

# BIKE SAFETY POLICY

## OUR PURPOSE

The school holds serious concerns about the safety of students riding to and from school because of the general limitations of children in traffic and does not encourage this practice. The safety of students who do ride bicycles to and from school is ultimately the responsibility of parents although the school will play a role in promoting and supporting safe riding practices. The school seeks to guide safe bike riding practices when this does occur through the provision of a "Bike Safety" framework, including rules, guidelines and advice.

## OUR POLICY

The school provides safety on wheels education to students and advice to parents and students about the risks involved in cycling on local streets.

The school does not encourage students to cycle in or near busy traffic.

The school has a set of rules to facilitate safety for students riding to and from school.

The school issues a "Bike Permit" on the condition that they meet the certain guidelines. The permit can and will be cancelled by the school if the rules and guidelines are not followed.

## OUR PRACTICE

- The school takes Stage 3 students to the "safety on Wheels" Education Program at Sydney Park each year.
- At least once per year, SNIP reminds all parents of the risks of cycling on roads in the vicinity of the school and the requirements if their children are intending to ride to and from school.

### Bike Safety Rules

- Parents must give written consent on the "Bike Permit" for their children to ride to and from school and they must accept full responsibility.
- Only students in Year 5 - 6 can ride unaccompanied.
- Students in Years K-4 must be accompanied by parents at all times when riding to and from school. Older siblings or friends are not reliable escorts.
- Approved safety helmets must be worn.
- The use of footpaths is strongly encouraged.
- Students must walk their bikes into and out of the school grounds.
- Bikes are to enter and leave the school grounds using ONLY the Cambridge St gate.
- Owners must accept full responsibility for their bikes when on school property as the school does not provide insurance against theft or vandalism.
- Bikes must be chained securely to the bike rack and helmets must be attached securely to the bike.
- Scooters and skateboards are not allowed.

### Guidelines for a "Bike Permit"

- The bike must be roadworthy.
- Only the owner rides or handles the bike.
- The rider must have demonstrated the ability to ride in a safe and responsible manner.
- The rider must follow road rules and comply with the school's bike safety rules.