

Wentworth Falls Public School Riding Policy

This policy relates to both bicycles and scooters.

Parents and carers are responsible for a student's travel to and from school. Schools take over responsibility and duty of care for the student once they enter the school premises.

Primary aged students are **safest when they are supervised by an adult** when riding. Children under 16 can ride on the footpath, unless there are signs prohibiting cycling.

Until children are at least 10 years old they should ride away from vehicles and driveways. As they are learning to ride it is important for an adult to ride or walk alongside them and talk about how to be a safer rider. Therefore, **if a child is under 10 years of age they should be accompanied by an adult**.

Children between 10 years old and 12 years old should ride away from busy roads.

Children under 16 and adult riders accompanying and supervising them may ride on the footpath, unless there are signs specifically prohibiting cycling.

Students must always:

- follow bicycle road rules including:
 - ride to the left on footpaths
 - give pedestrians right of way on footpaths
 - watch out for cars entering or leaving driveways
- wear an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened
- wear bright-coloured clothing such as a vest so other road users can see them.

Riders in NSW must obey the road rules. They must stop at red lights or stop signs, give way as indicated by road signs and give hand signals when changing direction. Under the Road Rules on the <u>NSW legislation</u> <u>website</u>, a bicycle is considered a vehicle and has the same road rules as other vehicles. All bikes and scooters must be in good working order, with adequate brakes and a bell.

All riders must use the bottom gate near KM classroom and proceed directly to the bike racks where they must secure their bike until hometime.

Bike Riders must dismount once they come to the school's front fence. At the Rural Fire Service, students dismount and walk to the bottom gate or at the church if travelling from the Armstrong Street end of the school. Bike riders must also dismount before using the pedestrian crossing. This means that all bikes must be walked when travelling along the school's front fence.

Riders must not ride anywhere on the school grounds.

In the afternoon, riders must collect their bikes or scooters from the racks and, walking their bike or scooter, leave via the bottom gate. They must then walk their bike/scooter until they are clear of the school's front fence. They must also walk their bikes across the pedestrian crossing.

Bikes/scooters and gear are stored at the school at the students own risk.

Skateboards and roller blades are not permitted at school.

Safe riding tips from Transport NSW

- Always wear an approved <u>bicycle helmet</u>, properly fitted and fastened
- Always obey the <u>road rules</u>, including traffic lights, stop signs and give way signs
- Allow pedestrians a metre of space on shared paths, where possible.
- Always travel at a speed that is safe for you and the pedestrians you encounter, especially if you are riding on a footpath or shared path
- When approaching pedestrians, always ring your bell, slow down and prepare to stop and give way
- Ride in a predictable manner so that other road users do not have to react suddenly to your movements
- Give hand signals when changing lanes or turning left or right
- Make yourself visible by wearing bright, light or reflective clothing
- Plan your route using quieter streets, bicycle paths or shared paths

• Always be in control of your bicycle. It is an offence to ride with both hands off the handlebars,



feet off the pedals or to carry anything that prevents you from having control.

The yellow are is the no-ride zone. All bikes and scooters must be walked in this area and not mounted until the student has cleared the front fence line or crossed the pedestrian crossing.