

Riding to School Policy

Purpose:

- Our Riding to School policy has been developed to ensure the safety of all children at Melton Primary School.

Responsibilities:

- The responsibility for children riding to and from school lies with the parents/carers. Road safety authorities recommend that before the age of 9 or 10 years children should not ride a bicycle in traffic without adult supervision. Depending on their cycling skills and experience, some children over this age may still require supervision.
- Children under the age of 12 may ride on footpaths as may a supervising adult. They are required to give way to pedestrians and to wheel their bicycles over pedestrian and children's crossings. Children aged 12 years or older are required by law to ride on the road.
- The law requires that all cyclists must wear an approved bicycle helmet. Approved helmets have the Australian Standards Mark (AS/NZS 2063) and will be marked as suitable for cycling.

School Responsibilities:

- It provides a lockable enclosure in which the children may store their bicycles during the school day. Within this enclosure there will be bike racks that will allow the children to use a chain lock or similar device to individually secure their bicycle within the enclosure.
- To help ensure the safety of all our students and the members of our school community Melton Primary School does not allow bicycles to be ridden within the school grounds. Children must dismount from their bike at the school gates and walk their bike to the bicycle enclosure. They must secure their bicycle and then leave the enclosure immediately. This is to help eliminate children tampering with other children's bicycles. Only children who have a bicycle at school are allowed within the bicycle enclosure.
- Children who do not follow this rule or do not wear helmets when riding to and from school will be temporarily banned from bringing their bicycle onto the school premises. The duration of the ban will be dependent upon the incident and any previous history of similar incidents. This effectively bans the child from riding their bicycle to school as they will not be able to securely lock it up on the school premises. A note will be sent home to the parent/carer informing them of the ban and the duration of the ban.



Behaviour:

- Children who do not wear a helmet riding to and from school will temporarily be banned from bringing their bicycle into the school grounds.
- Children who do not dismount at the school gate and walk their bicycles to and from the bicycle enclosure will temporarily be banned from bringing their bicycle into the school grounds.

Curriculum:

The staff at Melton primary School will:

- Incorporate programs on Road Safety into the curriculum.
- Regularly reinforce bicycle safety within the school grounds through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities, Student Representative Council, School Council and general assemblies.

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Letter to Parents/Carers

Dear Parent/Carer,

On _____, your child, _____ was riding his/her bike inside the school grounds. Due to the dangerous nature of this behaviour it is not permitted. (Please refer to attached Melton Primary School policy.)

The consequence for disobeying this school rule is that your child is banned from bringing his/her bicycle into the school grounds for one day. That day is _____. This ban prohibits your child from securing his/her bicycle on the school premises. Please discuss this issue with your child and ensure that the bicycle is not brought to school on the above date. Please acknowledge receipt of this notice by filling in, signing and returning the slip below.

Yours sincerely,

Alan McColl
Principal
Melton Primary School

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DATE: _____

Child's name: _____

I understand that my child has been banned from securing his/her bicycle on the school grounds and I have spoken with him/her regarding this issue.

Parent/Carer's name: _____

Signature: _____