

# BIKE, SCOOTER AND SKATEBOARD POLICY



## Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, contact Bellbridge Primary School.

## PURPOSE

This policy clarifies roles and responsibilities of parents and schools in relation to students travelling to and from school, particularly in relation to cycling.

## SCOPE

This policy applies to all students who travel actively to school using a bike, scooter or skateboard.

## POLICY

Parents/carers are responsible for their children travelling to and from school. This includes all forms of travel to get to school.

Principals and teachers in charge of excursions are responsible for student travel between school and other venues (during excursions, including local excursions) during school hours.

If student travel between venues is by bike then the principal should take into account the student's:

- age
- cycling experience
- ability to perceive hazards
- traffic conditions
- distances involved

### Cycling to and from school

Children under the age of 12 may ride on footpaths, as can a supervising adult. They are required to give way to pedestrians and to wheel their bikes over pedestrian and children's crossings.

Children aged 12 years or older are required by law to ride on the road.

Road safety authorities recommend that children under the age of 9 are supervised by an adult when riding on the road. Depending on their cycling skills and experience, some children over this age may still require supervision.

If bike theft is a problem, school councils are encouraged to provide a roofed and locked bike enclosure within the sight of staff. Fixed rails should be installed to enable bikes and helmets to be individually secured.

If the cycling is an organised activity or excursion then schools must follow the guidance on Cycling, in the Guidance tab of the Excursions Policy (refer to the chapter on Adventure Activities).

### Helmets

Parents and students should be reminded that the law requires that all cyclists wear an approved bike helmet. Approved helmets have the Australian Standards Mark TM (AS/NZS 2063) and will be marked as suitable for cycling.

## Storage

Our school will provide safe storage facilities for bikes, scooters and skateboards.

## Agreement

Parents/carers and students are required to sign an agreement that indicates their understanding and support of the following conditions:

- a) Students are expected to wear a helmet when riding to/from school (correctly fitted and clipped up).
- b) Bikes, scooters and skateboards are to be in roadworthy condition.
- c) Students are not to bring electronically powered or motorised vehicles to school.
- d) Bikes, scooters and skateboards are to be parked in the bike shed and locked, where possible.
- e) Parents and students understand that the school is not responsible for the safety of bikes, scooters and skateboards at school and/or students' safety when travelling to and from school.
- f) Children under the age of 12 may ride on footpaths, as can a supervising adult. They are required to give way to pedestrians and to wheel their bikes over pedestrian and children's crossings.
- g) Children aged 12 years or older are required by law to ride on the road.
- h) Road safety authorities recommend that children under the age of 9 are supervised by an adult when riding on the road. Depending on their cycling skills and experience, some children over this age may still require supervision.
- i) Bikes, scooters or skateboards cannot be ridden inside the school grounds at any time.

Students who do not uphold the aforementioned conditions and expectations will be placed on a staged management plan in consultation with their parent/carer (e.g. warning, bike/scooter/skateboard use withheld for a period of time, meeting with parents).

## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Sent home at the beginning of each year (or as required) with students that indicate they ride to/from school
- Uploaded to our school website
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Related policies include:

- [Duty of Care](#)
- [Excursions](#)
- [School Crossings](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	November 2023
Approved by	Acting Principal – Alysha Jarvis
Next scheduled review date	November 2024

# BIKE, SCOOTER AND SKATEBOARD AGREEMENT

The following agreement is to be completed by the student who will be travelling to/from school using a bike, scooter or skateboard.

This agreement is to be co-signed by the parent/carer of the student travelling to/from school using a bike, scooter or skateboard.

I agree to observe the following conditions and expectations related to the safe and responsible use of a bike, scooter or skateboard when travelling to/from school:

- a) Students are expected to wear a helmet when riding to/from school (correctly fitted and clipped up).
- b) Bikes, scooters and skateboards are to be in roadworthy condition.
- c) Students are not to bring electronically powered or motorised vehicles to school.
- d) Bikes, scooters and skateboards are to be parked in the bike shed and locked, where possible.
- e) Parents and students understand that the school is not responsible for the safety of bikes, scooters and skateboards at school and/or students' safety when travelling to and from school.
- f) Children under the age of 12 may ride on footpaths, as can a supervising adult. They are required to give way to pedestrians and to wheel their bikes over pedestrian and children's crossings.
- g) Children aged 12 years or older are required by law to ride on the road.
- h) Road safety authorities recommend that children under the age of 9 are supervised by an adult when riding on the road. Depending on their cycling skills and experience, some children over this age may still require supervision.
- i) Bikes, scooters or skateboards cannot be ridden inside the school grounds at any time.

Consequences for irresponsible and unsafe use of bikes, scooters and/or skateboards will include:

- A warning given to the student to adopt appropriate safety and management strategies, with relevant communication to parents.
- The bicycle, scooter or skateboard may be removed from the student use for an agreed period of time.

We agree to the conditions and expectations stated above:

**Student:** ..... **Grade:** .....

**Signed:** ..... **Date:** .....

**Parent/Guardian:** ..... **Date:** .....

**Signed:** .....