Safe Routes To School – Round 2

Our Lady's Girls and Boys National School, Ballinteer, Co. Dublin

November 2026



Non-Statutory Public Consultation

Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland | Tionscadal Éireann Project Ireland 2040
NTA Údarás Náisiúnta Iompair National Transport Authority
SYSTRA
Green-Schools An Taisce
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SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAMME

- In March 2021 NTA launched their 'Safe Routes to School' (SRTS) Programme which is designed to encourage as many pupils and students as possible in primary and post-primary schools to walk and cycle.
- SRTS Programme aims to create safer walking and cycling routes within communities and alleviate congestion at the school gates by delivering the infrastructure along access routes and at the school gates.
- All Schools in the country were invited to make a submission requesting inclusion in the SRTS Programme.
- 932 schools applied (almost 1 in 4 schools nationwide).

AIMS OF SCHOOL ZONES

- Reduce vehicular traffic and congestion at school gates.
- Keep cars away from footpaths, reduce vehicle drop-off, pick ups and idling.
- Highlight presence of School and its vulnerable road users.
- Encourage drivers to slow down in vicinity of schools.
- Provide high quality place making features which give kids a sense of belonging within their front of school environment.

BENEFITS

- Safety for everyone.
- Children benefit from healthy public spaces to access schools.
- Children can travel to school actively, safely and independently with less exposure to poor air quality.
- Communities can enjoy cleaner air, safer streets and more vibrant and inclusive public spaces.



What is a school zone?

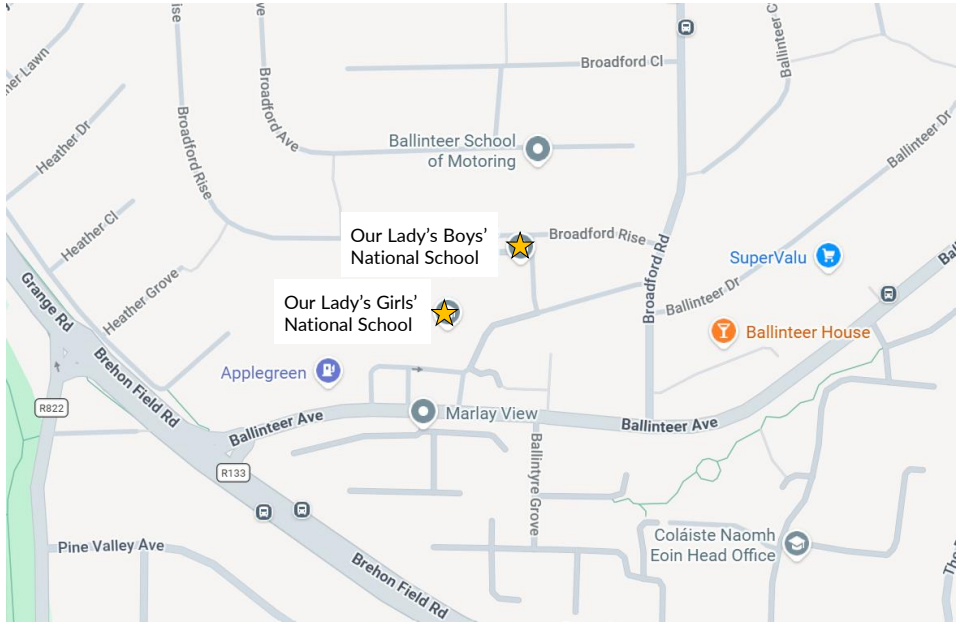
'School Zones' refer to the built infrastructural upgrades which are being developed at the from of schools across Ireland. These new instalments and features are designed to reduce traffic at school gates and to improve safe access for children. This brochure aims to answer questions which parents or guardians may have about School Zones.

- What is the aim of a School Zone?
- Who benefits from a School Zone?
- What are the design considerations for School Zones?

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SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PARENT SURVEY– OUR LADY'S BNS

- The surveys were distributed to all families of Our Lady's BNS in January 2023.
- Parents were asked to reply to a series of questions.
- These included questions such as number, age and gender of represented students; where from and how students travel to school; what parents think about road safety around the school and if parents would support works at the front of school that improve student safety, putting pedestrians and cyclist first.
- Parents were asked to select elements from a list of improvements that would support students to walk, cycle or scoot to school.
- A comments box was available for parents who wished to share their thoughts and ideas.



