

# WAVE Award

## St Joseph's School, Timaru Active Transport 2017

St Joseph's School, Timaru received a WAVE Award for their commitment to Active Transport. They commenced work for a School Travel Plan (STP) in 2012 and still continue to be proactive in promoting active and sustainable transport methods.

With good support from staff, the WAVE student team have run various active transport initiatives and also regularly present at assembly promoting these, along with sharing survey and other related information. STP lead teacher Diana Young has also been proactive in displaying a message board at the front gate with active transport goals and encouraging messages.

The Police School Community Officers have delivered pedestrian, cycle and scooter safety lessons to all students during the last few years which assisted in developing the students' skills and confidence.

Diana Young said "The Walking School Bus at St Joseph's Timaru has been going for ten years and is now stronger than ever - thanks to a couple of enthusiastic parents and teacher support. The bus regularly has 15-25 walkers that join along the way walking and scooting."

Several drop off points instigated in 2014 and the promotion of these to families to 'Drop & Walk' have lessened congestion outside the school gates, and this practice still continues.

Carmel Brosnahan-Pye (Principal) commented that "From my perspective this initiative has had many benefits for our school. It is great to see the students on the walking school bus arrive at the gate in the mornings full of energy after having had a lovely time walking or scooting with their friends to school. Their teachers also notice that those that arrive actively are switched on for learning. Over the last few years our community awareness of the importance of this has increased so that now we have a dedicated group of parents who keep the walking school bus going and many more beginning to drop children a little way away from school. This makes our congested gate much safer in the mornings. Students too are aware that it's good to be active."



*Stacey Day (WAVE School Travel Planner) and Josh South (WAVE Facilitator) with the WAVE Student Team*



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2017

