

Scoil-Aer



Short Name

Scoil-Aer

Formal Name

Scoil-Aer: Citizen Science for Clean Air Routes to School

Contact Person

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Institution/Organisation

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Empowering youth to create a cleaner, healthier Waterford through citizen science and active travel



Summary

Scoil-Aer, a citizen science initiative in Waterford, Ireland, directly addresses air quality concerns by empowering transition year students as environmental stewards. This innovative project engages students in co-designing clean air walking, wheeling, and cycling routes around their schools. Working alongside researchers, students actively participate in mapping potential routes and then validate their effectiveness using low-cost PM2.5 monitors. This hands-on approach not only enhances their understanding of air pollution but also equips them with the tools and knowledge to advocate for healthier and more sustainable transportation options in their community. By contributing to improved air quality and promoting active travel, Scoil-Aer fosters a sense of ownership and empowers young people to take action for a cleaner, healthier future. This initiative directly aligns with the IMPETUS challenge for innovative community engagement in environmental monitoring and action, showcasing the potential of citizen science to drive positive change.