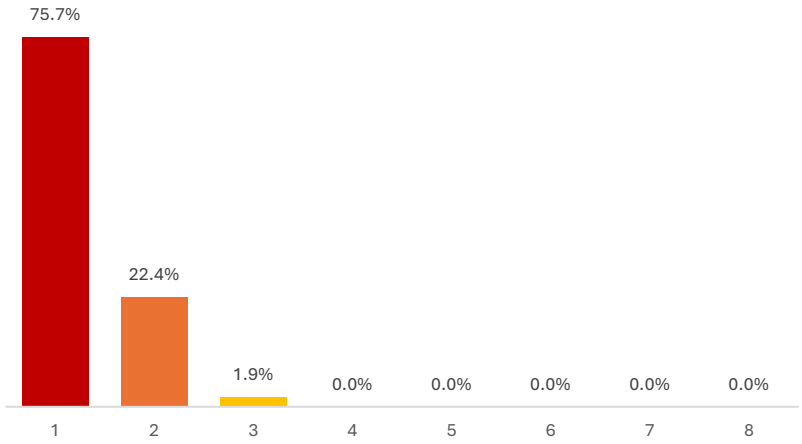


SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PARENT SURVEY ANALYSIS

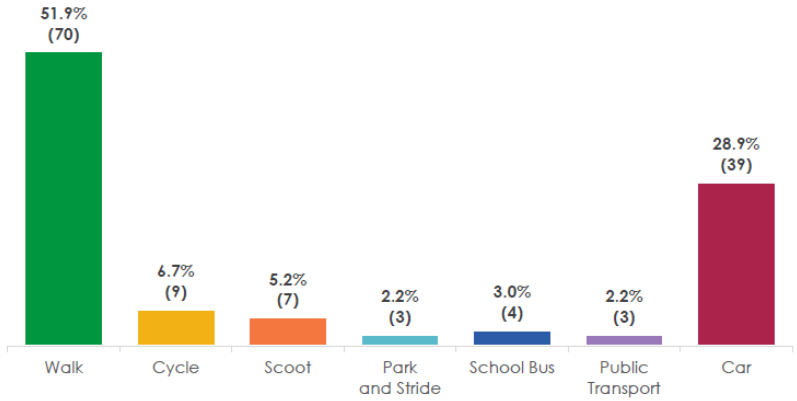
- Responses received: 107
- Student represented: 135 (53.8% of combined school population – based on a total of 251)
- Parents' comments received: 39

Parent Survey Results – Our Lady's BNS

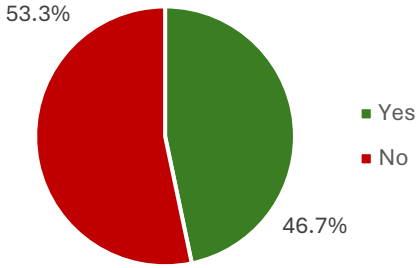
Q1. How many of your children attend this school?



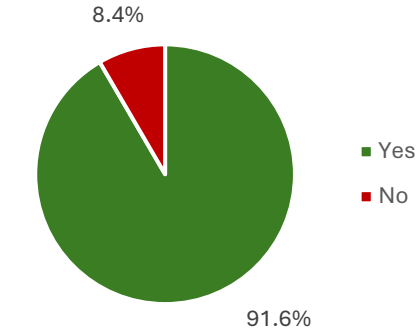
Q5. For each child, choose how they usually travel to school



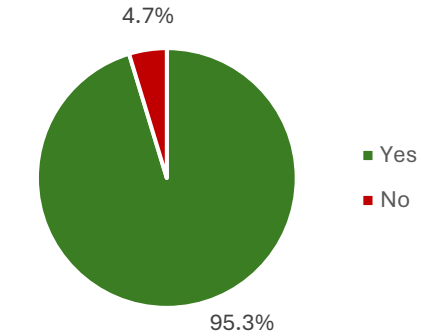
Q6. Do you think road safety is a problem around your school?



