

GUIDELINES FOR ROAD SAFETY

POLICY 5 GUIDELINE 10

RATIONALE

St. Benedict's will promote and enforce road safety within the school. This is a shared responsibility between the school and the parents/caregivers who both should ensure the safe arrival of the children at school, and their safe departure from school and on school trips.

PURPOSES:

1. To inform and educate all children on aspects of road safety pertaining to their walking, scootering and/or cycling to and from school.
2. To ensure the safety of children as they travel to and from school while attending school routines and activities.
3. To demonstrate to all children that rules are made for their own safety by people who care about their well-being.
4. To encourage children to take some responsibility for their own safety on the road.
5. To educate children in safe and considerate conduct on school buses.

Road Safety Procedures

PROCEDURES:

Pedestrian Crossing

- Children are asked to wait in the school playground until their designated parent/caregiver has arrived at school to pick them up, unless other arrangements have been made.
- Children who are waiting for a bus will wait in the school shelter or with the duty teacher until their bus has come to pick them up.
- A designated adult/parent will be on duty during road patrol time – morning and afternoon. A teacher will be on duty in the afternoon.
- School Patrols will notify pedestrians when it is safe to cross the road.
- Wait patiently at the crossing for the school patrols to stop the traffic.
- Walk across the pedestrian crossing.

Walking

- Children will cross at appointed crossing points. These crossings will be manned by a duty parent/caregiver from 8.30 – 9.00am, and 2.45 – 3.15pm. Parents are expected to comply with this. A roster is prepared by the school.
- Children must walk on the footpath where one is available.
- Children must use the school pedestrian crossing and school patrol.
- Children in junior classes are given regular training and experience on the correct way to walk on and cross the road.
- Walk to school on a safe and well-known route.

Bus Safety

These guidelines apply to school buses used for trips and for daily transportation of school children.

- Children using buses must be seated at all times. Children may not leave their seat until the bus has stopped.
- Buses used for transporting school children must have a current certificate of fitness.
- Buses hired for school trips must have adequate seating for the number of children being carried on the bus.

Car Safety

- Where private vehicles are used for a school trip, the driver is to ensure that seatbelts, licenses and warrants comply with the law. The driver will hold a current full drivers license.
- Children enter and exit the car on the footpath side of the road.
- A car can only carry as many children as seatbelts.
- Approved car seats will be used to transport all children 7 years old and younger in private vehicles.
- Parental permission to be asked for.

Car Parking

- When children are being picked up and dropped off from/to school, they are to follow procedures established by St Benedict's:
 - Children alight and enter the car from the footpath side door.
 - Children and parents use the pedestrian crossing/school patrol if they need to cross the road.
 - No parking or stopping on yellow lines.
 - No parking or stopping across residential driveways.
 - Keep the flow of the traffic moving.
 - No double parking.
- Do not drive up the school driveway to collect or drop off children

Additional forms of transport

- All bicycles, skateboards, scooters and other forms of transport must be walked across the pedestrian crossing and in school grounds.
- Cyclists are to wear a cycle helmet. It will be correctly fitted and fastened as legally required.
- The school will actively promote and encourage children riding scooters and skateboards to wear cycling helmets.
- The school will only accommodate bikes for children in Years 4 and above.

General:

- The priorities given to road safety are reflective of the needs of our local community.
- If parents or students note any illegal or dangerous behaviour when travelling to or from school, action could include:
 - Speaking to the Principal or a designated person at the school.
 - Noting number plates.

Risk Management (Outside of School).

- Children on the footpath outside of St. Benedict's need to be a safe distance from proximity to the road.
- Children will cross at a safe crossing point of the road if a pedestrian crossing is not visible.
- When walking to activities from school the parent/child ratio to classes will be
 - Year 0 – 2 = 1:6
 - Year 3 – 6 = 1: 8
 - Year 7 & 8 = 1:10

Exceptions are going to Mass and going to Nairnville.