

Sample guidelines for effective implementation of Road Safety Education Policy

All staff, students, parents and carers model safe road user behaviours in schools, in the vicinity of schools, and excursions.

Road safety is taught in each stage of learning in the Personal Development, Health & Physical Education (PDHPE) syllabus K-10 and the 25 hour mandatory course for senior students [Life Ready](#). It includes safety as a pedestrian, passenger, cyclist, and future driver education.

Fear and shock tactics are not endorsed to change the behaviour of students. Road safety programs should focus on the positive safe behaviours of children and young people.

Parents and carers are responsible for their child's travel to and from school. Schools have a duty to provide reasonable care for students once they come under supervision of a school staff member, who will take a range of factors into account including:

- the age of the student;
- the existence of any physical or psychological disability of the student;
- the hazards or dangers in the school's vicinity.

The department encourages students to walk or ride to school when the school and the parent and/or carer believe it is safe to do so. Students cycling to and from school are required by law to wear a correctly fitted and fastened helmet that meets Australian standards ([AS/NZS 2063:2008](#)).

Schools should liaise with the police and local councils to inform the school community about local road safety issues (including unsafe parking and safe road crossings) and to implement solutions.

Managing road safety in the school grounds is guided by the department's [Health and Safety](#) policies and guidelines. Staff, students, parents and carers, contractors and visitors should only park a vehicle on school grounds with the permission of the principal and in line with risk the management resources [Vehicles on school grounds](#).

Transporting students on school endorsed activities in staff, parent or carers', or other students' vehicles should only occur when there is an emergency or no other feasible option. However, some students may be able to transport themselves and/or other students to and from school activities as a privilege granted by the principal, if the driver is appropriately licensed ([P1/P2 or full](#)) - also refer to the [Excursion Policy](#).

If transporting students by bus, schools should hire buses or coaches with seatbelts wherever practicable, particularly for long distance travel outside urban areas. Seatbelts must be worn on buses and coaches when they are available.

Learning to drive is a key responsibility of parents and carers, although some schools may choose to offer Learner driver training out of school hours. Further details are provided for schools in the [Driver training implementation guidelines](#).

However, advance driver training must not be taught as part of road safety or driver education.

On specific issues related to road safety, the Department of Education is guided by advice from [Transport for NSW](#), Roads and Maritime and/or local council.

Learner driver training, if offered by NSW public high schools, is within the context of this policy and supports the [Transport for NSW Graduated Licensing Scheme](#).

Road safety is everyone's responsibility

Principals:

- monitor that road safety is taught at each stage of learning as part of the PDHPE K-10 syllabus and Stage 6 Life Ready course.
- regularly communicate and consult with parents and carers, and students about road and traffic conditions near the school, informing them of any changes or hazards.
- take reasonable measures to protect students against risk of injury or harm which should have reasonably been foreseen as outlined in the [Care and supervision of students](#)
- inform and notify relevant government agencies or police of road safety issues in the school zone
- ensure that, where schools offer Learner driver training abide by the [Driver Training Implementation guidelines](#).
- apply the [Vehicle safety on school grounds](#) risk management resource.

Teachers:

- deliver road safety education through the curriculum to meet students' needs
- supervise students safe entry and exit of school grounds as required by the school principal.

Parents and carers:

- reinforce safe road user behaviours in and around schools
- cooperate with the school and other government agencies on issues relating to road safety.
- collaborate with the school in planning their child's road user needs.
- Comply with vehicle on school grounds risk management plan.

Students

- develop the knowledge and skills needed to progressively manage their own safety.
- contribute to a healthy and safe environment by co-operating with staff and other government agencies in being a safe road user.

More information can be found on the Road Safety Education website:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-across-the-curriculum/road-safety-education>