



## A WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH TO ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION

Road Safety Education at John Palmer Public School is integral to the safety and wellbeing of our students. A whole-school approach is about our school, parents and carers working together to implement Road Safety Education. It involves integrating the areas of *curriculum, policy, ethos and environment* and *parents and community*.

### Curriculum

John Palmer Public School will provide teaching and learning programs that lead to the achievement of student outcomes as specified in the *Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Syllabus K-6 (Board of Studies, NSW, 2018)*. Effective road safety education will give our students the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to help them make informed, safe decisions in the road environment.

We teach road safety as part of the PDHPE K-10 syllabus and encourage parents and carers to support what is taught when out and about with their children.

An effective road safety education program needs to:

- be developmentally appropriate
- reinforce [key road safety messages](#)
- be taught sequentially in each Stage by teachers
- reflect local road safety issues
- be ongoing, not a one-off event
- avoid the use of [shock or fear tactics](#)
- raise awareness of the importance of parent and carers modelling and encouraging safe road user behaviours. ([parent and carer information](#))

### Policy, Ethos and Environment

The approach to road safety education programs at our school reflects the Department of Education and Training's *Road Safety Education, Driver Education and Training Policy, 2014*.

School practices that support road safety education programs include:

- school staff modelling and reinforcing appropriate road safety behaviours and attitudes on excursions, during school activities and around the school
- reviewing and addressing the school traffic environment as needs arise



- reinforcing the use of pedestrian crossings, wearing seatbelts as passengers, boarding, travelling and alighting from buses safely
- reinforcing the wearing of helmets and protective clothing when riding bikes, scooters or skateboards, rollerblades.
- signposting the car park driveway to restrict unauthorised vehicle access
- teachers supervising afternoon exit of students from the school grounds
- school staff parking in designated parking areas

## Parents and the Community

Our school provides parents and carers with information to reinforce road safety messages through parent meetings, excursion permission notes, School Enews app, the school website, assemblies and the distribution of the RTA *Kindergarten Orientation Packs* at Kindergarten Orientation.

Parents, carers and the wider school community are encouraged to help support student road safety behaviours by:

- modelling safe road user behaviour
- parking vehicles safely outside the school and observing all parking signs
- reinforcing the safety messages delivered at school
- actively supervising the travel of young students
- encouraging young students to hold an adult's hand in the traffic environment
- identifying safety issues in and around the school and addressing these issues as they arise
- ensuring that children are adequately protected when travelling in cars through the use of seat-belts and suitable seating (child seats, booster seats)
- ensuring that children play safely on wheels (bikes, scooters, rollerblades, skateboards) by providing protective clothing, helmets and well-maintained equipment
- using the designated entry and exit gates to the school.