

Coogee Public School

BICYCLE AND FOOT SCOOTER SAFETY GUIDELINES

What does the Department of Education and Training and the RTA say?

FOR BICYCLES: The Department of Education and Training and NSW Centre for Road Safety (RTA) recommend that children under 10 years of age should cycle in a **safe place off the road** and **away from vehicles and driveways**. Children aged between 10 and 12 years of age should avoid cycling on or near busy roads.

FOR SCOOTERS: The Department of Education and Training supports the NSW Centre for Road Safety (RTA) recommendations that school-aged children and younger should **NOT** use foot scooters on the road. Users of these devices should wear a helmet and protective gear such as knee pads, wrist guards and elbow pads. School-aged children and younger should be supervised by an adult while riding their foot scooter

Parents and carers are responsible for:

- The maintenance of their child's bicycle and scooter and are to ensure their child always correctly wears an Australian Standards approved helmet when riding. Bicycles/Scooters must be in a good, safe working order.
- Bicycles must be fitted with a working brake and a bell
- Ensuring their child is aware of and follows the road rules relating to bicycles & scooters. This includes the pedestrian's right of way on footpaths and using a bell as a warning when approaching pedestrians.
- Reinforcing rules and safety advice for riding bicycles/scooters to and from school, as outlined in these guidelines and RTA advice brochures.

Bicycle riders, who bring their bicycle onto school grounds, are responsible for:

- Completing a *Bicycle/Scooter rider's agreement* and the *Bicycle/Scooter rider's permission note*, issued by the school. This is to be completed and returned to Mr Wood, Principal.
- Using the bicycle entry and exit points to via the lower gate on Byron Street.
- Dismounting before entering the school grounds and walking their bicycles/scooters whilst on the school grounds.
- Storing their bicycle in the bicycle rack in the storage area in Block A. Bicycles/Scooters must be locked with a chain and padlock supplied by the bicycle owner. Bicycles and helmets are brought and stored at school at the owner's risk.

Safe riding behaviours

- Foot scooters are best ridden in recreational areas designated for their use. Driveways, uneven ground and the traffic environment are potential hazards for riders.
- Students are to always correctly wear an Australian Standards approved helmet when riding.
- Students must always ride in a safe manner following these guidelines and the NSW road rules relating to bicycles/scooters.
- Bicycles/scooters are not permitted to be ridden on school grounds during or after school hours.
- Parents and carers will be notified if their child does not adhere to the school's bicycle/scooter safety guidelines. Students may not be allowed to bring their bicycles/scooters onto the school grounds if they do not follow the rules.

Endorsed by:

Paul Wood, Principal
on XXXXX

Aliza Plunkett, P & C president

More information is available from:

1. NSW Centre for Road Safety, RTA: *Information for parents and carers about safety on wheels – The law and safety advice for bicycles, foot scooters, skateboards and rollerblades* at <http://ols2.rta.nsw.gov.au/ebus/docs/rescat/pdf/8/1180/45092307safetyonwheels0409.pdf>
2. Department of Education and Training: *Riding a foot scooter, skateboard or rollerblades to and from school* at http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/policies/road/travel/active/foot_scooters.htm

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COOGEE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Bike & Scooter agreement

I have read the school's foot scooter, skateboard and rollerblades safety guidelines and understand the information provided.

- I have discussed this with my parents or carers
- When using the footpath, I will respect all pedestrians and give way to them.
- I understand that it is a joint responsibility between my parents/carers and myself to keep the foot scooter or bicycle well maintained.
- I will wear my helmet and protective gear correctly when riding my foot scooter or bicycle.
- I understand that I bring my foot scooter or bicycle to school at my own risk and will secure it the area beside the main admin building
- I understand that Mr Wood may stop me from bringing my foot scooter or bicycle onto school grounds if I do not follow the rules.

My name is: _____

Signed (student rider): _____

Signed (parent/carer): _____

Date: _____

Please keep the bicycle rider's agreement at home for ready reference.

Bicycle/Scooter rider permission note

I give permission for _____ (child's name) to ride his/her bicycle/scooter to and from school.

- I have read and understand the bicycle information provided by the school.
- My child will correctly wear an Australian Standards approved helmet when riding a bicycle to and from school.
- I have read and explained the bicycle information provided to my child.
- I have reviewed the *Guide to bicycle maintenance* to check my child's bicycle for roadworthiness and understand that it is my responsibility to keep the bicycle well maintained.
- I have reviewed the *Guide to correctly fitting a helmet* and understand that it is my responsibility to ensure my child wears their helmet correctly.
- I understand that bicycles are brought to school at the owner's risk.
- I understand that Mr Wood (Principal) is able to stop my child from bringing their bicycle onto school grounds if the rules are broken.

Signed: _____

Print name: _____

Parent/carer: _____

Date: _____

Please return this bicycle rider permission note to Mr Wood.

Information for parents and carers

A guide to bicycle maintenance: Six point safety check

Feature	What are you checking for?	Maintained
Tyres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> firm tyres tread not worn and no canvas showing no bulges or cuts 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Bell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rings clearly and loudly 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Pedals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rotates freely when spun rubber not showing signs of wear 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Lights and reflectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> secure, clean and shine brightly 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Brakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> blocks not worn down when brakes applied bike wheel does not rotate when brakes are applied 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Chain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> does not move more than 2.5cm when lifted is well oiled 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Size of bike	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> correct size for rider 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing

Source: Adapted from *Move Ahead with Street Sense* stage 3, RTA 1999

Information for parents

A guide to foot scooter maintenance

Feature	What are you checking for?	Maintained
Wheels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> firm, round wheels no bulges, cuts or flat spots 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Nuts and bolts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> tight wheel bolts (scooter will not go faster if wheel bolts are loose. Wheels can fall off.) 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> front wheel is straight and in line with steering column clamp on steering column is tight quick release lever is tight 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Brakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> brake engages with rear wheel when pressure is applied 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing

A guide to correctly fitting a helmet

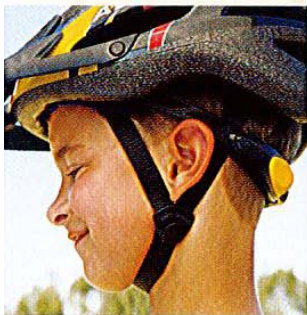
Always wear a helmet when you ride or skate



Can you place just two fingers between your eyebrows and your helmet?



Can you fit just two fingers between the helmet strap and your chin?



Do the straps join in a 'V' just below your ears?



Has an adult checked your helmet?

From the NSW Centre for Road Safety, RTA *Information for parents and carers about safety on wheels* brochure.