



# RIDE TO SCHOOL

## Policy



### Rationale:

- Students travelling to and from school, as well as those at school need to feel and be safe. Bicycles, scooters and skateboards are a popular means of transport for students, but their safe use requires regulation and management.

### Aims:

- To encourage students and families to adopt safe practices for cycling, scooting and skateboarding when riding to and from school.

### Implementation:

- Students from Prep – Year 4 are permitted to ride bicycles and scooters to school.
- Students in Years 5 and 6 are permitted to ride bicycles, scooters and skateboards to school.
- Parents/guardians are responsible for their children's safety when their children ride bicycles /scooters/skateboards to and from school.
- All students who wish to ride bicycles, scooters and skateboards to school are required to sign a Footscray West Primary School bike, scooter and skateboard agreement which is to be authorised by their parents/guardians.
- The agreement form is to be approved by the principal or nominee.
- Bicycles/scooters/skateboards remain the responsibility of parents/guardians and must be roadworthy.
- While our school will provide a lock up area for bicycles, scooters and skateboards ridden to school by students, we do not take responsibility for any loss or damage to personal property.
- It is the student's responsibility to provide their own lock for securing their bicycle, scooter or skateboard in the storage area.
- Students must wear a properly fitted helmet and are encouraged to wear a safety vest when riding a bicycle, scooter or skateboard.
- Helmets are to be either locked onto bikes, scooters and skateboards or stored in their personal locker space.
- **In line with department guidelines and VicRoads' advice, it is school policy that:**
  - Students in Prep to Year 4 ride to school in the company of an adult as it is well recognised that young children have underdeveloped motor skills, peripheral vision and judgment. Students in Years 5 and 6 may ride to school with parent permission, without adult supervision.
- Students must dismount from their bicycles, scooters and skateboards at the school boundary.
- Riding is not permitted inside the school grounds at any time.
- Students who do not follow these rules will be temporarily banned from bringing their bicycles/scooters/skateboards to school.
- For safety reasons School Council has not approved the use of roller blades or roller skates as an appropriate form of transport to school.

### Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four- year review cycle