

# 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  
July 2013

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](http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/policies/road/travel/active/foot_scooters.htm)