The Šiauliai Technology Training Centre is the largest educational institution in northern Lithuania. The school has several dormitories where most of the students live. They arrive at school on Sunday and leave on Friday.

We conducted a survey on the choice of vehicles among students of the Mechanical section. A total of 136 students participated in the survey. Most of them are 17 years old.

Many respondents answered the question “How do you get to school every day?” by saying they arrive by public transport. 33% of people arrive on foot, while the rest arrive using other motor vehicles.

Most respondents say they use their own cars in their free time.

Unfortunately, most students say they wouldn‘t forgo personal transport, even if public transport was free.

What is most important when choosing a car? The majority of students cited the model, price, appearance and economy as most important. Only 21 students said it was important to them that the car was environmentally friendly.

When asked “If you could choose to get any vehicle, would you care about its environmental impact and eco-friendliness?” the majority of students answered that they don‘t pay much attention to a vehicle‘s environmental impact.

The survey showed that there is still a need for education on ecology and sustainability in our society, so taking part in this project is a great opportunity to learn from the practices of other countries.

What measures is our school taking? Our students are encouraged to take public transport. Travel costs are reimbursed to students who live in dormitories or commute at least 40 km to school every day. Welding students have made bicycle racks, which are installed near the school buildings. This year, students are encouraged to take part in the “Steps Challenge” initiated by the President of the Republic of Lithuania. By swapping cars for steps, we not only take care of our physical and mental health, but also make a significant contribution to cleaner air, greener cities, as well as a better quality of life. It is estimated that a personal vehicle emits an average of 180 grams of CO2 per kilometre. 5 trees are needed to offset these emissions. That‘s why the “Steps Challenge” suggests that a better alternative is to walk that one kilometre, or 1400 steps, and plant 5 virtual trees in doing so. To date, students and teachers at our school have walked a total of 1821507 steps and grown 6598 trees.