



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council



SAFE ROUTES  
TO SCHOOL

## Scoil na bhForbacha

**NON-Statutory**

# PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Sept 2025

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## Overview

Galway County Council in conjunction with The National Transport Authority and An Taisce Green Schools aims to provide a Safe Routes to School Scheme (SRTS) for Scoil Na bhForbacha, Furbacha. This school was successful with their application in 2021 for inclusion in the SRTS programme. The project aims to provide a range of measures designed at providing safer access to the school by enhancing local infrastructure, providing safer crossing points, and highlighting the school zone.

## Background

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Programme is a programme devised by the National Transport Authority (NTA) in partnership with Green Schools, An Taisce. The programme was developed in 2020 to satisfy demand for support for schools to increase walking and cycling to school. The aims of the programme are to improve safety at the school gate by providing 'front of school' treatments to alleviate congestion and improve access, improve access routes to school by improving walking and cycling infrastructure, and increase the number of students who cycle to school by expanding the amount of cycle parking. The works are categorised into two groups: front of school measures and routes to school measures and can include visibility improvements in the School Zone and Gateway Areas, new/upgraded walking and cycling infrastructure, safer pedestrian crossing points, junction treatments, upgrades to existing school entrances, and improvements to permeability links

## Scheme Location

This scheme is located on R336, Furbo, Co. Galway. Fig 1 below illustrates the School's location in proximity to Galway city.

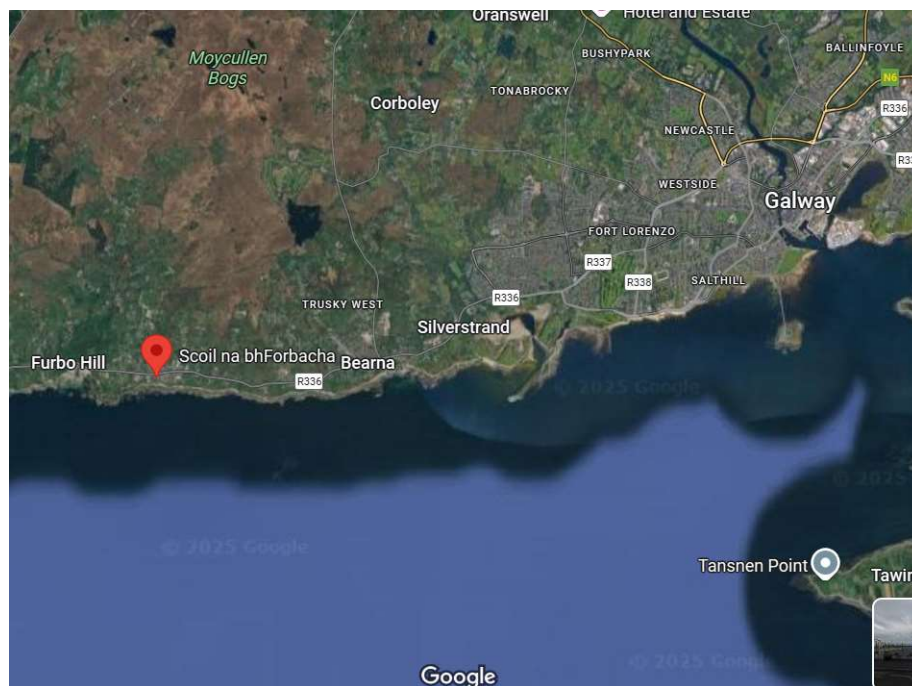


Fig 1- School Location

## Project Objectives

The primary objectives for this Project are as follows:

- To provide safer access at the main entrance to the school
- To increase road safety and driver awareness within the vicinity of the school
- To provide for better connectivity between schools and other trip generators
- To highlight the presence of the school zone
- To reduce vehicular speeds adjacent to the school

## Summary of Proposed Measures

Design proposals for **Scoil Na bhForbacha** can be summarised as follows:

- Introduction of a raised table Zebra pedestrian crossing on R336 directly opposite the school.
- Introduction of a second raised table pedestrian crossing on R336 within the vicinity of the filling station.
- Junction tightening and provision of a raised table uncontrolled crossings at a number of entrances along R336 including the entrance to the school, as highlighted in the drawings.
- Highlighting the school zone by use of Safe Routes to School signage, road markings and pencil bollards.

Design proposals for Scoil Na bhForbacha are illustrated in the drawing attached to this consultation.

## What has been done so far?

We are currently in Phase 2 (Gateway 2/3 approval) of a 7 stage NTA Project Approval Process. Fig 2 below illustrates the 7 stages of this process.



Fig 2- NTA's Project Approval Process

## What happens next?

This is Phase 2/3 combined of the process of the NTA project cycle, Non statutory consultation stage of the project.

The public are invited to view the online material, and representations in relation to the proposed scheme may be made in writing to the Active Travel Section through the following two options only:

- In writing to the Active Travel Team, Galway County Council, Aras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX or,
- Electronically via <https://consult.galway.ie/>.

The deadline for submissions is Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 12:00pm.

The current Preliminary drawings having been derived from some recommendations noted in An Taisce's Outline Delivery Plan for this school and subsequently workshopped with NTA. They will be finalised following this public consultation where they will be then subject to a series of Quality and Safety audits to eventually reach Gateway 3 approval. These drawings, including any revisions will then be publicised again requesting public feedback (over a 2-week period which will be advertised) under Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994.

All measures noted are subject to funding.

### **Please Note:**

Galway County Council will review in detail all the comments and observations received and consider where appropriate, changes to the design.