

# **NSW Department of Education Road Safety Education, Driver Education and Training Policy**

This policy is designed to support effective road safety education programs in NSW public schools K-12. It also assists schools to plan effective driver education for students in Years 9 and 10 and Stage 6 Crossroads.

## **1. Objectives - Policy statement**

1.1 Effective road safety education programs will be taught in each stage of learning (K-10) as part of Personal Development, Health & Physical Education (PDHPE) syllabuses and Stage 6 Crossroads.

1.2 Driver education programs are to be taught as part of the PDHPE 7-10 syllabus and Stage 6 Crossroads.

1.3 This policy requires schools, if implementing driver training (behind-the-wheel) programs, to follow the guidelines and principles outlined in the Driver Training Implementation Guidelines

## **2. Audience and applicability**

2.1 Schools including pre-schools attached to schools.

## **3. Context**

3.1 This policy provides a summary and consolidation of policy on road safety education across NSW public schools. It is designed to be read in conjunction with the Department's Road Safety Education website and this policy's implementation documents.

3.2 Road safety education, including driver education is taught in NSW public schools as part of PDHPE.

3.3 On specific issues related to road safety, the Department of Education is guided by advice from Transport for NSW.

## **4. Responsibilities and delegations**

### *4.1 All school staff*

4.1.1 It is the responsibility of school staff to:

- ensure that road safety is taught as part of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education key learning area within each stage of learning and Stage 6 Crossroads
- take reasonable measures to protect students against risk of injury or harm which should have reasonably been foreseen
- take reasonable care for the health and safety of all in the workplace.

### *4.2 Parent/Guardians/Caregivers*

4.2.1 Parent/Guardians/Caregivers are expected to:

- cooperate with the school and other government agencies on issues relating to road safety
- where relevant, collaborate with the school in planning to support the child's safety needs at school including updating information and reviewing plans.

### *4.3 Students*

4.3.1 Students are expected to:

- contribute to the provision of a healthy and safe environment
- co-operate with staff in managing safety
- develop the understandings and skills needed to progressively manage their own safety.

## **5. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting requirements**

5.1 To maintain the currency and validity of this policy it will be reviewed and updated as necessary at least annually. Staff are invited to submit suggestions to the Road Safety Education Coordinator.

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# **Illaroo Road Public School Road Safety Education Procedures**

## **Environmental Statement**

Illaroo Road Public School is a K 6 school. It is located on Illaroo Road in a residential area. Traffic flow is extremely busy as it is the main route for travelling to Nowra.

There are two pedestrian access gates on Illaroo Road. One leads directly to a traffic light crossing, which is supervised by teachers after school. Teachers supervise afternoon bus duty and the exit of students from the school grounds at all access points. School gates are kept closed during school hours.

There are two side entrances to the school, located in Walsh Crescent and Castle Glen. A teacher supervises these exits in the afternoon.

The school car park entrance is used by departmental staff and delivery vehicles. The car park gates are shut during school hours to restrict unauthorised vehicle access. Parents and students are not allowed to use the driveway entrance.

The majority of students travel to school by bus. A number travel by car or by foot, a minority of children ride their bikes to school.

There is limited parking directly outside the school on Illaroo Road and at the side of the school at the Castle Glen exit. There is limited parking and a No Stopping Zone in Walsh Crescent. Parents and carers are asked to park appropriately outside the school grounds in surrounding streets.

## **Key road safety issues are:**

- pedestrian safety
- parent education and parking
- passenger safety
- bike education

## **Parents need to teach their child to:**

- “stop, look, listen, think” before crossing the road
- use available pedestrian crossings to cross the road
- cross in an area away from parked cars
- walk quickly and directly across the road

## **Arrival and departure by car:**

For those parents who need to drive their child to school, there are limited car parking spaces available at the front of the school in Illaroo Road. There are No Stopping signs on the western side of the Bus Zone located on Illaroo Road. Drivers must not stop or park in these areas. Parents and carers are asked to park appropriately outside the school grounds or surrounding streets.

