School Street Trials

Gaelscoil Mhíchíl Cíosóg is a mixed national school with more than 450 students in Ennis, Co. Clare. The school is located on a cul-de-sac which is entered through Glenina estate, just off the R458 Gort Road. The school actively encourages sustainable travel with a walking bus running from Active Ennis (950 m away) every day and No-Car Days every Thursday and Friday (extended from every Friday the year before). The school's location is considered ideal for a school street, in part as there is no through traffic. There are several Park and Stride options in close proximity, and the school has been very strong on promoting their use so as to reduce congestion at the front of school.

In October 2023, Gaelscoil Mhíchíl Cíosóg successfully trialled a school street on the cul-de-sac within Glenina estate over the course of a week. No barriers were used to close off the school street, and while some still chose to drive to the front of the school, there was a significant reduction in vehicle presence. The collection time at 1:30pm for the junior classes had the least adherence to the school street (although still with a reduced number of vehicles). This is likely due to a combination of factors including the younger age of the students. **Both the school and the local authority are enthusiastic about the experience of the trial and plan to run the school street for a week every month for the rest of the school year.**

Figure 58: Signage used at the entrance to the School Street at Scoil Mhícil Cíosóg, Ennis, County Clare.

Figure 59: School Street in use at the school's first trial at Scoil Mhícíl Cíosóg, Ennis, County Clare.