



Australian Community Frontline Actions

Abstract

Daniel O'Doherty

Winner of the 2008 Action Against Climate Change Eureka Schools Prize

Presentation Title: The Future is in these Hands

What level of carbon emissions is due to school travel? What can be done to reduce these emissions?

Daniel O'Doherty surveyed students at his school about their school travel habits and calculated carbon emissions, comparing results for different age groups and travel methods. A video based on the project, "Eric and Julie Go to School" won Daniel the prestigious Eureka Prize for Action Against Climate Change in 2008.

Daniel found that if all students caught the bus emissions could be reduced by 80%. However there were many reasons for student not catching the bus. Analysis of these reasons led Daniel to propose a number of practical strategies to encourage greater use of public transport, as well as a mitigation plan to offset emissions.

Daniel's presentation will outline the research and the five point plan of reduction and mitigation strategies.

The research and strategies could easily be replicated by schools or local government authorities to raise awareness among students and parents, and to promote behavioural and policy change.