



# PATTERSON LAKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

No. 5190

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## BIKE RIDING POLICY

### RATIONALE

Bicycles are not toys, they are vehicles and, under the law, cyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as car drivers. Cyclists need to increase their safety, obey the road rules and maintain their bicycles properly. With this safety concern in mind, the Patterson Lakes Primary School Council recommends that parents do not allow their children to ride their bikes to school before Year 3 without supervision.

### AIM

To provide a school environment, which is safe for students, which is practical, and balances the rights of individuals with the schools duty of care toward all staff and students.

### IMPLEMENTATION

- Bicycles are a very popular means of transport for students, but are also often involved in serious accidents.
- It is well recognised that young children have underdeveloped motor skills, peripheral vision and judgement.
- All parents will be made aware of these school rules and the safety reasons supporting them.
- Bicycles cannot be ridden inside the school grounds between 8:30 am and 4 pm.
- Students who contravene these requirements cannot bring their bicycles onto school property or store their bicycles at school for up to a 10 week period or as determined by the Principal.
- Our school will provide safe and secure storage for bicycles ridden to school by students with the Bike Shed being locked between the hours of 9am and 3:30pm. Bikes may continue to be stored outside these times but the bike shed will not be locked.
- Scooters, rollerblades and skateboards are banned as there are no regulations that can be enforced to ensure the safety of students.

### VIC ROAD CYCLING GUIDELINES

1. Traffic control signals and traffic signs must be obeyed. Cyclists must stop at all red traffic lights and stop signs.
2. An approved bicycle helmet must be worn at all times when cycling. There is a fine of **\$207** for not wearing an approved bike helmet. Approved helmets have the Australian Standards Mark™.
3. Lights and reflectors must be fitted to bicycles for night riding. Rear lights must be red and front lights must be white. Both lights must be visible at up to 200 metres and both can be flashing.
4. When riding on shared footways cyclists must keep to the left and give way to pedestrians.
5. Hook turns may be undertaken at any intersection, unless a sign has been erected to prohibit a hook turn.
6. Cyclists must ride in bicycle lanes when they are marked on the roads.
7. Riding two abreast is permitted, however cyclists must ride no more than 1.5 metres apart.
8. Hand signals must be used when turning right, but are not required when turning left, or stopping.
9. An efficient brake and a warning device, such as a bell, must be fitted to a bicycle before it may be ridden.
10. Overtaking on the left of a vehicle is permitted unless the vehicle being overtaken is turning left, or indicating to turn left.
11. Riding to the left of a white edge line is permitted by cyclists.
12. Riding closer than two metres behind another vehicle is not permitted.
13. Holding onto a moving vehicle while riding a bicycle is not permitted.
14. Leading an animal while riding a bicycle is not permitted.
15. Bicycles may be parked on footpaths and nature strips.

### EVALUATION

Guidelines are updated annually and/or as per DET recommendations.

### CERTIFICATION

This policy was ratified at the School Council meeting held at Patterson Lakes Primary School on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021.