

# TRAFFIC SAFETY POLICY

## Rationale:

School students are exposed to traffic hazards on a daily basis, with traffic related accidents accounting for the majority of all serious injuries and deaths to school aged students. Road traffic safety is a critical life skill, and a well-planned, comprehensive and effective 'hands on' traffic education program is an essential component of our school's curriculum.

## Aims:

- To enable all students to learn about their local traffic environment and to develop the physical skills, attitudes and behaviour patterns for safe use of roads, school buses and public transport systems.
- To raise the profile of, and to gain, support for traffic safety within the local community.
- To facilitate in the development of a safe road traffic environment in and around our school.

## Implementation:

- Whilst being a core component of the Health & Physical Education key learning area, traffic safety education will be integrated across the curriculum.
- Our traffic safety education program will comprise the following 3 essential elements:
  1. Knowledge and understanding of roads, traffic, transport and rules.
  2. Development of the physical skills to manage traffic environments safely, whether as pedestrian, bike or scooter rider, motor vehicle passenger, or user of public transport.
  3. Development of behaviours, attitudes and decision-making abilities that enable students to successfully negotiate traffic in a safe and responsible manner.
- A traffic safety program will be based on [VATSET](#)'s 'Kids on the Move' resources, whilst programs such as 'Appropriate Decision Making', 'Responding to Peer Pressure' and drug education will further support traffic safety education.

Whilst traffic safety education will be integrated into all curriculum areas and at all year levels, our Years 3& 4 focus will concentrate on harm prevention emphasising pedestrian, passenger and bicycle safety.

The safe use of public transport will be a key Upper Years learning focus. A bike camp, Health - Road Safety Unit and an urban camp are the Upper Years traffic safety education events.
- All students will undertake a bus safety program each year.
- Traffic safety education will be highlighted through the school newsletter, at assemblies, via guest speakers, and through school awards.
- Parents will be actively encouraged to become involved in the traffic safety education program, and to reinforce positive traffic safety practices with students.
- Our school will be active members of the 'Victorian Association of Traffic Safety Education Teachers' - VATSET

## Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

**April 2017**