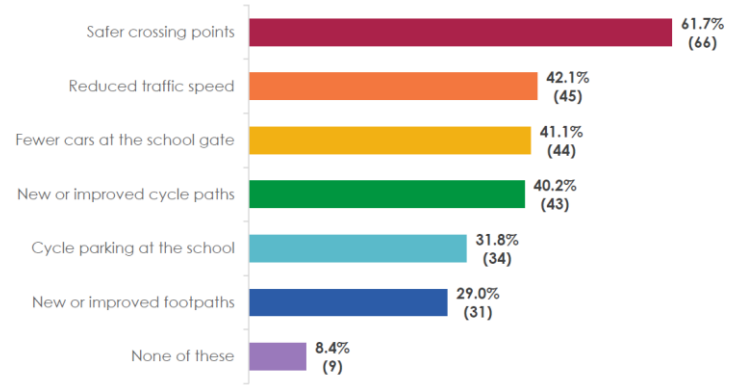
Q7. Would you support works at the front of school that improve student safety, putting pedestrians and cyclists first?



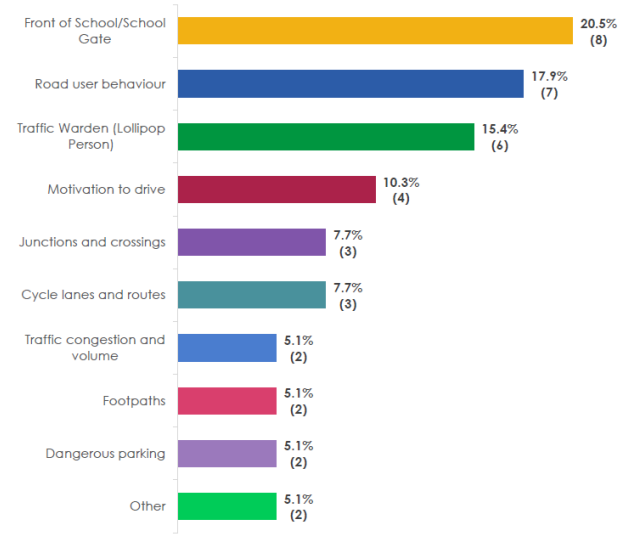
Q8. Would you support works that improve the walking and cycling routes to your school?



Q9. What improvements would support you to walk, cycle or scoot to school?



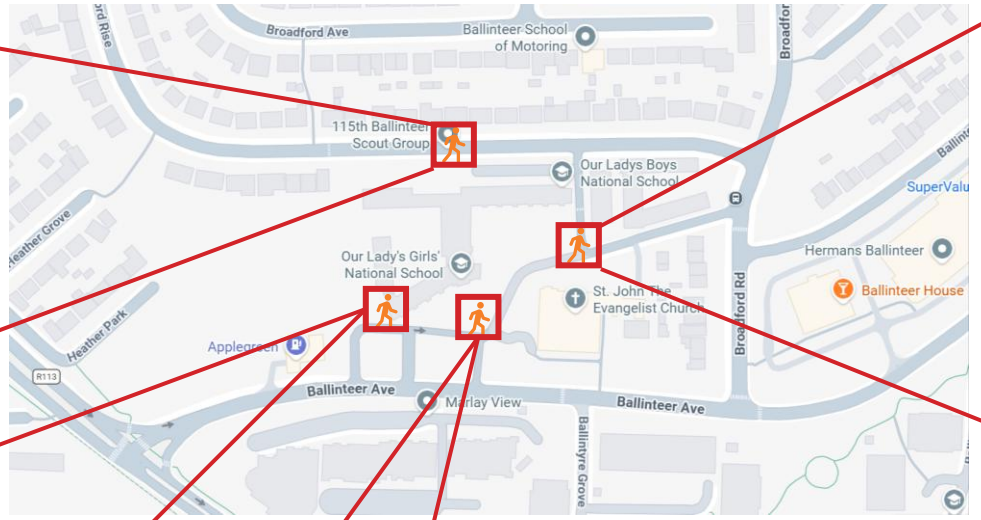
Parent Comments



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Existing secondary entrance to Our Lady's BNS on Bradford Rise





