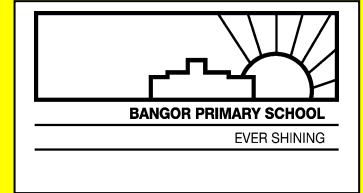


BANGOR PUBLIC SCHOOL BICYCLE RIDER'S AGREEMENT



I have read the school's *Bicycle Safety Guidelines* and understand the information provided.

- I have discussed this agreement with my parents or carers.
- I will wear my helmet correctly when riding my bicycle to and from school.
- When using the footpath, I will give way to all pedestrians.
- I need to keep my bicycle well maintained.
- I will bring my bicycle and helmet to school at my own risk.
- I will secure my bicycle with a lock and chain to the bicycle rack.
- I understand that **Mr Snudden (school principal)** may stop me from bringing my bicycle onto school grounds if I do not follow the rules.
- I will dismount before entering the school grounds and walk my bicycle on school grounds.
- I understand my parents will be contacted if I do not follow this agreement.

My name is: _____

Signed (student rider): _____

Signed (parent/carer): _____

Date: _____

Please keep the bicycle rider's agreement at home for ready reference.

Bicycle rider permission note

I give permission for _____ (child's name) to ride his/her bicycle to and from school.

- I have read and understand the bicycle information provided by the school.
- My child will correctly wear an Australian Standards approved helmet when riding a bicycle to and from school.
- I have read and explained the bicycle information provided to my child.
- I have reviewed the *Guide to bicycle maintenance* to check my child's bicycle for roadworthiness and understand that it is my responsibility to keep the bicycle well maintained.
- I have reviewed the *Guide to correctly fitting a helmet* and understand that it is my responsibility to ensure my child wears their helmet correctly.
- I understand that bicycles and helmets are brought to school at the owner's risk.
- I understand that **Mrs Evans (school principal)** is able to stop my child from bringing their bicycle onto school grounds if the rules are broken.

Signed: _____

Print name: _____

Parent/carer: _____

Date: _____

Please return this bicycle rider permission note to **Mr Snudden** through the front office.

Bicycle Safety Guidelines

Information for parents and carers

A guide to bicycle maintenance: Six point safety check

Feature	What are you checking for?	Maintained
Tyres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • firm tyres • tread not worn and no canvas showing • no bulges or cuts 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Bell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rings clearly and loudly 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Pedals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rotates freely when spun • rubber not showing signs of wear 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Lights and reflectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • secure, clean and shine brightly 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Brakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • blocks not worn down when brakes applied • bike wheel does not rotate when brakes are applied 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Chain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does not move more than 2.5cm when lifted • is well oiled 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing
Size of bike	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • correct size for rider 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Needs fixing

Source: Adapted from *Move Ahead with Street Sense* stage 3, RTA 1999

What is the right size of bicycle?

The right sized bicycle:

- has controls within reach
- is comfortable for the rider
- has a level seat
- should allow the rider's feet to just touch the ground when the rider is sitting on the seat
- should allow for the arms to be slightly bent as the body leans slightly forward holding the handlebars
- allows the rider to straddle the crossbar with both feet flat on the ground. If not, the bicycle is too big and unsafe. There should be about 3 cm between the bicycle and the rider's crutch for a medium or lightweight road bicycle. For a BMX or mountain bike there should be a 10 cm gap. If there is no crossbar, make the test from where the crossbar would be.

A guide to correctly fitting a helmet

Always wear a helmet when you ride, scooter or skate



Can you place just two fingers between your eyebrows and your helmet?



Can you fit just two fingers between the helmet strap and your chin?



Do the straps join in a 'V' just below your ears?



Has an adult checked your helmet?

From the NSW Centre for Road Safety, RTA *Information for parents and carers about safety on wheels* brochure.

Schools are obliged to notify parents and carers when a student is seen to be not wearing or incorrectly wearing a bicycle helmet when riding to or from school. A Notification Letter will be issued in these instances and/or a phone call to parents.

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

REGARDING THE RIDING OF BICYCLES TO AND FROM SCHOOL

• Who is responsible for students riding a bike to school?

- **Parents and carers** are responsible for travel to and from school.
- Under duty of care, schools are responsible for the student once they have entered the school premises. As part of their overall care for students, school communities will often work together to provide agreed school guidelines about travel to and from school.

• What about the condition of a bicycle?

- By law, bicycles must be fitted with a working brake and bell. This is a parent and carer responsibility.
- A checklist of features that need to be regularly inspected, and repaired as necessary, can be provided to parents and students to help with bicycle maintenance.

Can students ride bicycles on the footpath?

Yes, if they are under 12 years old. Children under 12 years, by law, are allowed to ride bicycles on the footpath unless there are signs that specifically prohibit cycling.

Can students ride bicycles on the road?

Yes, if they are over 12 years. Cyclists over 12 years must not ride on the footpath unless it is signposted as a shared footpath. Cyclists, just as other road users, must comply with all road rules.

The *NSW Centre for Road Safety, RTA*, recommends that until children are at least 10 years old, they should cycle in a **safe place off the road and away from vehicles and driveways**. Children aged between 10 and 12 years old should avoid cycling on busy roads. The Department of Education and Training supports the RTA in this recommendation.

Can students be banned from riding bicycles to school?

Parents and carers are responsible for how their child travels to and from school.

However, schools have the right to ban a student from bringing a bicycle onto school premises if the school deems that the student is displaying unsafe behaviours when travelling to and from school.

Unsafe riding behaviours are those that break the law and could include:

- threatening pedestrians and other road users
- not keeping to the left and giving way to other pedestrians on footpaths, unless sign posted otherwise
- riding on a road with a dividing line or medium strip, or a speed limit greater than 50km/h, or on a one way road with more than one marked line
- not abiding by the school guidelines for use of foot scooters, skateboards or rollerblades.

Endorsed by:
P&C

Craig Snudden
School principal

More information is available from:

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>