement & evaluation

HOW WE CAN HELP

We help councils, schools and their communities by:

- *providing school travel planning services*
- *conducting site audits and surveys to establish current activity, identify issues and suggest opportunities for improvement*
- *coordinating school community and stakeholder engagement events*
- *developing resources including plans and brochures for schools, parents, councils and other stakeholders.*

Our expertise includes:

- *travel and behaviour change initiatives and research*
- *strategy and policy development, including bicycle and pedestrian master plans*
- *multi-modal street design*
- *programme effectiveness evaluation*



Project examples



Queenstown area campus and road safety audits

2025 | Partnered with the Lightfoot Initiative ViaStrada carried out accessibility and road safety audits for 13 schools in the Queenstown Lakes District, supporting the development of school travel plans. We created online student travel surveys and a web app to show improvement opportunities. We also conducted safety assessments to guide practical recommendations.



Whangārei travel plan pilots

2023—24 | We worked with the Northland Transportation Alliance to develop School Travel Planning pilot support services for Whangārei including engagement materials, travel mode survey tool, maps, travel plan template and a School Travel Planning toolkit.



Palmerston North STPs and programme guidance

2018—20 | We developed School Travel Plans for five schools by working closely with council staff, school principals, NZ Police, and other stakeholders. The plans were informed by audits, surveys, and community engagement. We also reviewed a Bikes in Schools programme and designed a Junior Road Safety Track to teach young children safe cycling and walking skills.



Dunedin central city schools road safety study

2017—18 | Undertook a study aimed at addressing road safety issues around a cluster of five central-city schools. We made recommendations for infrastructure treatment solutions that provide a better environment for a broader range of travel options, and make active transport more feasible.



Hastings iWay school travel plans

2016—19 | Developed School Travel plans for nine schools within the district, and assisted the Council with their own Workplace Travel Plan. The School Travel Plans formed part of the Hastings iWay 10-year plan—a focused investment in street infrastructure, education and encouragement—which ViaStrada also helped develop.



Christchurch Aranui Connections

2022—24 | Provided technical input from concept to detailed design to make local streets safer and more people-friendly. Using a tactical urbanism approach, the project trialled low-cost street changes informed by strong community engagement, including design jams with students at three local schools. The result: reduced traffic speeds, safer crossings, and more walking and biking to school.



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