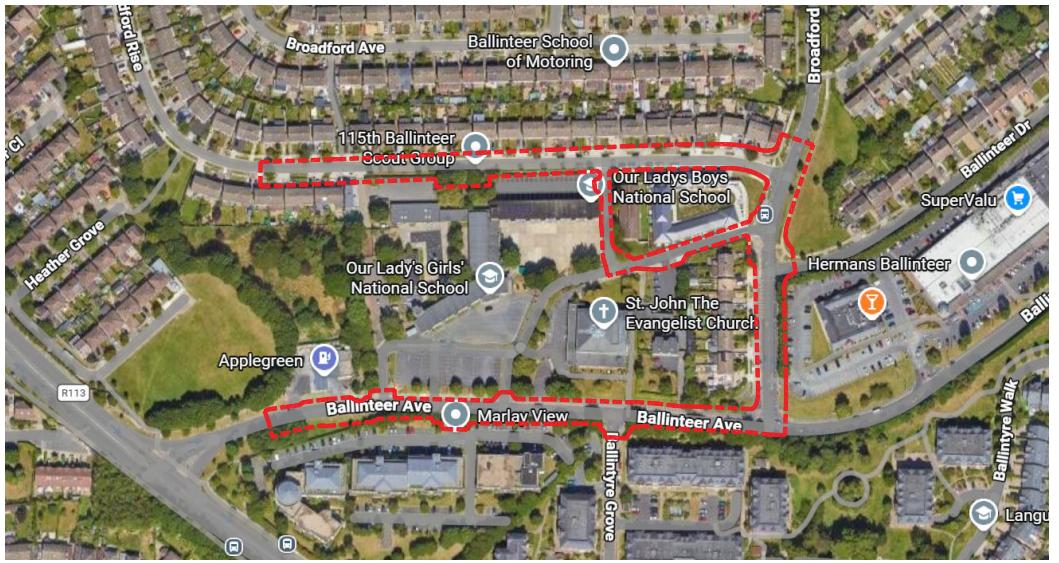
Existing secondary entrance to Our Lady's BNS and Our Lady's GNS



Existing main entrance to Our Lady's GNS beside St. John The Evangelist Church car park



Existing main entrance to Our Lady's GNS beside St. John The Evangelist Church car park



Indicative location of the proposed works

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Challenges at the Existing School Entrance of Our Lady's BNS (Broadford Rise) and Main Entrance to Both Schools (Broadford Road)

- Traffic congestion during school opening and closing hours
- Need to increase awareness of school zone
- Improve safety of children approaching school





Narrow path



Damaged footpath, lack of crossing facilities

Inadequate school warden crossing – narrow, no raised table



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Challenges at the Existing School Entrance of Our Lady's GNS (Ballinteer Avenue)

- Traffic congestion during school opening and closing hours
- Need to increase awareness of school zone
- Improve safety of children approaching school







Congested car park at school drop off/pick up times – vulnerable crossing locations