At the side entrance of the school, parking in Walsh Crescent is also limited. There are No Stopping signs on both sides of the street. Times of operation are from 8.30am – 9.30am and 3.00pm – 4.00pm. At the second side entrance of the school, parking in Castle Glen is also limited.

The school is located in a 40km school zone where a 40km speed limit applies from 8.00 – 9.30am and 2.30 – 4.00pm on school days. The speed limit is lowered to 40km/h during these hours to increase the safety of students coming to and from school. Drivers must not exceed 40km/h at these times.

Wet weather days are more dangerous for children as traffic increases. Children are hard to see and slippery roads make driving more dangerous. Lower your speed, park correctly and walk with your child from the school gate to your car.

**Arrival and departure by bus:**

Parents are asked to walk with their child to the bus stop in the morning. In the afternoon, parents should wait at the bus stop, nearest to their home, to collect their child.

Parents can apply for a bus travel pass for their child by getting an application form from the school office. Students must follow the rules of the *Department of Transport Code of Conduct*. These relate to travel on buses. Students must follow the directions of the bus driver when getting on the bus, travelling on the bus and getting off the bus. Students who misbehave when travelling on the bus may have their bus travel pass temporarily or permanently confiscated by the bus company.

**Arrival and departure by bicycle:**

The RMS and the NSW Department of Education and Training recommend that students under the age of ten do not ride bicycles to or from school unless accompanied by an adult.

Only students in Years 3 – 6 are permitted to ride bicycles to school. Students who ride a bicycle to and from school must:

- return a signed permission note to school.
- correctly wear a standards approved Australia helmet. This is a NSW government law enforceable by the NSW Police Service.
- ride in a safe manner and follow the NSW bicycle rules for bicycle riders.
- dismount at the access gate and walk their bicycle through the school and park bicycles on site in a bicycle rack provided.

**If you are late:**

Should you be unavoidably detained in picking your child up after school, please contact the school office so that staff can make supervision arrangements for your child.

**Student Outcomes**

Illaroo Road Public School will provide teaching and learning programs that lead to the achievement of student outcomes as specified in the *NSW Board of Studies Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Syllabus K-6*.

Students will develop:

- knowledge and understandings of road use and road environments
- skills for road use in varying traffic environments
- responsible attitudes, values and road use behaviours

The teaching and learning programs reflect the Department of School Education *Road Safety Education Policy Statement P-12; 1994*.

**Developmental needs of students:**

Teaching and learning programs at Illaroo Road Public School will:

- reflect current road safety information and research
- be implemented from Kindergarten to Year Six
- be appropriate to the level of understanding, needs and cultural differences of particular groups
- provide students with learning experiences in the traffic environment

**Whole School Curriculum-Based Road Safety Education**

Road Safety Education at Illaroo Road Public School is planned and implemented:

- within the school's PDHPE program
- to include passenger, pedestrian and safety on wheels (including bicycle education). Bus safety education is provided in passenger and pedestrian safety.
- to include evaluation and assessment strategies

- to reflect current road safety information and research

**These teaching and learning experiences may be enhanced by:**

- Walk Safely to School Day and Ride to School Day
- Practical Bike Safety activities conducted by Road Safety Officer

**School Management**

The school has management practices that support road safety education programs. These include:

- Teachers on duty supervise the exit of students walking and riding home from the school and students travelling by bus
- Teachers on duty supervise students crossing at the lights at Illaroo Road and Crest Avenue, Castle Glen and Walsh Crescent after school.
- Year 6 students act as bus and walk monitors to support the safe exit of all students
- Separate pedestrian entry and exit points for bicycle riders/walkers and students travelling by bus
- Clear line markings placed at meeting points or assembly areas for the exit of students after school. Lines indicate pathways and boundary limitations
- Participate in 'Walk Safely to School Day' (annual event in April – Pedestrian Council of Australia)
- Signposting the staff car park and closing the gates to restrict unauthorised vehicle access
- Permission notes for student cyclists to use their bikes to ride to and from school
- Cyclists are required to wear a helmet and it is recommended that students have a bike chain lock to secure their bike in the bike racks provided

The school informs parents of key road safety issues through parent meetings, newsletters, assemblies and the distribution of safe travel brochures on kindergarten orientation days.

