

BIKES IN SCHOOLS EVALUATION

RECOMMENDATIONS

For Stakeholders/Councils/Funders

1. Combine Bikes in Schools with more **user-friendly cycling environments** outside schools, and BikeReady cycle skills training on local streets and pathways.
2. Ensure there is **school ownership** and commitment from the outset, and the school's goals for Bikes in Schools match those of funders.
3. Consider **targeted Bikes in Schools investment** in communities with poor bike access, which are near planned or existing cycling infrastructure.
4. Support schools with Bikes in Schools to overcome **longer-term challenges**, whilst maintaining school autonomy.
5. Examine ways to support schools to facilitate **community use** of the bikes and tracks.
6. Investigate the **feasibility** of national/regional annual support for bike and/or track maintenance.
7. Continue to research the most robust and **user-friendly** bikes, helmets, and storage facilities to provide recommendations to schools.
8. Connect schools with **professional advice** for track design and build.
9. Continue to offer **professional development** for school staff and identify a way for schools with Bikes in Schools to connect and learn from each other.

These recommendations are from:

Hawley G, Mackie H, Thorne R, Scott R, Woodward A. **Fun, Active, Safe, Social – Bikes in Schools Evaluation 2019**. Report prepared for ACC by Mackie Research in partnership with the University of Auckland.

Access a visual summary of the evaluation findings and the full report @ www.accsportsmart.co.nz/cycling

ACC is proud to have supported this Bikes in Schools evaluation, and continues to support Bikes in Schools through BikeReady: www.bikeready.govt.nz



CRITICAL FACTORS FOR SUCCESS & SUSTAINABILITY

PEOPLE

- Principal & BOT support.
- Lead staff member for day-day responsibility that is enthusiastic about BIS.
- Professional development for staff (annual or bi-annual)
- Professional support for bike maintenance 1-2 times a year.
- Connections to other schools with BIS for ideas and collaboration.

THINGS

- One helmet per child.
- Secure and user-friendly bike shed.
- High-quality track(s) from the outset.
- Challenging elements in the track design.
- Annual budget for bike and track maintenance
- Sturdy/robust bikes.
- Wide range of bike sizes.

PROCESSES

- Staff member/students who can get the bikes out each morning/afternoon & do basic maintenance.
- Lesson plans, guidance, and support from specialist teachers.
- Time-tabled sessions for track use.
- Process for identifying and maintaining broken bikes & issues with the track(s).
- Opportunities for 'free play' on the bikes.
- Opportunities for families/wider community to use the tracks.

Success and on-going sustainability of Bikes in Schools