Wide junction, dangerous crossing point lacking pedestrian safety

Wide junction



Inadequate school warden crossing - unfit for existing demand

School environment poorly defined

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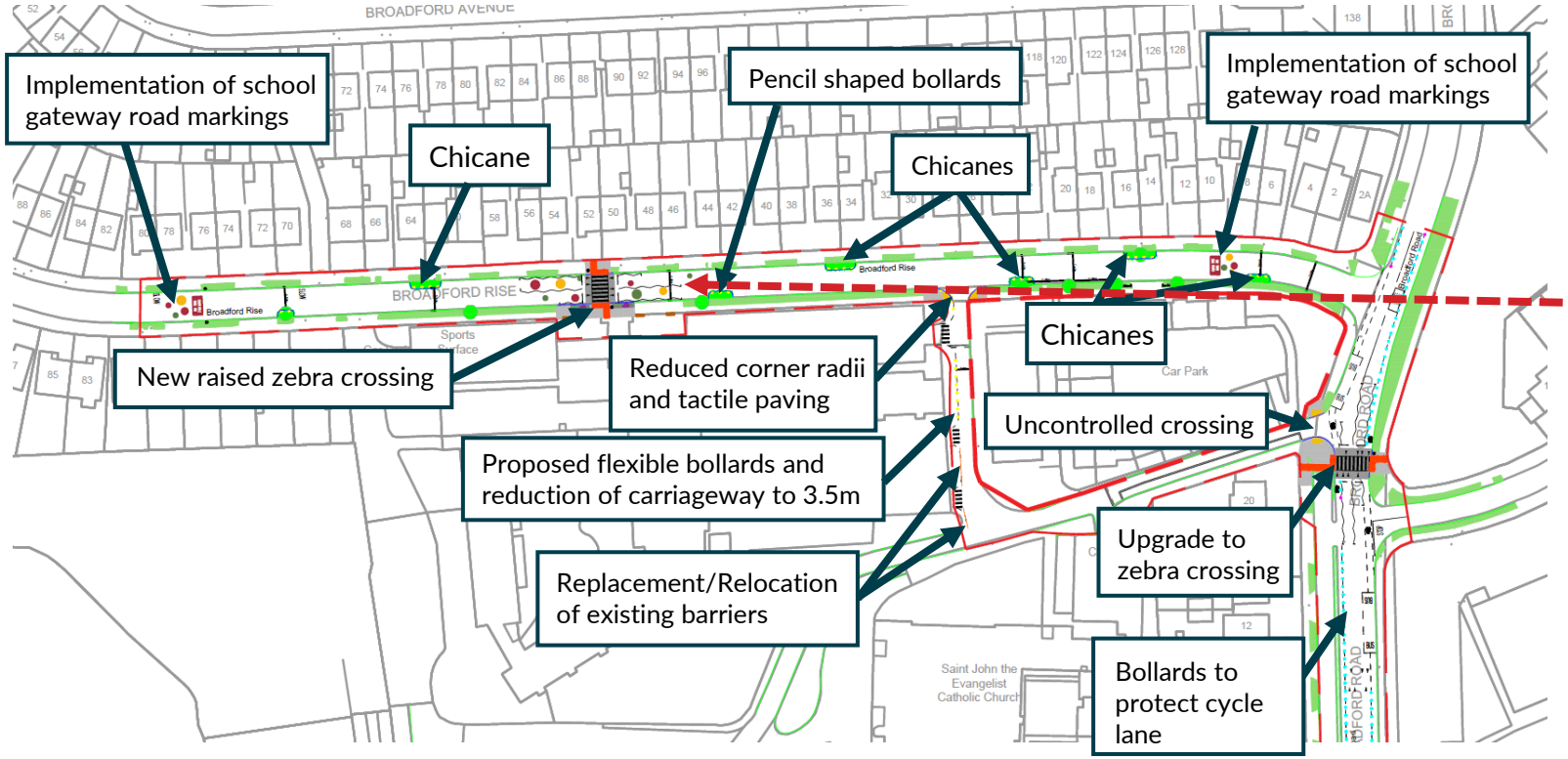
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Design Proposal Main Improvements – Broadford Rise

LEGEND:

- AREA PROVIDED BY THE EMPLOYER
- EXISTING KERB
- PROPOSED KERB
- GUARDRAIL
- PROPOSED FOOTPATH
- EXISTING VERGE
- PROPOSED GREEN BUFFER
- PROPOSED LANDSCAPE RAIN GARDEN
- PROPOSED BUFF TACTILE
- PROPOSED RED TACTILE
- PROPOSED TREE
- PROPOSED BENCH
- PROPOSED FLEXIBLE BOLLARD
- PROPOSED PENCIL BOLLARD
- PROPOSED BOLLARD SOCKET FOR FUTURE USE
- PROPOSED CYCLE LANE DELINEATOR BOLLARD
- PROPOSED BELISHA BEACON
- PROPOSED TRAFFIC SIGN





Visualisation of the proposed design for Our Lady's BNS entrance and surroundings

