

**Promotion & Outreach
Branch**

**Safe & Sustainable Travel
Division**

**Department for
Infrastructure (DfI)**

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**Tel: 030 0200 7838 and ask
for 'road safety'**

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Sample new activity pages and posters in JRSO pack

Spot the difference

Can you spot the 8 differences between picture 1 and 2 below?



- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Junior Road Safety Officer Scheme



Has your school signed up to the Junior Road Safety Officer scheme?

Introduced to Northern Ireland in 2013, its popularity continues to grow amongst primary schools.

The JRSO scheme is an effective and popular way to get serious road safety messages across to children and provides an opportunity to develop their communication skills. Primary six and seven pupils are selected by their primary school to be Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs). JRSOs then help promote road safety issues within the school and local community. There is a range of informative, colourful and engaging resources in support of this scheme.

The scheme involves minimum input from teachers with the main emphasis being placed on the appointed JRSOs. A teacher or teaching assistant should be nominated by the school to act as a school guide and to offer advice and support to the JRSOs. Schools usually appoint two JRSOs from pupils in years six and seven. Once the JRSOs have been appointed, they should work through their activity pack and be provided with help and practical support if required.

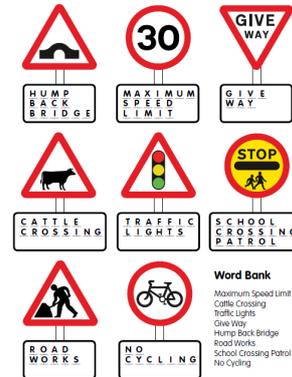
Whilst the ideas and activ-

ities in the pack will give the JRSOs a good starting point, the scheme is flexible and they may come up with their own ideas.

JRSOs should meet with the school guide on a regular basis so that tasks and deadlines can be agreed.

Know your Road Signs

Colour in the road signs the way they should look, then use the Word Bank to name each sign.



- JRSO badge;
- folder to keep their documents in;
- JRSO pen.

Selecting your JRSOs

Methods you may wish to consider when selecting your JRSOs:

- choose one or two (depending on school size) JRSOs from years six or seven;
- ask pupils to complete application forms (see above link) and make your selection based on their answers;
- conduct interviews to discover budding JRSOs;
- ask students to nominate representatives.

Have an informal talk with candidates to check they understand the job, and their commitment.

The JRSO's role

The role of the JRSO is to spread road safety messages to the school community by:

- giving talks;
- running competitions;
- putting up posters;
- using their own ideas to spread the message.

There is an activity pack to help them get started. Sections of this pack can also be downloaded separately.

Each JRSO will receive a:

- high-visibility waistcoat;

If your school would like to take part in this scheme, an application form is available on C2k or NI Direct at:

www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/junior-road-safety-officer-scheme

For those schools already signed up, new activities have been added to the portfolio which can be downloaded from C2K or NI Direct.

If you have any queries about the scheme, please telephone: 030 0200 7838 and ask for 'road safety'.

Active School Travel Programme

The Active School Travel Programme is an exciting initiative for schools who wish to see more of their pupils choosing an active and healthy journey to school.

Sustrans are currently working with over 280 schools across the country. Increasing the number of children who regularly walk, cycle or scoot to school has numerous benefits including:

- increased physical activity levels resulting in improved health and well being;
- reduced congestion and pollution around schools;
- improved academic performance and attendance rates;
- increased road safety awareness;
- increased confidence, self-esteem and independence for young people.

This initiative provides schools with a planned programme of ac-

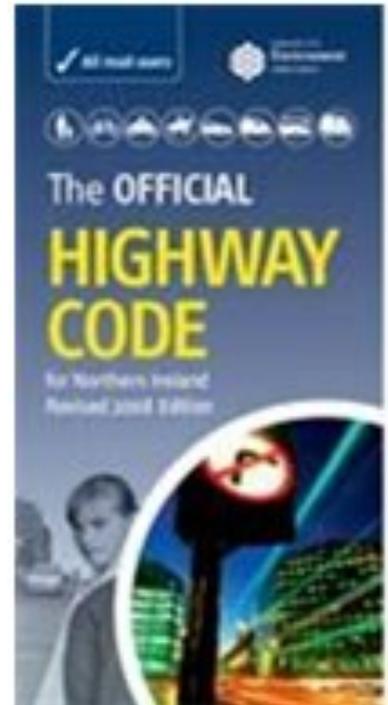
tivities over three years, both in and out of the classroom, as well as direct hands-on support from a dedicated Sustrans Active Travel Officer.

The fundamental aim of this award-winning programme is providing schools with the skills and knowledge to get more children walking, cycling and scooting as their main mode of transport to school.

Sustrans is being funded by the Department for Infrastructure and the Public Health Agency to continue delivering the Active School Travel Programme across Northern Ireland until 2021.

Information is being issued directly to schools in January to apply to join the free programme for the next academic year. The deadline for applications is Friday, 23rd March 2018.

www.sustrans.org.uk/NIschools



The Highway Code

For over 75 years The Highway Code has been the official guide to using the roads safely and legally. It has contributed enormously to road safety and reliable road transport. The Highway Code isn't just a book of rules and road signs. It could help to save you from death, serious injury or from going to prison. What's more, it's not just for drivers. The Highway Code contains life-saving advice for all road users.

It is as important as ever that all road users, including drivers, motorcyclists, cyclists, horse-riders, passengers and pedestrians, update their knowledge of the Highway Code. Knowing and applying the rules contained in The Highway Code NI could significantly reduce road casualties. Cutting the number of deaths and injuries that occur on our roads every day is a responsibility we all share.

Download your free copy at:

www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/highway-code



Feet First Families

Feet First Families is an exciting new initiative from Sustrans aimed at inspiring school communities to transform their travel habits on the school run. On Friday 9th March 2018, schools all across the country will be getting together to make their school a 'car-free zone', and encouraging families to use their *feet first* to walk, scoot or cycle to school. An information leaflet has been prepared and is attached to the email that this newsletter went out with.