

## Kurnell Public School Road Safety Policy Updated September 2018

### **Environmental Context**

Kurnell Public School is located on Dampier Street in a residential area. Traffic flow is constant during the day, peaking before and after school.

There are two pedestrian access gates on Dampier Street. One leads directly to a pedestrian crossing, which is supervised after school.

The school car park entrance is used by staff, delivery vehicles and OOSH parents before 8 a.m. and after 4 p.m. The gate is sign-posted to restrict unauthorised vehicle access. Parents, carers and students are not permitted to use the driveway entrance between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

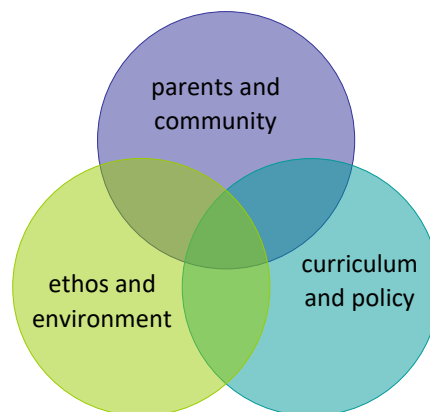
There is a side entrance to the school, located in Torres Street.

Students travel to school by car, bike and foot.

There is limited parking directly outside the school on Dampier Street. There is parking and a *No Standing Zone* in Torres Street.

### **A Whole School Approach to Road Safety Education**

Road safety education at Kurnell 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*.



Health promoting schools model

## Curriculum

Kurnell 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 K-6 Syllabus (Board of Studies, NSW, 1999)*. Effective road safety education will provide our students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to help them make informed, safe decisions in the road environment.

Teaching and learning will be programmed as part of our school's PDHPE program. These programs include passenger, pedestrian, safety on wheels teaching and learning activities. Bus safety education is provided as part of passenger and pedestrian safety.

Teaching and learning programs will:

- be implemented in each Stage every year, as part of Personal Development Units
- provide students with learning experiences about the traffic environment e.g. using the pedestrian crossing on Dampier Street, safe travel during school excursions
- aim to address the road safety needs based on our local traffic environment
- reflect current road safety resources, information and research
- be appropriate to the level of understanding, needs and cultural differences of students

These teaching and learning experiences may be enhanced by:

- Participation in the annual *Walk Safely to School Day*.
- Participation in the annual *Walk to Work Day*.
- Participation in the annual *Bike Safety Week*.
- Safety days

## 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, 2007*.

Current school practices that support road safety education programs are extensive. They include:

Managing the entry and exit of students by:

- identifying and promoting the safe use of pedestrian entry/exit gates
- Principal or designated teacher supervising at the Dampier Street pedestrian crossing after school
- painting footprints on paths to reinforce correct pedestrian access points
- having staff park in designated areas

- closing school driveway gates during from 9.00am-3.00pm to restrict vehicular movement on site before and after school/as students arrive and depart
- maintaining signage to assist with risk management within school grounds eg. signposting the car park driveway to restrict pedestrian or unauthorised access, staff only
- ensuring delivery truck drivers have allocated times and areas in which to deliver goods
- reviewing and addressing the school traffic environment as needs arise

Managing the behaviour of students travelling to and from school by:

- reminding students of safe travel behaviour and enforcing the school's discipline code and school rules regarding safe travel to and from school, at assemblies, in newsletters and with individual students
- reinforcing the use of pedestrian crossings, wearing seatbelts as passengers, boarding, travelling and alighting from buses, trains and ferries safely
- reinforcing the wearing of helmets and protective gear when riding bicycles or foot scooters.
- school staff modelling and reinforcing appropriate road safety behaviours and attitudes whilst on excursions, during school activities eg. sport, and around the school
- using excursions, sport and community walks as opportunities for students to practice and enhance their decision making skills in the traffic environment
- highlighting new traffic environments/facilities outside and near to the school, as they are installed
- utilising the RMS resource, *A Practical Guide to Addressing Road Safety Issues Around Schools*, to resolve road safety issues around the school
- reducing misbehaviour on buses by using the guidelines *Managing School Student Misbehaviour on Buses Information for Bus Operators and School Principals*, NSW Department of Transport
- liaising with bus operators to outline expected bus travel behaviours and facilitate discussion on issues that arise
- supervising the safe travel of students by bus during excursions, sport and other related school activities
- recognising and rewarding students who demonstrate safe travel behaviours, through stickers and certificates
- ensuring safety guidelines are met when private motor vehicles are used by staff and students to transport students to sporting events or excursions

## Parents and Community

Our school currently provides parents and carers with information to reinforce road safety messages on a regular basis through:

- parent meetings, including parent teacher nights and P & C meetings
- newsletters, take home notes, fact sheets, RMS pamphlets/stickers
- the school website
- excursion permission notes
- assemblies
- school foyer, community venues and on the school fence
- the distribution of the RMS *Kindergarten Orientation Packs* at Kindergarten Orientation, school information days/evenings and open days,
- safety days and community events,
- liaising with the local council's Road Safety Officer and school community to review and discuss traffic concerns in the school environment
- liaising with the NSW Police Service for speeding concerns outside the school and with the local council's Road Safety Officer for illegal parking

This information includes:

- laws, offences and penalties for illegal parking and driving in school zones
- correct use of road traffic facilities surrounding the school
- limitations of children in traffic, and the danger of parked cars
- the importance of holding a young child's hand (up to 10 years of age) and closely supervising the travel of children up to 12 years of age
- safe bus travel and correct parking around bus zones/stops
- reinforcement of safe travel behaviours as a pedestrian, car and bus passenger on the bottom of parental permission notes for students travelling on school related activities
- safe use of bicycles and foot scooters by students to and from school
- school guidelines for the use and storage of bicycles and foot scooters by students for travel to and from school, and to and from sport/excursions
- translations of road safety information in community languages
- messages designed by students promoting safe road use
- use of private motor vehicles by staff, parents and students for travelling to and from school and school related activities such as sport, excursions
- updates on changes to traffic law and RMS/police campaigns

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

- modelling safe road user behaviour and abiding by NSW Road Rules

- parking vehicles correctly outside the school and observing all parking signs in and around the school site
- encouraging young students up to 10 years of age to hold an adult's hand in the traffic environment
- actively supervising the travel of young students, particularly those up to 12 years of age
- ensuring that children are adequately protected when travelling in cars through the use of seat-belts and suitable seating restraints (child seats, booster seats)
- reading and discussing the *Bicycle or foot scooter rider's agreement* with your child/ren and completing and returning the *Bicycle or foot scooter rider's permission note* to Ms Graham prior to your child riding to school
- ensuring that children play safely on wheels (bicycles, foot scooters,) by providing protective gear, helmets and well maintained equipment
- reinforcing the safety messages delivered at school
- bringing road safety issues in and around the school to the attention of school staff
- using the designated entry and exit gates to the school

This Road Safety Education Statement was written on 13 September 2018

Teachers

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