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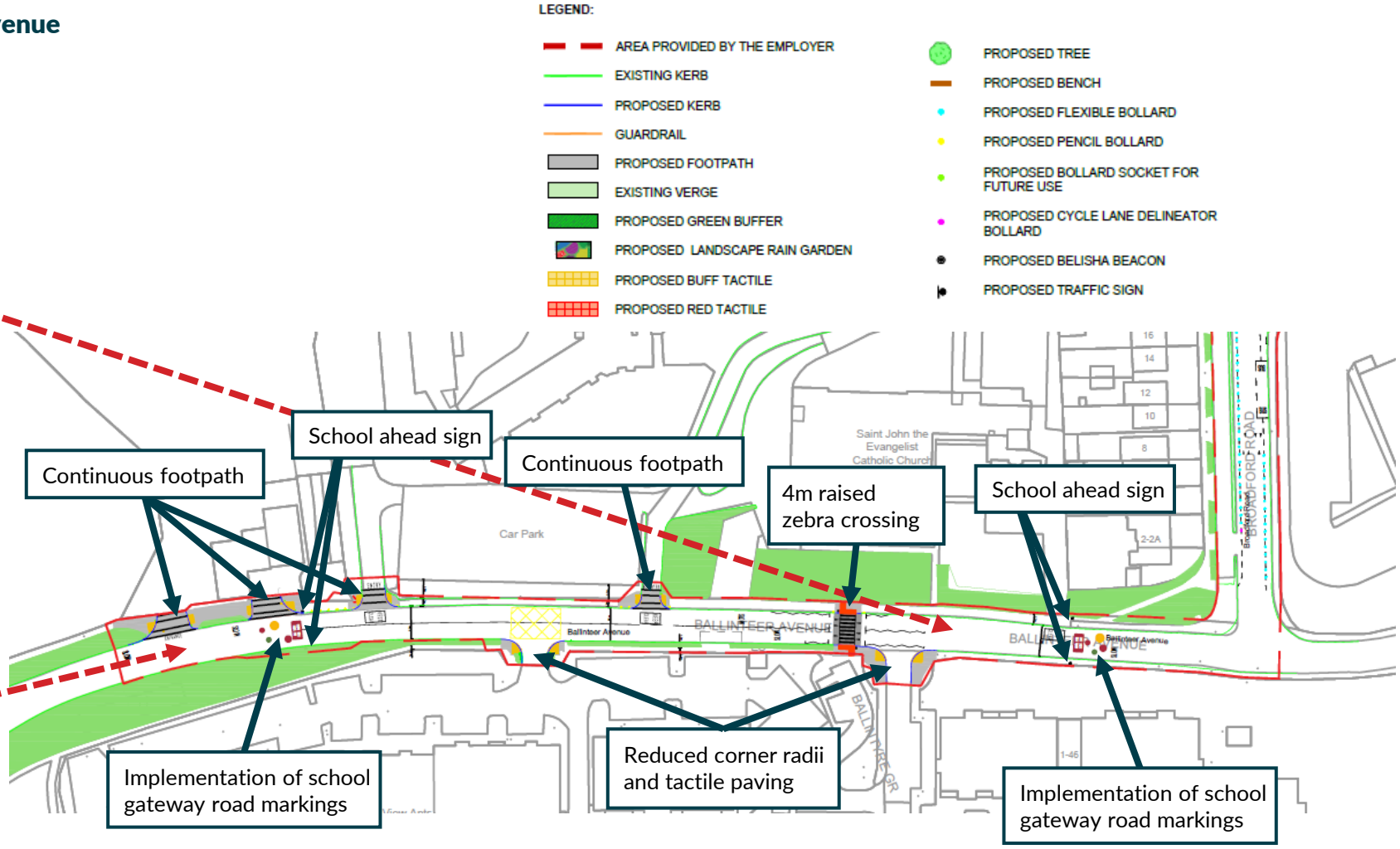
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Design Proposal Main Improvements – Ballinteer Avenue







Visualisations of the proposed design for Our Lady's GNS

Design Elements of Proposed Scheme



Pencil shaped bollards



Speed ramp



Cold applied high friction buff surface



Low level shrub planting in low planters



Micro art



Zebra crossing



Continuous footpaths at junctions



SUDS, low level shrub planting



School branding/ banner totem



Raised pedestrian crossing



School gateway road markings

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