Bicycle/scooter/skateboard safety guidelines at St Helens Park Public School

What does the Department of Education and the NSW Centre for Road Safety say?

The Department of Education and NSW Centre for Road Safety (Transport for NSW) recommend that:

- Children under 10 years of age should cycle in a **safe place off the road** and **away from vehicles and driveways**.

- Children aged between 10 and 12 years of age should avoid cycling on or near busy roads.

- bicycle riders are required to wear helmets. **<u>This is the law</u>**.

- Children should **NOT** use foot scooters, skateboards or rollerblades on the road.

- Skateboard/scooter rides should wear a helmet and wear protective gear such as knee pads, wrist guards and elbow pads.

- School-aged children and younger should be supervised by an adult while riding their foot scooter, skateboard or rollerblades.

Parents and carers are responsible for:

- the maintenance of their child's bicycle/skateboard/scooter and are to ensure their child always correctly wears an Australian Standards approved helmet when riding. Bicycles/skateboards/scooters must be in a good, safe working order and bicycles must be fitted with a working brake and a bell

- ensuring their child is aware of and follows the road rules relating to bicycles. This includes the pedestrian's right of way on footpaths and using a bell as a warning when approaching pedestrians

- reinforcing rules and safety advice for riding bicycles/skateboards/scooters to and from school, as outlined in these guidelines and Transport for NSW's advice brochures.

Riders, who bring their bicycle/skateboard/scooter onto school grounds, are responsible for:

- completing a *Bicycle/skateboard/scooter rider's agreement* and the *rider's permission note*, issued by the school. This is to be completed and returned to Mr Knobel.

- using the designated entry and exit points to St Helens Park Public School at the front of the school. These are the only ways to access the school grounds by riders.

- dismounting before entering the school grounds and walking their bicycles whilst on the school grounds.

- storing their bicycle/skateboard/scooter in the cricket net – on the oval. Bicycles **must** be locked with a chain and padlock supplied by the bicycle owner. Bicycles/skateboards/scooters and helmets are to be stored at school at the owner's risk.

Safe riding behaviours

- Students are to always correctly wear an Australian Standards approved helmet when riding.

- Students must always ride in a safe manner following these guidelines and the NSW road rules relating to bicycles.

- Foot scooters, skateboards and rollerblades are best ridden in recreational areas designated for their use. Driveways, uneven ground and the traffic environment are potential hazards for riders.

- Foot scooters, skateboards and rollerblades may be ridden on footpaths unless there are signs that specifically prohibit them. However, riders must keep to the left, give way to other pedestrians, slow down and dismount in busy areas.

- Bicycles/skateboards/scooters **are not** permitted to be ridden on school grounds, unless supervised by a teacher for practical lessons.

- Bicycles/skateboards/scooters **are not** to be ridden in school grounds after school hours.

- Parents and carers will be notified if their child does not adhere to the school's *bicycle/skateboard/scooter safety guidelines*. Students may not be allowed to bring their bicycles/skateboards/scooters onto the school grounds if they do not follow the rules.

Endorsed by:

School principal: Mrs Sessions
P & C president: Ms Claire Montgomery
On 5 March 2018

More information is available from:

1. NSW Centre for Road Safety, RTA: *Information for parents and carers about safety on wheels – The law and safety advice for bicycles, foot scooters, skateboards and rollerblades* at http://ols2.rta.nsw.gov.au/ebus/docs/rescat/pdf/8/1180/45092307safetyonwheels0409.pdf
2. Department of Education and Communities: *Riding a foot scooter, skateboard or rollerblades to and from school* at http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/policies/road/travel/active/index.htm