At Illaroo Road Public School students should demonstrate safe road use by:

- Modelling safe road use on excursions, during school activities and around the school
- Setting a good example for the younger students
- Using identified pedestrian entry/exit paths and using the pedestrian crossing
- Wearing seatbelts when travelling as car passengers
- Getting out of the car on the footpath side when exiting vehicles
- Boarding, travelling and alighting from buses safely
- Wearing seatbelts when travelling on buses (if available)
- Wearing helmets and protective clothing when riding bikes

**School Community**

At Illaroo Road Public School the school community can help support student road safety behaviour by:

- Modelling safe road user behaviour
- Parking vehicles safely outside the school and observing all parking signs
- Reinforcing the safety messages delivered at school
- Actively supervising the travel of younger students
- Encouraging younger students to hold an adult's hand in the traffic environment
- Identifying safety issues in and around the school and addressing these issues as they arise
- Ensuring that children are adequately protected when travelling in cars through the use of seatbelts and suitable seating (child seats, booster seats)
- Ensuring that children play safely on wheels (bikes, scooters, rollerblades, skateboards) by providing protective clothing, helmets and well maintained equipment

**Current Strategies to Encourage Parent Involvement:**

- Road safety information and reminders are provided in school newsletters and assemblies
- Parental permission notes are required prior to students travelling on excursions
- Parent assistance is requested and used during excursions

- P & C discusses road safety issues as they arise
- Participate in 'Walk Safely to School Day' and 'Ride to School Day' annual events
- Update road safety information provided in school information booklet
- Make our Road Safety Education Policy available to all interested parents
- Provision of RMS brochures and pamphlets at the school office
- Parent involvement in road safety education through take home activities
- Road safety information session is provided at Kindergarten Orientation Day

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## Copy of Bicycle Permission Note:



## Illaroo Road Public School

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103 Illaroo Road  
 PO Box 3346  
 North Nowra 2541  
**Ph:** (02) 4421 0422

**Fax:** (02) 4423 2728

### Policy: Children Riding Bicycles to School

*Children may ride bicycles to school, but we need parents and children to agree to the following conditions:*

#### 1. Road Rules

Children riding bicycles will obey the rules of the road relating to cyclists, including the wearing of helmets. Bicycles which do not meet the safety requirements are not to be ridden to school. It is the parent's responsibility to check the conditions of each child's bicycle. Please note that all bicycles **must** be equipped with a bell.

Scooters and skateboards are not allowed to be ridden to school because they are considered to be too dangerous for student health and safety.

#### 2. School Rules

- Only students in Years 3-6 are permitted to ride bicycles to school unaccompanied.
- According to the RMS research, children under 10 years of age do not have sufficient skills to ride bikes on the road. Please be aware of this when signing the note below.
- Students must wear crash helmets that fit properly.
- Crash helmet straps should be adjusted weekly to ensure they are the correct length.
- The chin strap must be done up when riding.
- Bicycles must have a working bell on the handlebar near the hand grip.
- Bicycles must be walked in and out of the school grounds for safety reasons.
- Bicycles must be placed in the bicycle rack.
- The school cannot accept any responsibility for the security of bicycles.
- Students on bicycles must give way to pedestrians on footpaths.
- Permission to ride bicycles will be withdrawn for a period of time if the school rules are disobeyed. Parents will be notified in writing.

Please discuss this policy with your child, sign the note below and return it to the school.

Bob Lowe, Deputy Principal

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**ILLAROO ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
**POLICY: Children riding Bicycles to School**

I have read and discussed this bike policy with my child. The bike has been checked to make sure that it is safe to ride. I agree with the withdrawal of riding privileges if school rules are broken. If notified that road rules are broken, I will deal with this at home with my child.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Signed (Parent / Guardian) \_\_\_\_\_