



Glenferrie Primary School Bike/Scooter Policy

Rationale

Students travelling to and from school, as well as those at school need to feel and be safe. Bicycles and scooters are a popular means of transport for students, but their safe use requires regulation and management.

Objectives

- To encourage Glenferrie students and families to adopt safe practices for cycling and scooting when riding to and from school.
- To promote an awareness among the school community of cycling and scooting as healthy activities for students and as an alternative mode of travel to and from school.

Implementation:

- Parents/carers are responsible for their children's safety when riding bicycles and scooters.
- Bicycles remain the responsibility of parents/carers and must be roadworthy.
- Our school will provide appropriate storage for bicycles and scooters ridden to school by students.
- Students must provide their own lock for securing their bicycle or scooter in the storage area.
- Students must wear a properly fitted helmet and encouraged to wear a safety vest when riding a bicycle or scooter
- In line with Department of Education guidelines and Vic Roads' advice, it is a school policy that: students in Prep to Year 4 ride to school in the company of an adult. Bicycles and scooters are very popular methods of transport for students however it is well recognised that young children have underdeveloped motor skills, peripheral vision and judgement; Students in Year 5 and 6 can ride to school without an adult.
- Students must dismount from their bicycles and scooters at the school entrance. Riding is not permitted inside the school grounds at any time, unless under direct supervision of an appropriately trained teacher.
- Students who break school rules will be managed in accordance with the school's Student Code of Conduct. Consequences of breaking these rules may include students not being allowed to bring their bike/scooter onto the school grounds for a period of time determined by the Principal or their delegate.
- Skateboards are NOT allowed in the school grounds.
- Year 6 students will be offered a Bike Education program in Term 4 of each year to support the principles of safe riding in this policy.
- Within the above context, cycling and scooting will be promoted as healthy activities for students and as an alternative mode of travel to and from school.

Management:

The School Principal, with support from the Education and Policy Sub Committee, will manage the implementation of this policy and associated education programs.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

Glenferrie Primary School Bike/Scooter Policy



Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Guidelines

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

Travel to and from school

The responsibility for children riding bicycles to and from school lies with the parents/carers. Road safety authorities recommend that before the age of nine or ten years children should not ride a bicycle in traffic without adult supervision. Depending on their cycling skills and experience, some children over this age may still require supervision.

Children under the age of twelve may ride on footpaths as may a supervising adult. They are required to give way to pedestrians and to wheel their bicycles over pedestrian and children's crossings. Children aged twelve years or older are required by law to ride on the road.

Additional Rules and Hints from Transport Accident Commission

Rules that apply to all vehicles must be obeyed when riding on the road. There are also some additional rules for bicycle riders. Talk to your child about these rules in simple terms that help them to understand why they are needed. In the early stages, supervise a child closely when near parked or moving vehicles. This means being near your child, not at a distance. Set a good example and show your child safe ways to cross streets.

- Encourage a child to start wearing a helmet at an early stage - with their first tricycles.
- Until a child has enough experience, limit riding to places such as parks, playgrounds or schoolyards; children under nine years of age should not ride on the road without adult supervision.
- Ensure that a helmet is always worn properly when riding a bicycle; it can greatly reduce the risk of head injury.
- The helmet should cover the upper part of the forehead and sit level on the head. A helmet worn too far back or not fitted snugly will not provide good protection.

Together find the preferred routes to various destinations that provide safe crossing places, for example, intersections controlled by traffic lights; avoid places that can hide a child from a driver's view (such as curves or bushes).