#### WSB expression of interest form

Please complete and hand in to your school office. Child's name Address School Age Your name Phone Email Which day(s) and time(s) would you like your child to use the WSB? Morning: Mon Thurs Fri Tues Wed Afternoon: Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Helping out. The WSB needs adults like you to volunteer time for different activities occasionally. A WSB Parent Co-ordinator will be in touch with you soon to welcome you aboard. Please indicate what your family may be able to assist us with: Driving a bus one morning/afternoon a week Assisting with WSB events or get-togethers Designing informative flyers for WSB activities Sending out WSB birthday cards or new member packs

#### For more information:

Ph: (09) 355 3553

www.aucklandtransport.govt.nz

Other areas you can help (please specify)

#### **School office:**

Please forward this form to your WSB Parent Coordinator. If you do not have WSBs please forward to the Walking and Cycling Coordinator above.



# The Walking School Bus



General information







# What is a Walking School Bus?

It's an organised group of children who walk to and from school along a designated route, under the supervision of adult volunteers. Children are 'picked up' and 'dropped off' at specific walking school bus 'bus stops'.

Walking School Buses (WSBs) reduce the number of cars on the road, making our environment safer and cleaner, and they provide exercise for kids in a fun and social way.

WSBs are owned and operated by volunteer parents and caregivers, and supported by the school and Auckland Transport.

Funding and support to start up and run a WSB is available.

### It's great for kids

- Children enjoy meeting up and talking to their friends.
- They gain a sense of independence.
- Friendships develop across different age groups.
- They learn about road safety from a pedestrian's perspective.
- They develop a positive attitude towards walking.
- Improve their overall health and decrease obesity levels.
- Daily exercise can aid academic achievements, as it helps improve concentration, memory and learning.
- Kids just love the fun, organised activities and resources.





## So many reasons to be involved

- Enjoy extra free time when you do not have to drop off or pick up your children every day.
- Get to know the families in your neighbourhood.
- Save on fuel costs.
- Learn new skills from the optional workshops provided. All workshops have certificates suitable for a CV.
- Have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping the school, your child and other children.
- Take advantage of the routine exercise walking to school provides.
- When you leave you will get a certificate that acknowledges your contribution to the WSB.

## How do I join a WSB?

Complete the 'Expression of Interest' form overleaf and hand it in to your school office.

# There is lots of support to set up and run a WSB

Your local Walking and Cycling Coordinator will:

- $\bullet\,$  assist and support you to set up a WSB
- undertake a safety audit of the route
- help you apply for the funding
- hold regular network meetings and training workshops for volunteers
- continue to be a support person.

