TEACHER'S GUIDE

How will you get to school in the future? Design your dream ride!

Cambridge Connections is a project from Waipā District Council that will shape transport over the next 30 years.

Our young people will inherit the transport network that evolves from this plan. For this reason, it's particularly important to engage youth, children and families. Their perspectives will help benefit our children as they grow into adults, and help create a vibrant and liveable place for future generations.

This competition is a creative design challenge. It encourages students to use their imagination and explore innovation, the environment and technology – all in the context of transport.

Class activity

This competition asks students to design a vehicle of the future.

Printable downloads of the activity are available here: waipadc.govt.nz/competition

Discussion prompts

When introducing the activity you may want to lead a class discussion that will spark their imagination and provide context for their learning.

QUESTION:

1. **What different ways could we get to school?**
   Will you fly, hover, whiz, cycle or zoom?

   Context for teacher:
   As Cambridge grows, we will need to ease congestion by getting cars off the road and increasing our transport options. What we currently call our cycleways can be used for different modes – such as mobility scooters and e-scooters, as well as bikes.

2. **How many people will you take?**
   Could your vehicle take your friends, whānau, or your whole class?

   Context for teacher:
   This is an opportunity to talk about the benefits of carrying more people per ride – including options like buses and carpooling. If we can take more people in our future vehicle, we can get more cars off the road. This means less chaos at school drop off!

3. **What will your vehicle run on?**
   Will it run on sunshine, rainbows or compost?

   Context for teacher:
   Another crucial factor in considering the future of transport is environmental resilience. This is woven through the other questions -as transport choices and public transport are both crucial for lowering emissions and supporting the environment. This question is an opportunity to talk about alternative fuels in an imaginative way to get students considering environmentally cleaner transport modes.

4. **What gadgets will your vehicle have?**

   Context for teacher:
   This is a fun way to think about innovation and bring to life the concept of a futuristic vehicle. You could discuss how technology can help make life easier and transport safer.

Competition details:

WHAT IS IT?

Children can draw or design their future vehicle – the more creative the better!

AGES:

A top prize will be awarded for each age group:

- 5-6 years
- 7-8 years
- 9-10 year
- 11-13 years

CLOSING DATE:

Friday, April 1, 2026 (last day of term)
Winners will be announced in term two.

COLLECTING THE ENTRIES

Please collect the competition entries by Friday 1 April. The Council will collect them and judge the winners over the school holidays.

Cambridge connections
Moving forward together